

Year 5 Assessment: Mastering Figurative Language

Learning objective: To identify, explain, and use figurative language including similes, metaphors, personification, and onomatopoeia to enhance descriptive writing.

Read each question carefully. Use your best handwriting and ensure you use precise terminology. Max, the maths-loving monkey, wants you to calculate your score out of 25!

The sun was a golden coin tossed into the velvet pocket of the sky. Below, the ancient oak tree stood like a weary guardian, its gnarled fingers reaching out to touch the breeze. The wind whispered secrets through the leaves, a soft shushing sound that rippled across the meadow. Suddenly, a thunderous crash echoed as a heavy branch tumbled to the earth, startled by its own sudden descent.

Word bank: Simile · Metaphor · Personification · Onomatopoeia · Hyperbole · Alliteration

1. Identify the metaphor used in the first sentence. Explain what is being compared and why the author might have chosen this specific imagery. (2 marks) (2 marks)

2. Locate an example of personification in the passage. Write the phrase below and explain how it gives the object human characteristics. (2 marks) (2 marks)

3. Identify one simile in the passage. Rewrite it using a different comparison while maintaining the same meaning. (2 marks) (2 marks)

4. Find an example of onomatopoeia in the passage. Why is this word effective for a reader trying to visualise the scene? (2 marks) (2 marks)

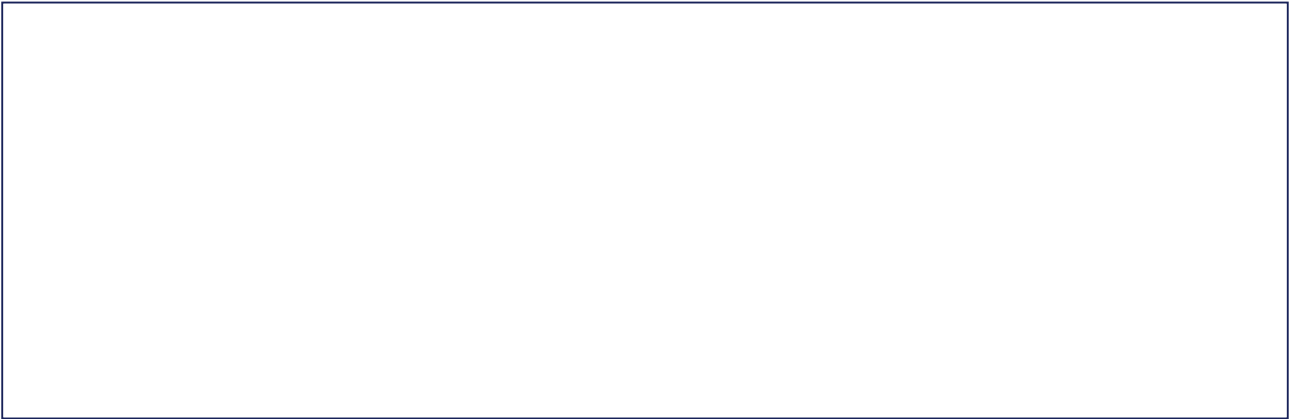
5. Explain why an author would choose to use figurative language instead of literal descriptions. Justify your answer with an example. (4 marks) (4 marks)

6. Compare and contrast a metaphor and a simile. How do they differ in their structure and their impact on the reader? (4 marks) (4 marks)

7. Writing Task: Write a short paragraph (5-8 sentences) describing a stormy night. You must include at least one metaphor, one simile, and one instance of personification. (5 marks) (5 marks)

8. What might happen to the tone of the passage if the author changed 'the wind whispered' to 'the wind shrieked'? Explain your reasoning. (4 marks) (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene based on the passage. In your illustration, label where you would place 'the golden coin' and 'the weary guardian' to show you understand the figurative meaning.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Rewrite the paragraph from the passage from the perspective of the 'weary guardian' tree, using at least two different pieces of figurative language to describe how it feels about its long life.