

Figurative Language

5th
Grade

The bees happily buzz around the garden.



Feeling under the weather.



She eats like a pig!



He is as quiet as a mouse.



I am so hungry I could eat a horse!



The moon was but a chin of gold,
A night or two ago,
And now she turns her perfect face
Upon the world below.

Table of Contents

Figurative Language

Idioms
Hold the Homographs *
Double Meanings *
The Metaphor Game
Similes
Draw a Picture!
Mixed Practice: Similes and Metaphors *
Over the Top Hyperbole
Personification
Alliteration
Assonance and Consonance *
Onomatopoeia

Certificate of Completion

Answer Sheets

** Has an Answer Sheet*

Want more workbooks? Join Education.com Plus to save time and money.
<http://www.education.com/education-plus/>

idioms

name _____

Idioms are common phrases that have a different meaning from the actual words used. Choose an idiom from the list. Draw a picture to illustrate the literal meaning (what the words really mean) and draw a picture to illustrate the figurative meaning (what the idiom means). Then use the idiom in a sentence that shows its meaning.

Example: "Under the weather"

Literal Meaning (real meaning)



Figurative Meaning (idiom)



Write in a sentence:

possible idioms

A piece of cake
Bite off more than you can chew
Crack someone up
Drive someone up the wall
Hit the nail on the head
Back to the drawing board
Cat got your tongue
Raining cats and dogs
Wear your heart on your sleeve
You can't judge a book by its cover

I'm on top of the world
I'm in a pickle
I'm feeling blue
In one ear and out the other
That's a piece of cake
Give me a hand
Under the weather
Break a leg
You're pulling my leg
Pass the buck

On your high horse
Give the cold shoulder
Talk a mile a minute
Elbow grease
Hold down the fort
Hit the ceiling
Spitting image
Tie the knot
Out of the blue
Pull the plug

name _____

Idiom:

Literal Meaning (idiom)

Figurative Meaning (real meaning)

Idiom:

Literal Meaning (idiom)

Figurative Meaning (real meaning)

NAME: _____

WRITE A SENTENCE

Choose an idiom from the list and use them in a sentence below!

Write in a sentence:

Write in a sentence:

Write in a sentence:

IDIOM FILL-INS

Choose the idioms that complete the sentences.

1. Are you guys going to tie the _____ this year?
2. After disappointing sales, the company decided to pull the _____ on the new SUV.
3. This could never happen; are you pulling my _____?
4. I just got a nice promotion at work, now I feel like I'm on top of the _____!
5. After the unsuccessful test, we had to go back to the _____ board.
6. That test was a piece of _____!
7. These hyper dogs are driving me _____!
8. Can you get off your high _____ and give me a _____.
9. With a little bit of elbow _____ we can have this car up and running in no time.
10. It was like I was talking to a wall, in one _____ and out the _____.

Hold the HOMOGRAPHYS!!!

NAME _____

Homographs are words that look the same but have more than one meaning, and sometimes more than one pronunciation. For example, there is an animal called a “bat”, and there is also a “bat” that baseball players use to hit the ball.



Read the definitions below and write down the homograph that best fits both sentences.

1. The front of a ship OR a ribbon tied up in a girl’s hair.
2. A place for stray animals OR 16 ounces.
3. The outer layer of a tree OR the sound a dog makes.
4. A person who rules a country OR something used to measure.
5. A type of flower OR the past tense of “to rise”.
6. The earth beneath you OR the past tense of “to grind”.
7. A type of tree that grows in warm climates OR a part of you hand.
8. Spectacles you wear to improve vision OR cups to drink from.
9. To rip something OR a fluid that comes from the eye.
10. To be a short distance away OR to cover an opening.

RIDDLE CHALLENGE!

Why was the picture sent to jail?

