

Understand Figurative Language

Reading: Literature

DIRECTIONS: Read the lines from "Paul Revere's Ride." Then, answer the questions that follow.

From "Paul Revere's Ride"
by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

And the meeting-house windows, blank and bare,
Gaze at him with a spectral glare
As if they already stood aghast!
At the bloody work they would look upon.

† aghast—horried

Strategy While reading, find the meaning of figurative language by asking yourself which characters, events, or ideas are being compared.

Test Tip Remember that metaphors, similes, and personification all compare seemingly different things to show how they are alike. First, identify what things are being compared. Then, ask: *What do these things have in common?*

3. What type of figurative language appears in these lines?

How do you know?

DIRECTIONS: Read "Fog." Then, answer the question that follows.

Fog *by Carl Sandberg*

The fog comes
on little cat feet.

It sits looking
over harbor and city
on silent haunches
and then moves on.

4. Identify at least two ways that the fog is like a cat. Then, write a final sentence about how the comparison helps you understand or imagine fog better.
