# Act 2 Figurative Language

One of the most captivating aspects of Act Two is Shakespeare's use of figurative language, or ideas communicated beyond their literal meaning to create an image in the reader's or audience's mind. There are several types of figurative language called figures of speech:

- **Metaphor:** a comparison made between two seemingly unlike objects, "The pillow was a cloud."
- **Simile**: a comparison between two unlike objects using the words "like" or "as" in the comparison, "The pillow was like a marshmallow."
- **Personification**: giving human attributes to non-human objects, "The wind sang its sad song."
- **Hyperbole**: an exaggeration made for humor or emphasis, "I died when the boy I like finally talked to me."

Read each quote from Act 2. Decide which figure of speech is being used and then explain the figurative meaning of the quote.

Example: "Now old desire in his death-bed lie."
Personification—Desire is being compared to an old person who is dying; desire is dying.

1. Romeo says, "It is the east, and Juliet is the sun!"

2. Romeo says, "Arise fair sun, and kill the envious moon, / Who is already sick and pale with grief."

3. Romeo says, "The brightness of her cheek would shame those stars, / As daylight doth a lamp."

4. Romeo says, "I am no pilot; ye, wert thou as far / As that vast shore wash'd with the farthest sea/ I would adventure for such merchandise."

5. Juliet says, "My bounty is as boundless as the sea/ My love as deep; the more I give to thee, / The more I have, for both are infinite."

6. Romeo says, "How silver-sweet sound lover's tongues by night / Like softest music to attending ears!"

7. Friar Lawrence says, "The grey-eyed morn smiles on the frowning night."

8. Romeo says "With love's light wings did I o'er-perch these walls; / For stony limits cannot hold love out."

9. Romeo says, "Love goes toward love, as schoolboys from their books."

10. Friar Lawrence says, "Jesu Maria, what a deal of brine/ Hath wash'd thy sallow cheeks for Rosaline!"