

Grade 5 English Language Arts

Week of October 12 – October 16

Lesson 2: Literary Devices & Descriptive Writing

Literary Devices

Writing Special Effects

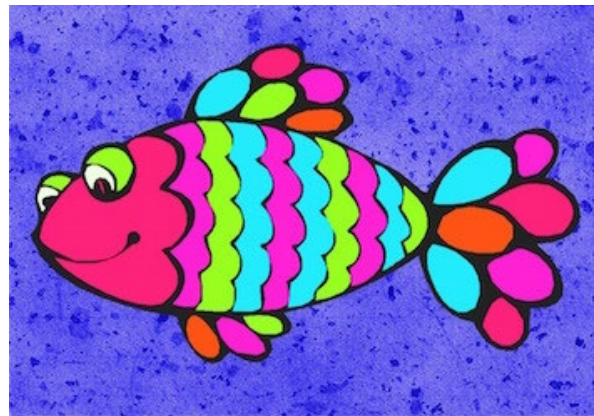
Similes are a way to compare two things using the words *like* or *as*. Similes help add sparkle to a sentence and provide the reader with stronger visuals.

Example: Alima swims well. (This works, but it's plain.)

Try a simile...

Example: Alima swims like a fish.

We know fish live in the water and are excellent swimmers. By comparing Alima to a fish, we are saying she swims well. The reader can also easily visualize a fish and connect with this simile.



You can make this sentence even more descriptive by adding more details to your simile description.

Example: She swims like a fish with the fastest fins in the sea.

Example: She swims like a fish in a rocket-powered submarine.

Example: She swims like a fish escaping a shiver of sharks.

The possibilities are as big as the sea! (Did you notice the simile here! :-))

Simile Practice



Remember, a simile is a comparison using such words as "like" or "as." Here are some examples from the book, *My Heart is Like a Zoo*:

(from Hall, Michael. *My Heart Is Like a Zoo*. New York: Greenwillow, 2010.)

snappy as a crab

angry as a bear

bothered as a bull

brave as a lion

thoughtful as an owl

peaceful as a portly walrus

And a couple more:

The kids fight like cats and dogs.

The boy ran away like a frightened rabbit.

Which of the following are similes? How can you tell?

Her spirits soared like an eagle when she spied her old friend.	Her hands brush the piano keys with velvet grace.	When he reached the top of the hill, he felt as strong as a steel gate.
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Metaphors

A metaphor is a comparison between two different things.

Example: You are good person. (Ack! Here is the dreaded *good*.)

Try a metaphor instead...

You are a shining star.

We think of stars as shiny and bright – as something high up and hard to attain. By comparing you to a star, it means you are the kind of person who shines in life. You are bright and brilliant. You are a person of high standards. Readers get a strong visual and make connections with the word *star*. You do not get this with the word *good*.



Metaphor Practice

Which of the following are similes? How can you tell?

The manager is a worm for what she did to Shelia.	The clouds were ice-cream castles in the sky.	The clouds were like ice-cream castles in the sky.
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Did that last one trick you?

Similes & Metaphors

Sometimes, people get metaphors and similes mixed up. Remember, similes say something is *like* or *as* something else. Metaphors make direct comparisons.



Check out this catchy video for some great examples.

<https://youtu.be/uoSBVNUO2LU>

Alliteration

Alliteration is using words that start with the same sound near one another in a phrase or sentence. Alliteration is like a pop of sound that grabs your attention. It creates a rhythm of sounds which your ears tune in to - and it helps bring your writing alive for your reader.

Tongue twisters like the following are good examples of alliteration. For fun, practice saying these tongue twisters as quickly and as clearly as possible.

Example: Four fine fresh fish.

Example: Betty Botter bought a bit of butter.

Example: She sells seahells by the seahore.



Alliteration: <https://youtu.be/ZhrY5ZCYtIU>

Now complete the activity, Create Tongue Twisters. Have fun!

Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia is a word that makes the sound of the action or object. Think of it like sound effects for your descriptive writing.

Example: The birds chattered, the brook babbled, and the leaves rustled on the trees.

Onomatopoeia is well known for its use in comics.

Example: Bam! Boom! Slam!



Watch this video for more examples: <https://youtu.be/f1b5kCvVBo8>

Now complete the activity, Noisy Onomatopoeia. Have fun!

Name: _____

Date: _____

1.9 Literary Devices



Create Tongue Twisters

Create tongue twisters using the alliteration formula below. Whatever the number is, that is the letter sound all your words must start with. Then practice saying your sentences as fast and as clearly as you can. See the example below.

Number	Adjective	Noun	Verb	Adverb
One	Wonderful	Wombat	Winked	Woefully
Two				
Three				
Four				
Five				
Six				
Seven				
Eight				

Nine				
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Return to the online lesson book.

Name: _____

Date: _____



Noisy Onomatopoeia



Onomatopoeia is a word that imitates the sound it describes. Ex.) The bees buzz.

Directions: Write the onomatopoeia word that describes the sound that each noun makes.

1. The cow _____

2. The race car _____

3. The telephone _____

4. The chickens _____

5. The watch _____

6. The horn _____

7. The kitten _____

8. The campfire _____

9. The frog _____

10. The bubble _____

11. The bomb went _____

12. The wolf _____

13. The ghost _____

14. The toilet _____

Return to the online lesson book.