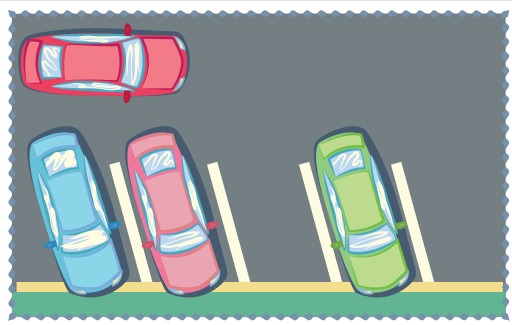


Answer: Because it was framed.

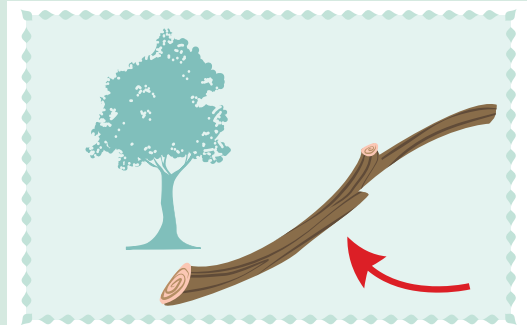
DOUBLE MEANING

NAME _____

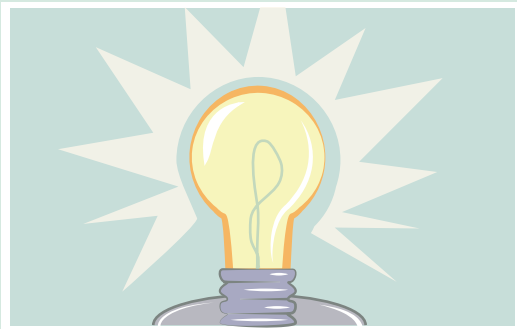
Use each pair of pictures and clues to figure out the homographs!



OR: A PLACE WITH TREES



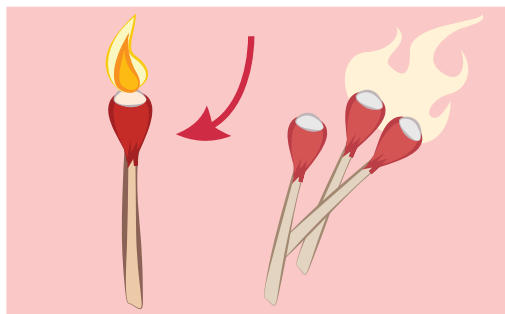
OR: TO CLING TO SOMETHING



OR: AN ADJECTIVE TO DESCRIBE SOMEONE SMART



OR: TO HIT SOMETHING WITH YOUR FISTS



OR: 2 THINGS THAT GO TOGETHER



OR: A LOUD NOISE

Name: _____

PLAYING WITH FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE: **THE METAPHOR GAME**

Have you ever heard of a metaphor? Poets make metaphors all the time when they compare things that are very different from each other. The poet Emily Dickinson wrote a poem comparing hope to a little bird.

You can do this too. It is a fun way to think about the things around you and see them in new ways. Here is a game you can play to help you make your own metaphor and maybe even write a poem.

CREATE YOUR METAPHOR

Cut out the noun word cards, so that you have nine small pieces of paper. Put these in a container or lay them face down. Close your eyes and choose a noun. List everything you can think of that the noun does. (For example, for a car you might write things like: It sits in our driveway. It moves forward. It takes us places. It spews exhaust and pollutes the air. It holds my whole family and makes us squeeze together.) Choose a second noun word card. This will be the subject of your metaphor. Write this noun at the top of your list to see how well your metaphor comes together.

LOOK AT YOUR METAPHOR

If you followed the directions carefully you will have created something very interesting that begins with one thing but describes what a totally different thing does. You might think "Wow, I can see how a river does the same things as a pencil!"

If you like what you wrote, you might want to copy it over as a poem. You may want to cross out lines that just seem silly or don't fit in with what you want to say and replace them with other things that you have thought of.

TRY ANOTHER ONE!

