

Types of Figurative Language

- Personification - Giving something non-human, or an object, human characteristics.
 - Example: “The run down old house at the end of the deserted gravel road appeared depressed.”
 - Explanation: Depression is a human emotion; houses cannot be depressed.
- Hyperbole - An exaggeration so dramatic that no one would believe its true.
 - Example: I could eat a horse!
 - Explanation: Everyone knows that nobody could actually be hungry enough to eat a horse.
- Metaphor - A statement that is a comparison of two things that are not alike. Metaphors DO NOT use like or as to compare.
 - Example: Freddie is a pig when he eats.
 - Meaning: Both Freddie and a pig are sloppy eaters.
- Alliteration - When a set of words uses the same sound or letters repeatedly.
 - Example: “Susie sang softly while sitting on the sand in the sunshine.”
- Simile - A comparison of two things that are not alike; uses “like” or “as”.
 - Example: He is as brave as a lion.
 - Explanation: He is very brave.
- Onomatopoeia - Sound words.
 - Examples: Snap! Pop! Bang!
- Idioms - A set of words that can have more than one meaning behind them.
 - Example: Those shoes are “a dime a dozen.”
 - Explanation: The shoes are very common and easy to get.
- Symbolism - The use of symbols to represent ideas.
 - Example: Hearts are used to represent love.
- Oxymoron - A comparison of two things that contradict.
 - Example: We had jumbo shrimp for dinner.
 - Explanation: Usually jumbo refers to something big and shrimp means small, but jumbo shrimp are shrimp that are large.



Name: _____

Date: _____

Hour: _____

Mississippi Trial, 1955 Figurative Language Worksheet

Chapters 1-4

1. _____ “All my life, if the word [hate] slipped out of my mouth, he’d snap into me faster than a rattlesnake.”
 - Meaning: To yell at someone.
2. _____ “Hiram,” he’d say, straightening up tall like a preacher.
 - Meaning: To be proud or brave.
3. _____ Grampa often got mad like that: lightning quick, fast and without warning.
 - Meaning: To get mad quickly.
4. _____ But don’t you go blaming me if I pop open and spray you all like a hot can of beer.
 - Meaning: To suddenly get very angry.
5. _____ They moved like two old cows up on their hind legs.
 - Meaning: To move very awkwardly.
6. _____ She always seemed skittish, kind of like a cat that’s been kicked around too many times.
 - Meaning: To act afraid because you have been beaten up a lot.
7. _____ Ain’t Hiram a regular old Romeo?
 - Meaning: To act charming.
8. _____ Both men looked about as comfortable as cows in a slaughterhouse.
 - Meaning: To look very uncomfortable.
9. _____ He’s a rock, a real Gibraltar.
 - Meaning: To be very solid or something that cannot be destroyed.
10. _____ Watching Gramma’s coffin get lowered into that grave just about broke me in half.
 - Meaning: To get very upset.
11. _____ I’d argue with Dad about it, but he was as stubborn as a stump.
 - Meaning: To be unlikely to change your mind about something.

On the back of this piece of paper, chose one question to draw. ☺