

Figurative Language Examples

Metaphor

1. Her smile is the sunrise.
2. Baby, you are my sunshine.
3. The sea was a sheet of glass.
4. Time is a thief.
5. His words were daggers.
6. Her thesis is a compass.
7. The deadline is a guillotine.
8. His apology was sandpaper.
9. The feedback was a cold shower.
10. That paragraph is a brick wall.

Simile

1. Her smile shines like the sun.
2. The water was as clear as glass.
3. He ran like the wind.
4. The silence held like a paused video.
5. The baby slept like a log.
6. His summary read like a weather report.
7. Her voice sounded like music.
8. The lecture moved like a slow elevator.
9. Her logic clicked into place like a seat belt.
10. The rumor spread like dye in water.

Personification

1. The wind whispered through the trees.
2. The alarm clock screamed at six.
3. The spreadsheet argued with my calculator.
4. The sun smiled over the horizon.
5. The printer sulked and spat out blank pages.
6. The leaves danced in the breeze.

7. The old house groaned in the storm.
8. The Wi-Fi abandoned us at the worst moment.
9. The deadline stared at me all weekend.
10. The alarm clock bullied me out of sleep.

Hyperbole

1. I waited a million years for the bus.
2. I'm so hungry I could eat a horse.
3. This bag weighs a ton.
4. I've told you a thousand times.
5. The homework took forever.
6. That lecture lasted an eternity.
7. I have a mountain of emails to answer.
8. She ran faster than lightning.
9. I laughed my head off.
10. The line stretched for miles.

Alliteration

1. Peter Piper picked pickled peppers.
2. She sells seashells by the seashore.
3. Wild winds whipped the water.
4. Bright blue butterflies fluttered.
5. Busy bees buzzed busily.
6. Silver snow silently settled.
7. Tall trees trembled together.
8. Crisp cookies cooled carefully.
9. Bold birds beat their wings.
10. Soft sand slipped silently.

Onomatopoeia

1. Buzz
2. Bang
3. Splash

4. Crash
5. Tick-tock
6. Hiss
7. Boom
8. Pop
9. Sizzle
10. Clang

Idioms

1. Break the ice.
2. Hit the sack.
3. Piece of cake.
4. Under the weather.
5. Spill the beans.
6. Burn the midnight oil.
7. Let the cat out of the bag.
8. Cost an arm and a leg.
9. Once in a blue moon.
10. Kick the bucket.

Allusion

1. He met his Waterloo during the final debate.
2. She opened the box like Pandora herself.
3. The new policy felt like Big Brother watching.
4. His plan collapsed like a house of cards.
5. She guarded the secret like the Sphinx.
6. The ambitious intern flew too close to the sun like Icarus.
7. Their rivalry echoed David and Goliath.
8. The city waited for a hero like Gotham waits for Batman.
9. The scientist chased discovery like a modern Prometheus.
10. The stubborn leader ruled like a modern King Midas.

Symbolism

1. The white flag signaled surrender.
2. The broken chain symbolized freedom after years of captivity.
3. The candle in the window represented hope during the long winter.
4. The locked door symbolized opportunity denied.
5. The withered tree stood as a symbol of lost dreams.
6. The rising sun symbolized a new beginning for the village.
7. The red rose represented love and devotion.
8. The storm cloud symbolized approaching conflict.
9. The empty throne symbolized a power vacuum.
10. The olive branch represented peace between the rivals.

Metonymy

1. The White House announced a new policy.
2. Hollywood released another blockbuster.
3. The crown approved the new law.
4. Wall Street reacted immediately to the announcement.
5. The press demanded answers from the minister.
6. The Pentagon released its latest report.
7. Downing Street responded quickly to the criticism.
8. The Oval Office denied the allegation.
9. Silicon Valley launched another startup.
10. The throne passed to the young heir.

Synecdoche

1. All hands on deck.
2. The farm needs extra hands today.
3. She bought a new set of wheels.
4. The restaurant served fifty hungry mouths tonight.
5. The ranch counted two hundred head of cattle.
6. All eyes turned toward the speaker.
7. We need more boots on the ground.

8. The orchestra added more strings this season.
9. The company hired several bright minds.
10. The stadium cheered every bat that stepped up.

Oxymoron

1. Deafening silence
2. Bitter sweet
3. Living dead
4. Clearly confused
5. Open secret
6. Act naturally
7. Jumbo shrimp
8. Alone together
9. Only choice
10. Original copy

Litotes

1. The results were not insignificant.
2. That explanation was not wrong.
3. The assignment was not difficult.
4. The movie was not bad.
5. His effort was not unnoticed.
6. The solution was not impossible.
7. Her performance was not disappointing.
8. The progress was not insignificant.
9. The task was no small challenge.
10. The results were not without value.