

Figurative Language

Simile

Compares two unlike things, using the words "like" or "as."

Example: The muscles on his arms are strong as steel.

Metaphor

Compares two relatively unlike things using a form of "is." The comparison is not announced by the words "like" or "as."

Example: The muscles are pillars of strength!

Alliteration

Repeating consonant sounds at the beginning of words or within words.

Example: He wore a red jacket and a matching white sweater for winter protection.

Personification

A figure of speech which gives the qualities of a person to an animal, an object, or an idea.

Example: The old oak tree dropped down with a lamenting cry of surrender.

Onomatopoeia

The use of words that imitate sounds. A string of syllables the author has made up to represent the way a sound really sounds.

Example: clunk, clunk!

Hyperbole

An exaggerated statement used to heighten effect.

Example: I have a million homework assignments and a million more.