

Max's Figurative Language Challenge

Learning objective: To identify and explain the use of metaphors, similes, personification, and onomatopoeia in descriptive writing.

Max the monkey has been busy writing stories! Use your knowledge of figurative language to help him solve these 10 puzzles. Read each question carefully before choosing or writing your answer.

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.Simile, 4.B, 5.False, 6.Personification, 7.A, 8.True, 9.Metaphor, 10.Onomatopoeia. Extension: Students should demonstrate understanding by creating original sentences that avoid clichés and use sophisticated vocabulary.

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

1. 'The golden sun was a giant coin in the sky.' This is an example of: A) Simile B) Onomatopoeia C) Metaphor D) Personification* (1 mark)

2. True or False: A simile always uses the words 'like' or 'as' to make a comparison. (1 mark)

3. 'The wind whispered secrets through the trees.' What technique is used here? (One word answer) (1 mark)

4. Which sentence contains onomatopoeia? A) The flowers danced. B) The sausages sizzled in the pan.* C) He is as fast as a cheetah. D) The stars are diamonds. (1 mark)

5. True or False: Personification is when you give a human object a set of animal characteristics. (1 mark)

6. 'The old house groaned under the weight of the snow.' Which literary device is this? (1 mark)

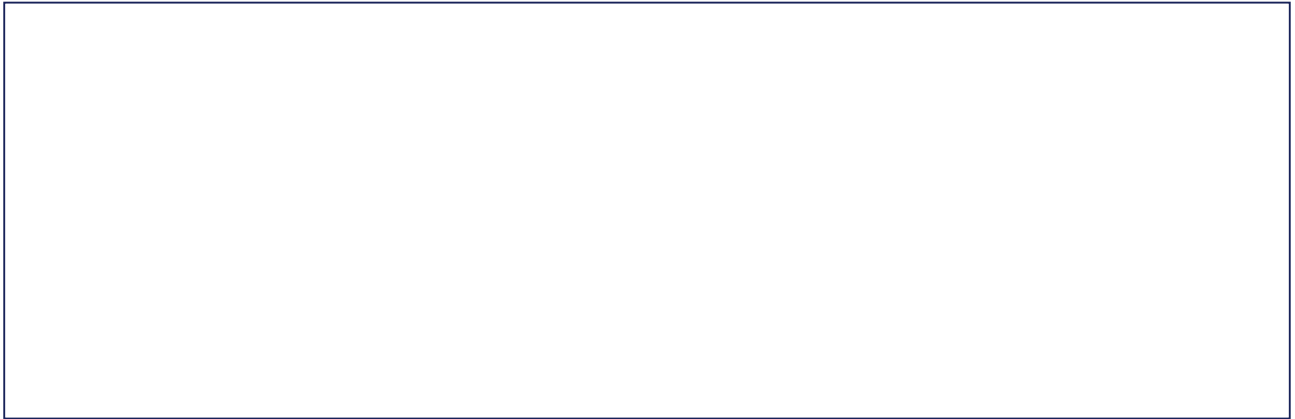
7. 'Her smile was as bright as a lighthouse beam.' This is a: A) Simile* B) Metaphor C) Personification D) Hyperbole (1 mark)

8. True or False: A metaphor states that one thing IS another thing to create a vivid image. (1 mark)

9. 9. Identify the technique in this phrase: 'The classroom was a zoo.' (1 mark)

10. 10. 'Crash!', 'Bang!', and 'Fizz' are all examples of which type of word? (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a scene featuring a 'stormy sea'. In your drawing, include one visual representation of a metaphor (e.g., the waves as angry lions) and one visual representation of personification (e.g., the clouds frowning).



Extension challenge: Greater Depth Challenges: 1. Explain why an author might choose to use a metaphor rather than a simile to describe a character's personality. 2. Compare and contrast personification and metaphor; how do they both serve to make writing more 'vivid'? 3. Justify your answer: Is 'The car engine coughed to life' an example of personification? Why or why not? 4. What might happen to the 'mood' of a piece of writing if you removed all the imagery and only used literal language? 5. Write two sentences describing a thunderstorm: one using a simile and one using a metaphor. 6. Create your own original piece of personification to describe a piece of technology, such as a laptop or a bicycle.