

Hyperbole- Lesson Plans and Resources

Lesson Plan

Goal: Students can identify hyperboles and determine when to use it in their writing.

Focus: Identifying the use of hyperboles (Hyperbole (hi-pur'be-le) n. An exaggeration or overstatement intended to produce an effect without being taken literally.)

Hyperbole is a form of speech that could be described as 'extravagant exaggeration'. It is not appropriate when writing essays or reports, but a little hyperbole (pronounced 'hi-per-bo-lee') is an effective way to color the speech of a character in a short story, or use it to make a point effectively in a humorous piece of writing.

Examples:

I've told you a million times not to exaggerate.

Activities:

1. Students work in pairs to author a short story creating a character or characters that use(s) hyperboles constantly.
2. The teacher will give blanket statements in class that the students will complete with their original hyperbole. Example:

That student is so lazy that..... or that class was so boring (or exciting) that.....

3. Review the definition: Hyperbole simply means exaggeration.

Some Examples:

I could sleep for a year.

This box weighs a ton.

I've told you a million times not to exaggerate.