If you don't like the first one you wrote, try another. It may take a few tries before you make a metaphor that you like. Also, you can put any words in your container that you want. It's fun to try abstract nouns like hope, joy, and fear.



WRITE IT OUT

Name: _____

Noun #1: _____

Subject of Metaphor: (noun #2) _____
(choose after filling in the blanks below for Noun #1)

It

It

It also

And sometimes it

But most importantly, it

Noun #1: _____

Subject of Metaphor: (noun #2) _____
(choose after filling in the blanks below for Noun #1)

It

It

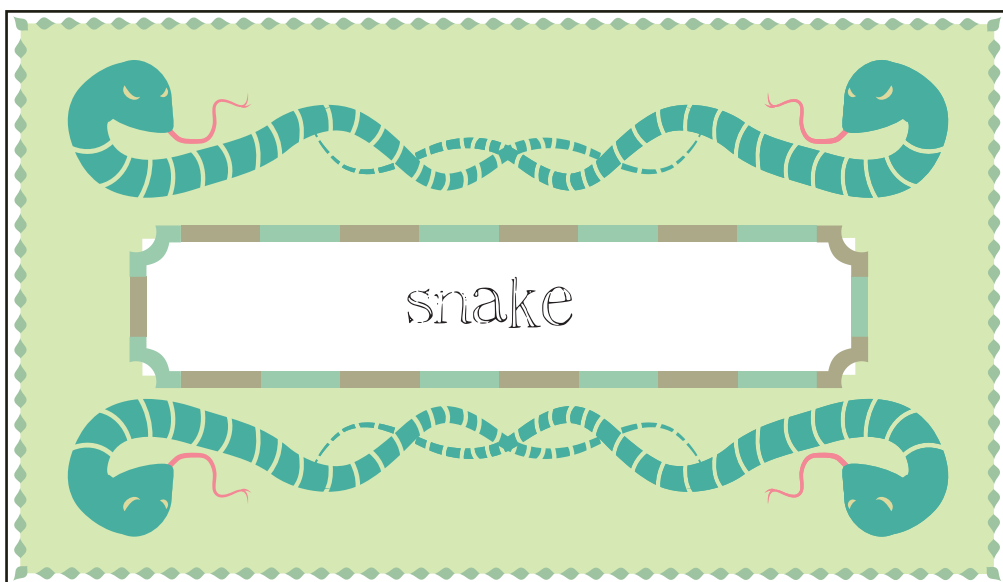
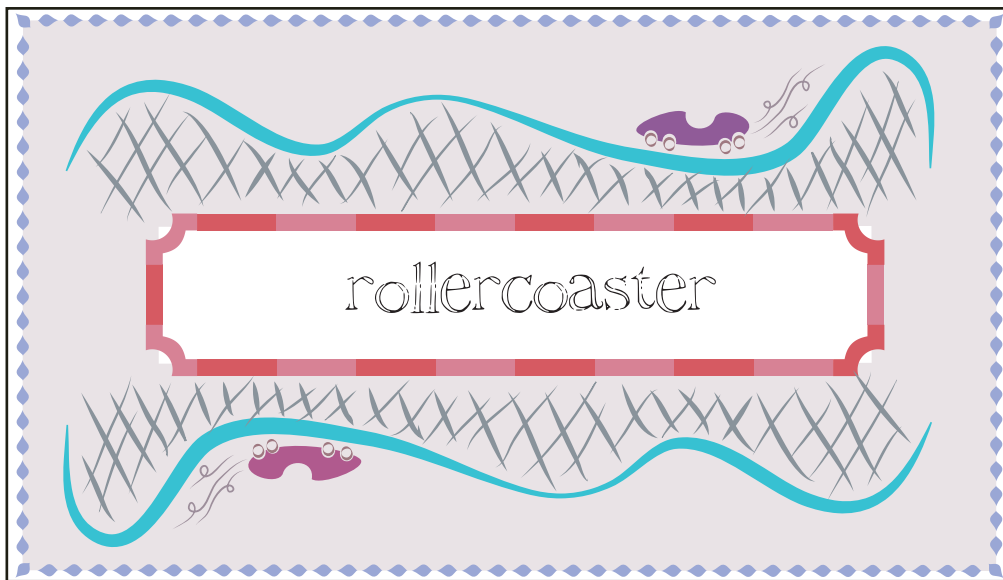
It also

