

Interactive Reading Literature Notebooks

Lesson II: Similes

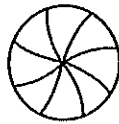
{Song Lyric Excerpt}

"Mean" by Taylor Swift

You, with your words like knives
and swords and weapons that
you use against me
You have knocked me off my
feet again, got me feeling like I'm
nothing
You, with your voice like nails on
a chalkboard, calling me out
when I'm wounded
You, pickin' on the weaker man

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simile a comparison of two unlike
things using the words *like* or *as*



TIPS:

- the two things being compared must be completely different (unlike)
- not every sentence that contains *like* or *as* is a simile

Example: As the girl was humiliated, her cheeks turned as red as an apple.

(cheeks and apples are unlike)

Non-Example: The girl is as tall as her brothers.

(the girl and her brothers are not unlike things; they both describe people)

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Lesson 12: Metaphors

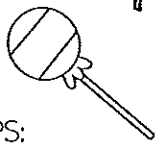
{Song Lyric Excerpt}

"I'm Already There" by Lonestar

I'm already there
Don't make a sound
I'm the beat in your heart
I'm the moonlight shining down
I'm the whisper in the wind
And I'll be there to the end
Can you feel the love that we
share?
Oh I'm already there

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metaphor a comparison of two unlike things by saying that one thing is a dissimilar object or thing



TIPS:

- usually contain "be" verbs, such as am, are, is, was, were
- can be changed into a simile by including *like* or *as*
- comparison should be obvious or be explained

Example: Dad is a monster in the morning before he drinks coffee.
(Dad and monster are dissimilar and the comparison is explained)

Non-Example: Dad is a boat.
(although Dad and a boat are dissimilar, there is no clear reason for the comparison, so it doesn't make sense as a metaphor)

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Lesson 13: Hyperbole

(Song Lyric Excerpt)

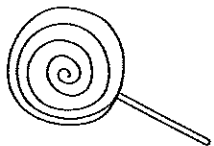
"One Thing" by One Direction

Shot me out of the sky
You're my kryptonite
You keep making me weak
Yeah, frozen and can't breathe
Something's gotta give now
Cause I'm dying just to make
you see
That I need you here with
me now
Cause you've got that one thing

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hyperbole

an exaggeration that cannot possibly be true



TIPS:

- often intended to be humorous or fun
- if it could happen in real life, then it isn't actually a hyperbole

Example: Josie's new friend is as skinny as a toothpick.

(no person could possibly be as thin as a toothpick)

Non-Example: Josie's new friend is as skinny as a fashion model.

(since a girl could be as thin as a model, this isn't a hyperbole)

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Lesson 14: Personification

(Song Lyric Excerpt)

"Wind Cries Mary" by Jimi
Hendrix

You can hear happiness staggering
on down the street
Footprints dressed in red
And the wind whispers Mary
A broom is drearily sweeping up
the broken pieces of yesterday's
life
Somewhere a queen is weeping
Somewhere a king has no wife
And the wind, it cries Mary

personification giving human
qualities to
nonhuman things



TIPS:

- the human quality must be completely unique to human
- sometimes an action (the sun smiled) or an adjective (the angry wind howled)

Example: The sun smiled at the world as it rose in the morning.
(*smiling is unique to humans*)

Non-Example: The pink flowers swayed in the April breeze.
(*although humans can sway, flowers can sway too, so this characteristic is not unique to humans*)

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Lesson 15: Idioms

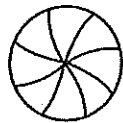
(Song Lyric Excerpt)

"Rolling in the Deep" by Adele

Throw your soul through every
open door
Count your blessings to find what
you look for
Turn my sorrow into treasured
gold
You'll pay me back in kind and reap
just what you sow

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idiom



TIPS:

- when translated into another language, idioms do not make sense
- many idioms have historical explanations

a group of words whose collective meaning is quite different from their individual, literal meaning

Example: When Bill joined the military, Dad said he was swimming with sharks.

(there were no sharks; this means Bill was in a lot of danger)

Non-Example: After falling overboard, I saw that I was swimming with sharks!

(words keep their literal meaning)

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Lesson 16: Alliteration

{Song Lyric Excerpt}

"Song of the South" by
Alabama

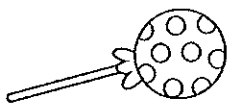
Sing it...

Song, song of the South
Sweet potato pie and I shut my
mouth

Gone, gone with the wind
There ain't nobody lookin' back
again

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alliteration the repetition of the
same initial consonant
sound in a series of words



TIPS:

- often used in brand names like Coca-Cola, Dunkin' Donuts
- may contain words that do not start with the same consonant, especially prepositions and articles

Example: Hal hit the house hard
with the hammer.

(most, but not all words, start with
the /h/ sound)

Non-Example: Andy hit the nail
with the hammer.

