

# Figurative Language

Figurative language is a tool that an author uses to help readers visualize what is happening in the story, or to make the writing more interesting and clever. There are many “types” of figurative language, but you should gain understanding of the following:

**Personification:** Personification is making an inanimate object act or feel like a person or animal. (*The wind called my name as the sun shone down angrily.*)

**Puns:** A pun is a word or words, which are changed to have different or dual meaning—usually used as a humorous element. (*Using that pencil is pointless.*)

**Simile:** A simile is a comparison of two things using the word “like” or “as.” (*He’s as colorful as a butterfly.*)

**Metaphor:** A metaphor is a comparison of two things, which become alike in some way for the meaning of the sentence. (*Gertrude was a lion when she woke up and roared at me to turn off the alarm.*)

**Idiom:** An idiom is a speech form or an expression that is used by people of a given language, that doesn’t make sense to outsiders. (*kick the bucket or under the weather*)

**Hyperbole:** A hyperbole is an exaggeration. (*That building can touch the clouds.*)