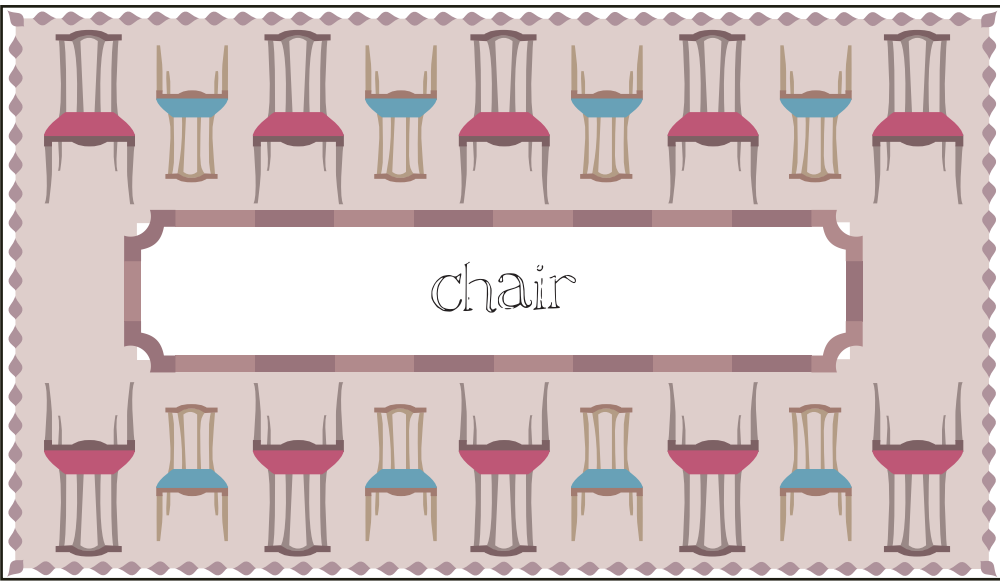
And sometimes it

But most importantly, it



Cut along
dotted line



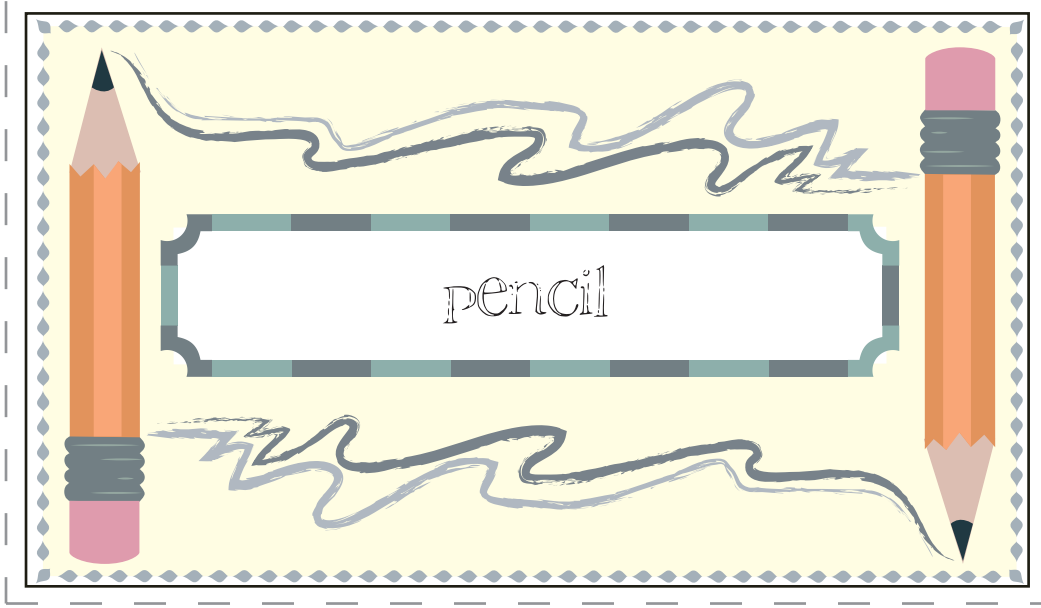


