

The Figurative Language Field Guide with Pip the Bookworm

Learning objective: To identify, explain, and create original examples of figurative language, including metaphors, similes, personification, and alliteration.

Join Pip the Bookworm on an adventure through language! Use this guide to transform ordinary descriptions into vivid, imaginative writing. Read the prompts carefully and ensure your figurative language creates a clear picture in the reader's mind.

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

1. Simile Spotlight: Pip describes the morning mist as being 'like a soft, grey blanket'. Choose an object from nature (e.g., a waterfall, a leaf, a thundercloud) and write a simile to describe it. Explain why this comparison is effective. (3 marks)

2. Metaphor Mastery: A metaphor states that one thing IS another. Write a metaphor to describe a busy school playground without using the words 'like' or 'as'. Justify your choice of imagery. (3 marks)

3. Personification Practice: Give a non-living object human traits. For example: 'The wind whispered secrets to the trees.' Write your own sentence personifying a musical instrument or a piece of weather. (2 marks)

4. Alliteration Adventure: Alliteration uses the same starting sound for effect. Create a sentence describing a forest using at least four words that start with the same sound. (2 marks)

5. Compare and Contrast: Compare a metaphor to a simile. Why might a writer choose to use a metaphor instead of a simile in a piece of persuasive writing? (3 marks)

6. Creative Synthesis: Look at the following phrase: 'The old house stood on the hill.' Rewrite this sentence using at least two different types of figurative language to make the setting sound mysterious. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an author writing a fantasy novel. Write a short paragraph (50-70 words) describing a magical creature using at least one metaphor, one simile, and one example of personification. Label your figurative language clearly in the margins.