

# Figurative Language

- Simile, Metaphor, Alliteration, Hyperbole, Idiom, Personification
- For a practice identifying different types of figurative language in poetry, read the examples and then check your answers on the next

# Types of Figurative Language

- **Simile: a comparison of two things using the words “like” or “as”.**
  - Ex. Her smile shines like the sun.
- **Metaphor: comparison of two things not using “like” or “as”**
  - Ex. He is lightning on the race track.
- **Alliteration: repeated letter sounds**
  - The hippo hasn't a hair on his hide
    - The “h” is repeated
    - It usually needs to be 3 words or more

# Types of Figurative Language

- **Idiom:** a figure of speech. It doesn't mean exactly what it says.
  - Ex. It's raining cats and dogs.
- **Hyperbole:** an exaggeration
  - Ex. This book weighs a ton!
- **Personification:** giving human characteristics to an animal or object
  - The cat smiled at me, trying to get out of trouble.

# Identify the Figurative Language

- **There's a faucet in the basement / that had dripped one drop all year/since he fixed it, we can't find it / without wearing scuba gear.**
- **The road was a ribbon of moonlight over the purple moor**
- **The leaves are little yellow fish / swimming in the river.**
- **Oh, never, if I live to a million, / Shall I feel such a terrible pain.**

# Answers

- **Hyperbole:** it's saying there's so much water you need scuba gear in your own basement
- **Metaphor:** it's comparing the road to a ribbon
- **Metaphor:** comparing the leaves to yellow fish
- **Hyperbole:** exaggerating how long you could live.

# Identify the Figurative Language

- **Silently, softly the swans swam on the lake.**
- **The boys dived on the ball like angry dogs snarling for a bone.**
- **The dark consumes the daylight.**
- **The students, ant-like, crowded around the pizza box.**
- **He is as strong as an ox and cannot be beaten on the field**
- **I like ice cream.**

# Answers

- **Alliteration:** uses “s” repeatedly
- **Simile:** compares the boys to dogs using “like”
- **Personification:** consumes (eats) is something a human does
- **Simile:** compares the students to ants using “like”
- **None:** this is simply a sentence. Nothing is being compared to ice cream

# Identify the figurative language

- **And then my heart with pleasure fills, /  
And dances with the daffodils.**
- **The Balloons hang on wires / they float  
their faces on the face of the sky.**
- **I should have done homework or studied  
instead / But I got up on the wrong side  
of the bed.**
- **There's a guy in a tux and he stands in  
the corner, / Feedin' the jukebox his  
dimes.**



# Answers

- **Personification: dancing is something a human does**
- **Personification: it gives balloons (objects) faces**
- **Idiom: there is no “wrong side” of the bed. It means you’re in a bad mood.**
- **Personification: Feeding is something done to humans**

# Identify the Figurative Language

- I pushed him from my arms / his stare brought with a terror / a million billion trillion stars.
- I am Super Samson Simpson / I'm superlatively strong / I like to carry elephants / I do it all day long.
- After getting my report card / I knew it was time to hit the books.
- One day they hold you in the / Palms of their hands, gentle, as if you / Were the last raw egg in the world.

# Answers

- **Hyperbole:** exaggerates how many times it's done
- **Alliteration and hyperbole:** uses “s” repeatedly. No one can carry an elephant.
- **Idiom:** you don't physically “hit” books, you read them.
- **Simile:** compares “you” to an egg using the word “as”.