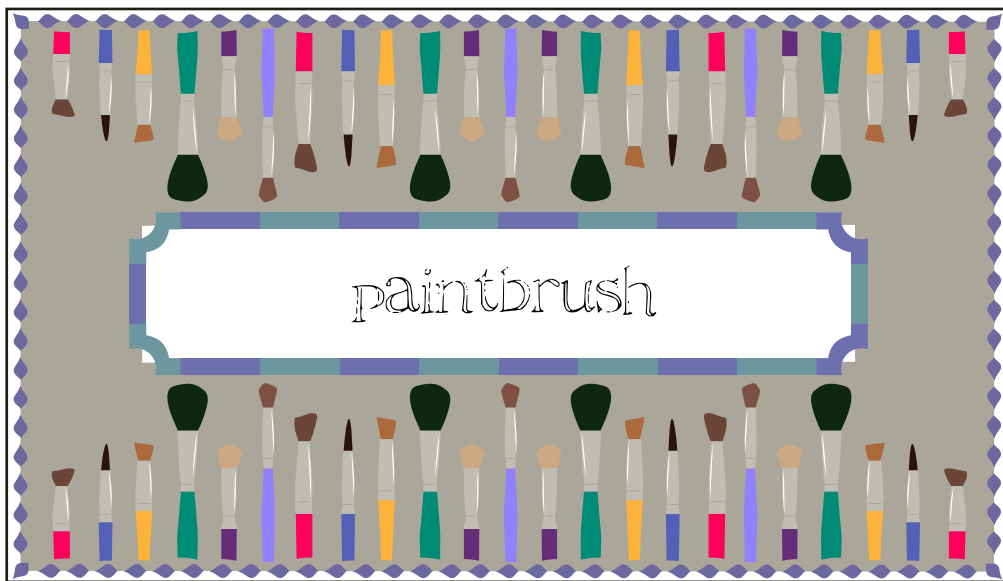
Cut along
dotted line



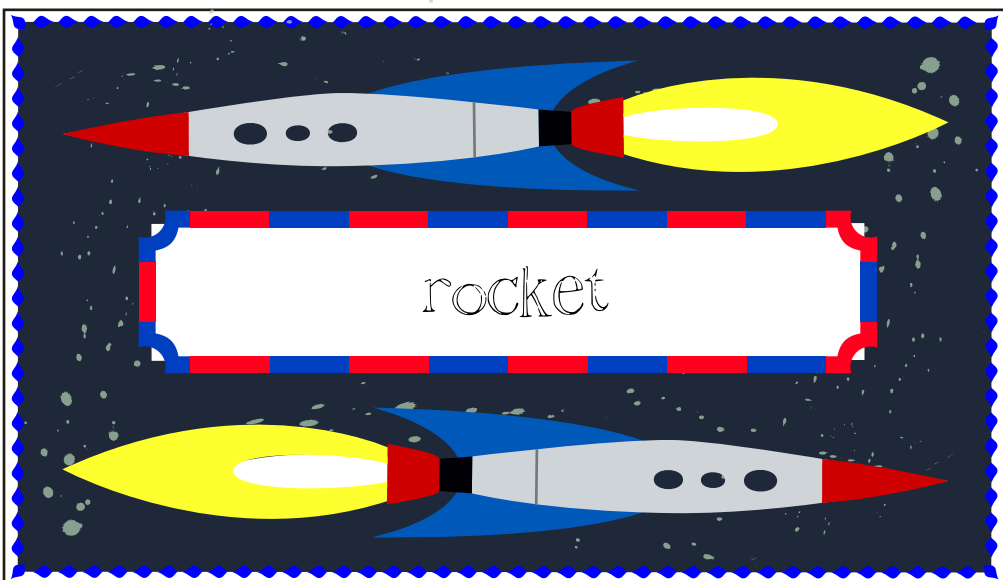
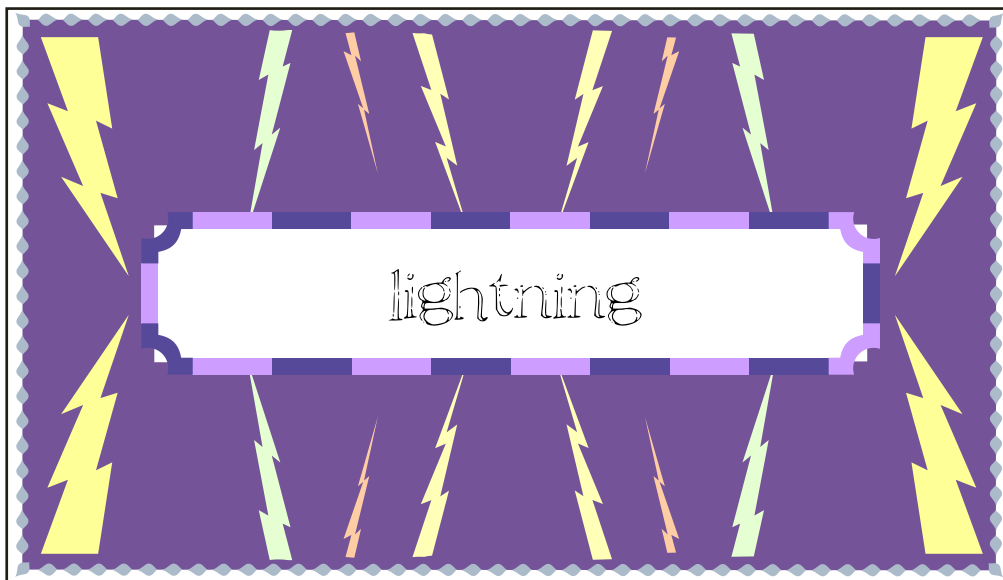


