

Figurative Language

Directions: Use the dictionary to define the following terms. Examples have been provided for you.

- **Figurative Language** is language that uses figure of speech such as hyperbole, simile, metaphor, personification, and symbolism or other forms of imagery. It is used to gain impact or help paint a picture for the reader.

Imagery –

As the last seconds ticked down, the fans gripped their chilled drinks in anticipation. After the clock hit zero, the yellow and black suits stormed the green beaten field. They cried in excitement and exhaustion while they hugged teammates.

Metaphor –

Your eyes are stars twinkling in the moonlight.

Simile –

Your eyes are like stars twinkling in the moonlight.

Hyperbole –

He ate tons of food at the party.

Personification –

The murderous eyes of the rifles stared at him.

Onomatopoeia –

Whoosh! He scored another two points for his team.

Symbol –

In “The Sea Devil”, the plane symbolizes man’s mastery over nature.

Paradox –

"Some day you will be old enough to start reading fairy tales again." (C.S. Lewis to his godchild, Lucy Barfield, to whom he dedicated *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*)

Irony –

It is ironic that the man goes out to catch a fish and ends up getting caught by a fish.

Sarcasm –

Upon seeing a bad accident, someone comments with little to no emotion, “Oh, how lovely!”

Satire –

Saturday Night Live
Scary Movie

Allusion –

Christy didn't like to spend money. She was no Scrooge, but she seldom purchased anything except the bare necessities.

Alliteration –

The wild and woolly walrus waits and wonders when we'll walk by.

Assonance –

Holy and stony
Fleet feet sweep by sleeping geese.

Idiom –

She sings at the top of her lungs.
It's raining cats and dogs.

Cliché –

No pain, no gain.

Pun –

Two hats were hanging on a hat rack in the hallway. One hat said to the other, 'You stay here, I'll go on a-head.'

I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.

Malapropism –

"No, a moo point. Yeah, it's like a cow's opinion. It just doesn't matter. It's moo." (ie, moot) Joey Tribbiani on NBC's Friends

-Stan Laurel:

"We heard the ocean is infatuated with sharks" (i.e., infested) - The Live Ghost.

"What a terrible cat's after me!" (i.e., catastrophe) - Any Old Port!

"She said honesty was the best politics" (i.e., policy) - Sons of the Desert