

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 5-11

1. _____ I knew Ralph was an egg or two short of a dozen.
 - Meaning: To be lacking intelligence.
2. _____ I felt as dumb as a brick.
 - Meaning: To be lacking intelligence.
3. _____ I'd sworn you were Harlan himself, yes sir. A plain mirror image of your father.
 - Meaning: To look exactly like something else.
4. _____ Her low-down father treats her worse than the family mule.
 - Meaning: To work very hard.
5. _____ Oh yeah, I forgot about you two. Regular little lovebirds when you were here before.
 - Meaning: Two people who are in love.
6. _____ He stopped dead in front of us like an old cow caught in the glare of a car's headlights.
 - Meaning: To be so surprised or frightened that you cannot move or think.
7. _____ I wish he'd turn over a new leaf.
 - Meaning: To start over again.
8. _____ R.C. can be a real headache when he is around.
 - Meaning: To bother someone or to make someone angry.
9. _____ My life felt like it had been tied up into one giant knot, one that would take a long time to untangle.
 - Meaning: To be very confused or upset when you are trying to make a decision or solve a problem.

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