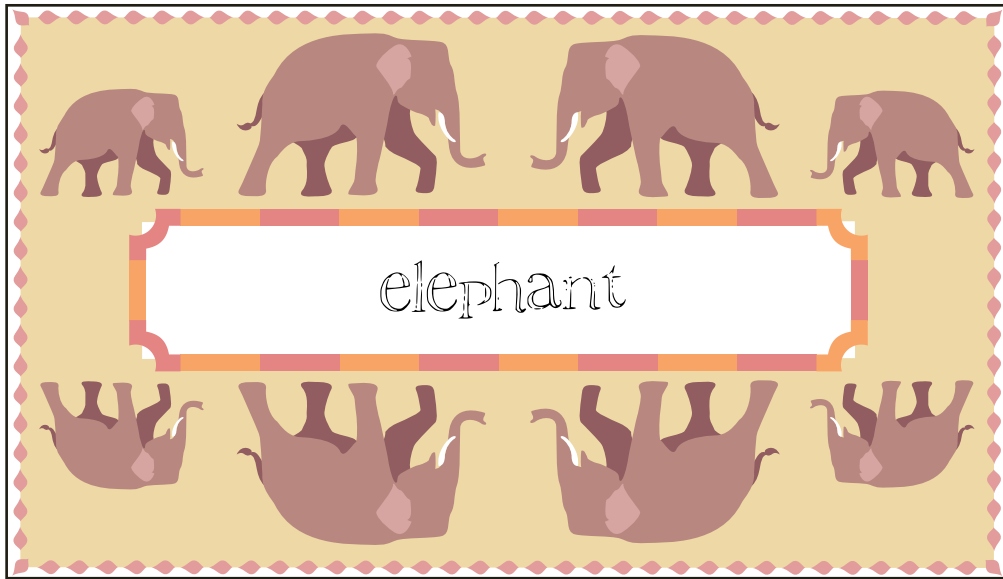
Cut along
dotted line



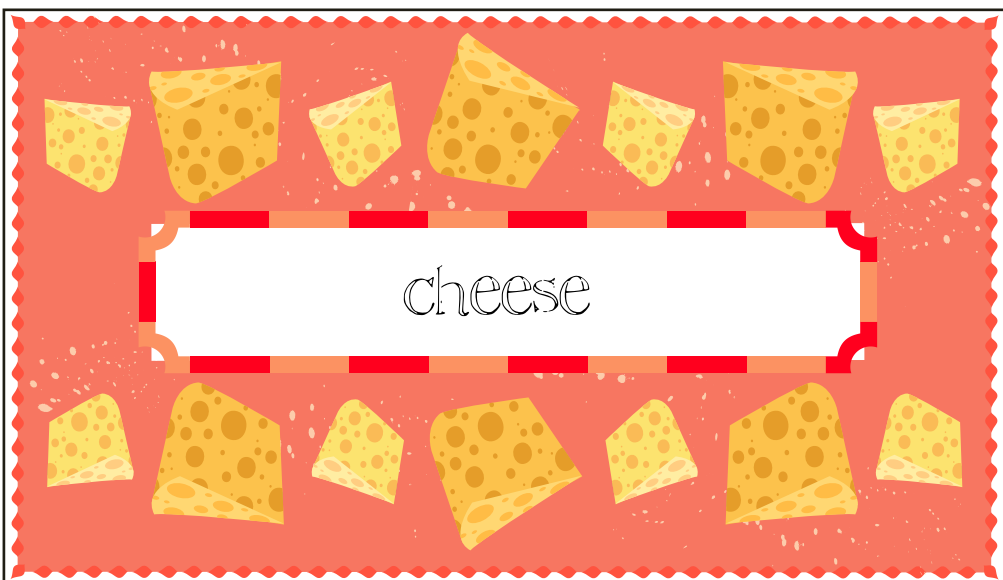
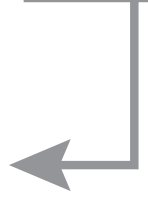


Cut along
dotted line





Cut along
dotted line



Similes

A simile is a phrase or figure of speech that compares two things using the words like or as. Compare things in an interesting or unexpected way that creates an image for the reader using "like" or "as" to compare something to a seemingly dissimilar noun, verb or adjective

Examples: "She is as strong as an ox," or "he was as quiet as a mouse."

Pattern 1: "like"

verb + like + noun

Examples

She swims like a fish.

