

Similes & Metaphors Cheat Sheet

What is figurative language?

Figurative language is a way to creatively describe things in a non-literal way. Writers use devices like similes and metaphors to help readers visualize things in a certain way. They also use these devices to communicate a certain tone or mood in their writing.

Examples:

Silly tone: My brother honked like a duck.

Serious tone: My brother whispered like a sad breeze.

What is a simile?

A simile is a comparison between two different things using the words "like" or "as."

Example: The sun was as yellow as butter.

Example: The sun looked yellow like butter.

What is a metaphor?

-A metaphor is a comparison between two different things that does NOT use the words "like" or "as."

Example: The sun was a yellow blob of butter.

Common Core Standards

Language:

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use:

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.5.5

Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.5.5.A

Interpret figurative language, including similes and metaphors, in context.

Task Cards

1

Which of the following is a simile?

- a. I like to play soccer.
- b. The boat rocked as the fish swam below.
- c. The boy walked as slow as a turtle.
- d. He watched a movie as he ate popcorn.

2

Which of the following is a simile?

- a. Henry is as fast as a cheetah.
- b. As the wind blew, I pedaled my bike faster.
- c. Henry likes eating apples.
- d. If you like bananas, then you'll love my banana bread.

Task Cards

3

Which of the following is a simile?

- a. Many people like chocolate.
- b. She and her mom like to play board games together.
- c. Bruce watched TV as he ate his dinner.
- d. The icicle looked like a dagger.

4

Which of the following is a simile?

- a. As the teacher explained the math problem, it started to make sense.
- b. Her eyes were as green as emeralds.
- c. I sipped my water as he ate his sandwich.
- d. As the day got warmer, I took off my jacket and scarf.

Task Cards

5

Which of the following is a simile?

- a. When you like a certain food, you want to eat it all the time.
- b. She walked while I ran.
- c. As I read my book, I started to feel sleepy.
- d. The wind sounded like a whisper.

6

Which of the following is a metaphor?

- a. The scorching desert was an oven.
- b. The baby was two months old.
- c. This butterfly is beautiful.
- d. Cookies taste sweet.

Task Cards

7

Which of the following is a metaphor?

- a. The grass felt itchy on my legs.
- b. Her hair was so long and pretty.
- c. The grass was dry and yellow.
- d. Her hair was golden grass waving in the wind.

8

Which of the following is a metaphor?

- a. The school day was boring.
- b. Because I didn't get any sleep last night, I was a zombie at school.
- c. Zombies never sleep.
- d. I feel like a zombie when I don't get much sleep at night.

Task Cards

9

Which of the following is a metaphor?

- a. My pillow was a soft cloud cushioning my head.
- b. There are so many clouds in the sky.
- c. My pillow is so soft.
- d. It was a cloudy day on Saturday, so I didn't get sunburned.

10

Which of the following is a metaphor?

- a. Molasses is like honey.
- b. I poured the molasses into the pumpkin pie batter.
- c. She was a slow drip of molasses, sinking into her chair.
- d. The girl sat down slowly, like a drip of molasses..

Task Cards

11

Is the following a simile or metaphor?

She collapsed to the floor, like a building crumbling after an explosion.

- a. simile
- b. metaphor

12

Is the following a simile or metaphor?

He was a tall building but she was a tiny brick.

- a. simile
- b. metaphor

Task Cards

13

Is the following a simile or metaphor?

He was a cheetah, running down the track, passing the other racers.

- a. simile
- b. metaphor

14

Is the following a simile or metaphor?

He ran fast like a cheetah.

- a. simile
- b. metaphor

Task Cards

15

Is the following a simile or metaphor?

Her eyelashes were butterfly wings, fluttering every time she blinked.

- a. simile
- b. metaphor

16

Is the following a simile or metaphor?

She fluttered her eyelashes like butterfly wings.

- a. simile
- b. metaphor

Task Cards

17

Is the following a simile or metaphor?

I was as itchy as a dog with fleas.

- a. simile
- b. metaphor

18

Is the following a simile or metaphor?

I was a dog with fleas. I itched my arm repeatedly.

- a. simile
- b. metaphor

Task Cards

19

Is the following a simile or metaphor?

Sam's yell was a loud siren calling for help.

- a. simile
- b. metaphor

20

Is the following a simile or metaphor?

Sam's yell was like a loud siren calling for help.

- a. simile
- b. metaphor

Student Answer Sheet

Name: _____

1.	11.
2.	12.
3.	13.
4.	14.
5.	15.
6.	16.
7.	17.
8.	18.
9.	19.
10.	20.

Answer Key

1. c	11. a
2. a	12. b
3. d	13. b
4. b	14. a
5. d	15. b
6. a	16. a
7. d	17. a
8. b	18. b
9. a	19. b
10. c	20. a

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