

Due: _____

Name(s): _____ **Figurative Language Practice /30 points**

With a partner or by yourself, I want you to complete the following activities. This is a free-writing activity that will help you start writing using simile, metaphor and personification. My hope is you will start incorporating it into your upcoming poems.

Activity One: Writing Metaphors (10 points)

Poets use metaphors to help exactly explain the meaning of what something "is." They are a powerful tool to give your reader exact understanding. If I say my anger is a fist punching a brick wall you get one idea. If I say my anger is a fist punching a bully's face, you get another.

In 1916, American poet Carl Sandburg wrote a poem about the city of Chicago. At this time Chicago was an industry city that created food and goods for people. It helped support the lives of many new immigrants. He started his poem out with a string of metaphors and then continues with the rest. Notice how he leaves out the *is* part of the metaphor. This is another style of writing metaphors. I put the "is" part in parentheses to show you where it would fit in.

Chicago (Just the first five lines of many, many more.)

- (is a) Hog butcher for the World
- (is a) Tool Maker, Stacker of Wheat
- (is a) Player with Railroads and the Nation's Freight Handler;
- (is) Stormy, husky, brawling,
- (is) City of Big Shoulders:

Assignment: You are going to imitate the poem "Chicago." Pick your own place (this could be a city like Menasha or a setting in general). Follow the format:

Title: _____

Write a direct metaphor: _____

Write two more metaphors: _____

Player with _____

Write three specific adjectives _____

City of _____