

Identifying and Interpreting Similes

- Standards:
 - 4th: R 3.5 5th: R1.5 6th: R 1.2
7th: R 1.1 8th: R 1.1

Learning Objective

- Today we will identify¹ and interpret² ***similes***.
- ¹ find
- ² make meaning from
- What are we going to do today? P/S

Compare these two pictures. Think about how they are alike. Pair-share with your partner. Write one (adjective) descriptive word on your whiteboard that describes both pictures.



chili



sun

The chili and the sun are both_____.

Today we will be using a specific kind of figurative language called similes.

- A **simile** is a figure of speech that compares two *unlike* things using “like” or “as.”



Example(s):

Cold lemonade is as refreshing as a dip in the pool.



Playing chess with Ashley is like trying to outsmart a computer.



His temper was as explosive as a volcano.



– Non-example: I like pizza.

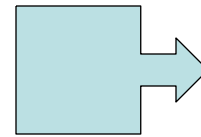
R-A-J

- What is a simile?
 - Which is an example of a simile?
 - A. She's as fast as lightning.
 - B. We like to play games.

How did you know that?

It's important to identify and interpret similes because...

- they make language more dramatic in fewer words.
- they help you understand and appreciate poetry.
- they help us to better understand or “see” what the author is saying.
- they are tested on the CST.



45 What literary device is used in lines 10–12 of “Sheepdog” (“When the Shepherd’s whistle / releases her, / she’s off, like an arrow, running east. . .”)?

- A metaphor
- B simile
- C symbol
- D pun

Which reason is most important to you?
You can give me one of my reasons or one of your own. P/S

Steps to identify and interpret similes:

- 1. Read the sentence(s)
- 2. Identify and underline what is being compared.
- 3. Identify the type of figurative language:
 - If “like” or “as” is used = **simile**
- 4. Interpret using textual clues.

She listens to the teacher and always seems to have the answers. Karen has a mind like a steel trap.



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Interpretation: She remembers everything.

The President and his wife arrived at the formal celebration. Her evening gown sparkled like a diamond.

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Interpretation: Her gown was beautiful.

CFU: How did we identify the simile? P/S
How did we interpret the simile? P/S

The baby was like an octopus,
grabbing at all the cans on the
grocery store shelves.



- 1. Read the sentence(s)
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Interpretation: The baby was misbehaving.

CFU: How did you identify the simile? P/S
How did you interpret the simile? P/S

Extra Guided Practice...

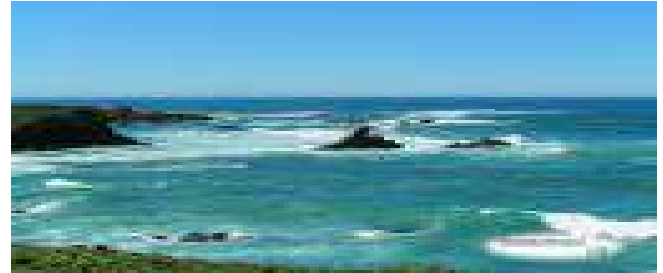
Paul Bunyan was huge. His feet were as big as boats. It is said that when Paul walked, his footprints formed the Great Lakes.

Those girls are like two peas in a pod. They play together at every recess, and often dress the same at school.

Closure

- What is a figure of speech that compares two unlike things using *like* or *as*?
- Why is it important to identify and interpret similes?

I walked along the beach and listened to the ocean. My sadness was as unending as the waves.



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- 2. Identify and underline what is being compared.
- 3. Identify the type of figurative language:
 - If “like” or “as” is used = **simile**
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My interpretation is_____.

Independent practice

- **Directions:**

Read the sentences. Identify the simile and underline what is being compared. Interpret using textual clues.