**Figurative Language**

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* Figurative language is any language that is not used in a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (meaning exactly what is says) way.
* It’s a way of saying one thing and meaning another.
* Figurative language helps create a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the reader.

**Overused Figurative Language**

* Figurative language is useful, but it can be overdone.
* When a figure of speech is used over and over again, it loses its freshness and originality and becomes a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* A cliché is a stale and overused expression.

**Example Clichés**

* Pretty as a picture
* Quiet as a mouse
* Laughter is the best medicine
* Every cloud has a silver lining.

**Avoiding Clichés**

* You want to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ clichés as they no longer capture the reader’s attention.
* Instead, you want to create new figures of speech that will interest your reader.

**Types of Figurative Language**

* Simile
* Metaphor
* Personification
* Hyperbole
* Symbols
* Irony
* Imagery
* Paradox
* Oxymoron

**Simile vs. Metaphor**

* Metaphors and similes are used to compare things that are usually \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ seen as similar.
* Metaphors \_\_\_\_\_\_ the comparison, while similes state the comparison directly.

**Metaphors**

* *That test was a bear!*
* The comparison here is implied – you are identifying the test with a bear.
* You are \_\_\_\_\_\_ literally saying the test was a bear, but rather that the test was unpredictable and hard to deal with.

**Similes**

* *That test was like struggling with a bear!*
* The comparison is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – you have directly stated the comparison.
* Similes have signal words that help you recognize them – *like, as, than, similar to.*

**Literal Term vs. Figurative Term**

* Metaphors and similes have *literal terms* and *figurative terms.*
* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ terms is what we are comparing to something else.
* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ term is what is being compared to the literal term.
* *That test was a bear!*
  + Literal term = test
  + Figurative term = bear

**Personification**

* Personification is a *special kind of metaphor* that gives \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ qualities to something that is not human, such as an animal, object or an idea.
* *Ex. The tree sighed sadly in the cold.*
  + The tree can’t really sigh or be sad.
  + Literal term = tree
  + Figurative term = a person (the tree is not really a person who can sight and be sad)

*Fill in the following chart to practice these concepts:*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Figure of Speech** | **Metaphor, Simile Personification?** | **Literal term** | **Figurative Term** |
| I got a flood of mail yesterday. |  |  |  |
| Alice sang like a cow. |  |  |  |
| The pencil ran across the page. |  |  |  |
| Jeff was taller than the Empire State Building. |  |  |  |
| The shoes cost a king's ransom. |  |  |  |
| The trees danced in the wind. |  |  |  |