He walks like a duck.

She acts like a fool.

Pattern 2: "as"

as + adjective + as + noun

Examples

He is as tall as a giant.

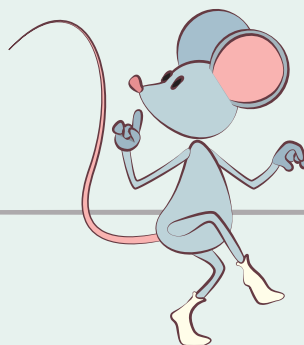
She is as graceful as a swan.

He was as quiet as a mouse.

Fill in the blanks to finish these similes then add more of your own.



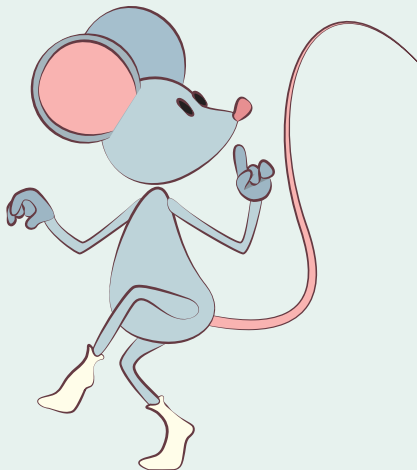
- _____ felt like _____.
- _____ seems as dark as _____.
- _____ stopped me like _____.
- _____ as slimy as _____.
- _____ as lovely as _____.
- _____ as bright as _____.
- _____ ran like _____.
- _____ smelled rotten like _____.
- _____ danced like _____.
- _____ as wiggly _____.