(only two initial /h/ sound words
are separated by most of the
sentence)

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Lesson 17: Allusion

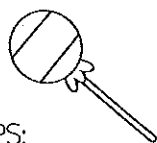
{Song Lyric Excerpt}

"Someday We'll Know" by
New Radicals

Someday we'll know
if love can move a mountain
Someday we'll know
why the sky is blue
Someday we'll know
why I wasn't meant for you
Someday we'll know
why Samson loved Delilah
One day I'll go
dancing on the moon

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allusion



TIPS:

- helps the author to explain or describe and the reader to visualize or imagine
- the reader must have prior knowledge of what is being referenced to "get" the allusion

a reference to a person, place, or event from literature, sports, history, movies, or the arts

Example: Heather's mysterious smile rivaled the Mona Lisa.

(picturing the Mona Lisa helps the reader visualize Heather's smile)

Non-Example: The Mona Lisa can be viewed in Paris.

(this sentence states a fact about a painting but does not use it to explain or compare)

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Lesson 18: Onomatopoeia

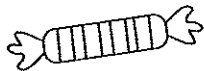
(Song Lyric Excerpt)

"Twang" by George Strait

'Cause I need a little twang
A little hillbilly bending on some
guitar strings
Some peddle steel whining like a
whistle of an old freight train
To get that foot stomping honkey
tonkin' feeling going through my
veins
I need a little twang, twang, twang

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onomatopoeia words whose sounds
suggest their meaning



TIPS:

- animal noises such as moo, meow, hiss, quack, oink, tweet
- sometimes the sentence is exclamatory and ends with an exclamation mark

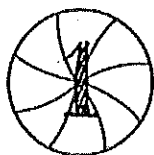
Example: The door slowly creaked open and then slammed shut!
(creak and slam imitate sounds)

Non-Example: "Hello!" I shouted into an empty house.
(hello is dialogue and not a natural noise or sound)

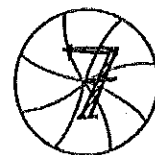
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Lesson 19: Figurative Language Sort

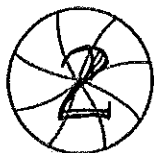
You've already told me
that story a million times.



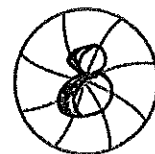
I heard the whoosh of the
tennis racket as it sliced
through the air.



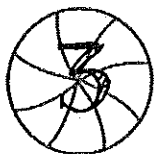
The spicy food danced
around my taste buds.



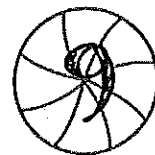
The water reflected colors
like a rainbow.



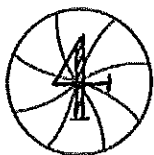
Mark has more ideas
about science than Ben
Franklin.



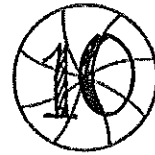
Bethany could sleep
through a tidal wave.



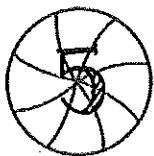
Shelly gave me a heads
up about the planned fire
drill at school.



The toddler's eyes were
sparkling gems.



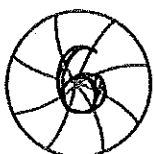
Let's stop at Dunkin
Donuts on the way!



We felt as though Jack
Frost had come to live
with us.



The floor boards moaned
as I tiptoed across the
room.



My backpack weighed a
ton.



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Lesson 19: Figurative Language Sort

Chase sure was an Einstein today.



The wind whistled through the tree branches.



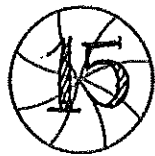
The car's engine roared as the driver sped off.



The bouncing baby babbled as he drank his bottle.



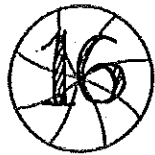
Everyone called Kate, Loren, and Emma the Three Musketeers.



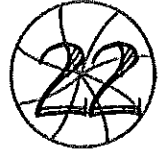
You are the sunshine in my days.



The shelf seemed to actually grab the dust and hold on to it.



When Cam was caught, I knew we were all in the same boat.



Finally, my temper exploded like a bomb.



Playing tag, Dean felt like a dog chasing its tail.



It felt like it took thousands of years to finish college.



I rode down the Red River on a raft.



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Lesson 19: Figurative Language Sort

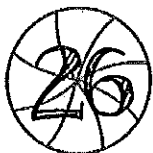
Mrs. White's math test was a piece of cake.



Babysitting for the Jones Family is running a three-ring circus.



The toddlers sat in their booster seats like birds on a high line.



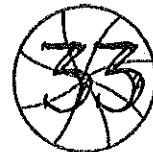
I passed Spanish by the skin of my teeth.



Furious, Sara stormed off and slammed her bedroom door.



Tyler's room is a junk yard.



Dad was almost as hairy as Godzilla.



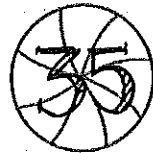
Bryan's teeth are a car wreck.



The chair sat lonely in the corner of the room.



Kelly shivered and her teeth chattered as she waited for the bus.



Math class can drag on for days.



At the county fair, Jeremy was not a happy camper.

