

Painting Pictures with Words: Figurative Language

Learning objective: To identify and create examples of similes, metaphors, and personification to enhance descriptive writing.

Read each task carefully. Use your imagination to transform plain sentences into vivid descriptions. Remember to use the word bank for inspiration!

N/A

Word bank: shimmering · majestic · whispered · velvet · thunderous · dancing · fierce · emerald

1. Max the monkey is describing his favorite jungle tree. Change this plain sentence into a simile: 'The tree is very tall.' (2 marks)

2. Nova the owl is watching the night sky. Write a metaphor to describe the moon. (Remember: A metaphor says something IS something else, rather than being 'like' it.) (2 marks)

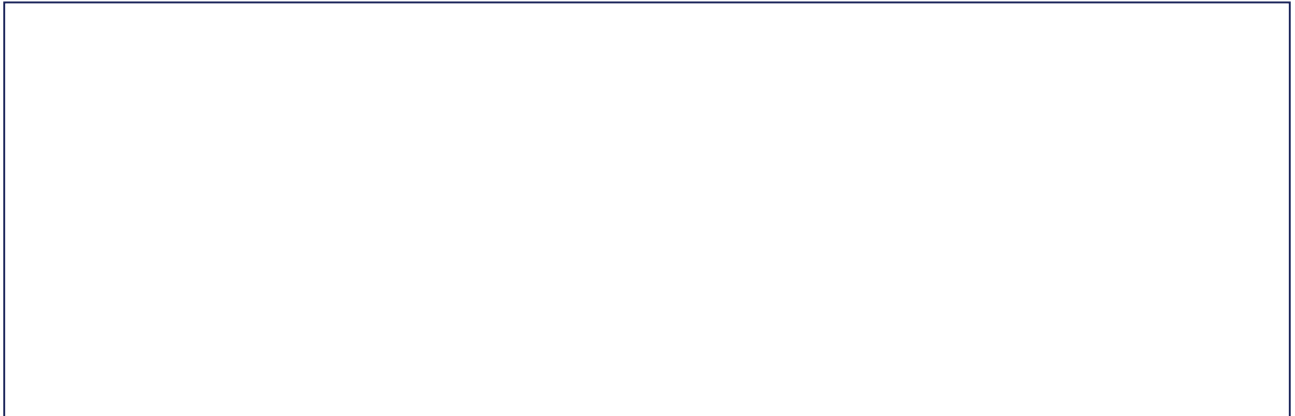
3. Zara the zebra is painting a picture of a storm. Give the wind human qualities by using personification. Example: The wind whistled through the trees. (2 marks)

4. Explain why an author might choose to use a metaphor instead of a simple adjective when describing a character's personality. Justify your answer. (3 marks)

5. Compare and contrast a simile and a metaphor. How are they similar, and what is the key difference in how they help the reader visualise an image? (3 marks)

6. What might happen to the 'mood' of a story if you swapped all the gentle personification for harsh, aggressive metaphors? Provide a short example to support your theory. (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene featuring Pip the caterpillar exploring a garden. In your drawing, include one visual representation of a metaphor (e.g., if you write 'the flowers were trumpets', draw the flowers shaped like musical instruments).



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (4-6 sentences) describing a busy marketplace scene. You must include at least one simile, one metaphor, and one example of personification. Use your best vocabulary to make the scene come alive for the reader.