

Figurative Language – Miss Owens

Figurative – language that is not meant to be taken literally
(literally = true or real as written)

1. Metaphor: A comparison that does not use like or as
She's the apple of my eye. Love is a river. Pain is a knife cutting through my heart.

2. Simile: A comparison that uses like or as
My love is like a red, red rose. Mothers are as important AS my hands – they help us through life.

3. Symbolism: Something that represents or stands for something else.
American flag = symbol of the United States and freedom. <3 = love

4. Alliteration: Repetition of a beginning consonant sound
Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.

5. Assonance: Repetition of a vowel sound
The sound of the hound was bound to make me crazy.

6. Imagery: Language that appeals to the senses – sight, hearing, taste, smell, feel
The cracking splinters of glass were scattered on the streaked, dingy floor.

7. Hyperbole: Exaggeration
I am so hungry, I could eat a horse. I ran a million miles today!

8. Personification: Giving human qualities to something that is not human
The cars danced across the icy road. The wind whispered my name.

9. Onomatopoeia: A word that sounds like what it means
Buzz! Boom! Wham!

10. Irony: Something that is unexpected
You sell your car to buy the new one you wanted, but the one you wanted has been sold. The fire station catches fire.

11. Idiom – a commonly used phrase that makes no sense literally.
Break a leg; raining cats and dogs