Draw a Picture!

Using the similes in the box below, pick two, write them down on the line below each box, and draw a picture illustrating what is happening in each.

- As brave as a lion
- As quick as lightning
- As busy as a bee
- To drink like a fish
- As big as an elephant
- To eat like a bird
- As cool as a cucumber
- As dry as a bone
- To sleep like a baby
- As clear as a bell
- Eyes like a hawk
- To smell like a pig
- As light as a feather
- To fight like a tiger
- As poor as dirt
- To live like a king
- To sing like an angel
- To dance like a ballerina
- To lie like a snake



Mixed Practice:

Similes and Metaphors

Read the sentence and circle the 2 words being compared in each sentence. Determine whether each sentence is a *simile* or a *metaphor*, and write down the meaning based on the context of the sentence.

Example: She walks like a duck.

Meaning: The girl walks funny. (simile)

1. Steven sings like a nightingale.

Meaning:

2. The candle is a beacon of sunshine.

Meaning:

3. The moon is a lantern in the sky.

Meaning:

4. Kirsten sleeps like a log.

Meaning:

5. Gretchen is a fish when she swims.

Meaning:

6. Phillip is lightning when he runs a race.

Meaning:

7. The bunny's fur is a blanket of warmth.

Meaning:

8. Anne's voice is velvet.

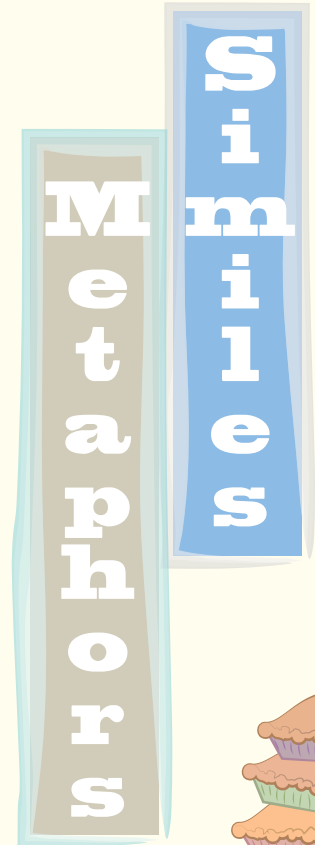
Meaning:

9. Peter is as sweet as pie.

Meaning:

10. Chris is like a computer when he does his math.

Meaning:



Similes and Metaphors!

Figure out whether each sentence below is a simile or a metaphor. Then, write down the meaning of each metaphor/simile based on how it is being used in a sentence!

Example: You are a couch potato.

Meaning: Metaphor. Someone who sits and does nothing.

1. She eats like a pig!

2. This contract is as solid as the ground we stand on.

3. The world is my oyster.

4. That guy is as nutty as a fruitcake.

5. She is such an airhead.

6. Don't just sit there like a bump on a log.

7. He's a diamond in the rough.

8. Time is a thief.

9. As hard as nails.

10. You are my sunshine.



Similes
Metaphors

OVER THE TOP

Hyperbole

In literature, figurative language refers to the use of images or phrases that make different kinds of comparisons. One type of figurative language is called **hyperbole**, which is an obvious and usually funny exaggeration. For example, you may have heard the phrase, "I am so hungry I could eat a horse!" This is hyperbole, since it is not meant to be serious and is over-the-top to make a point. Good hyperbole is so exaggerated that the reader knows immediately that you are joking.

Complete each sentence using a hyperbole of your own creation!

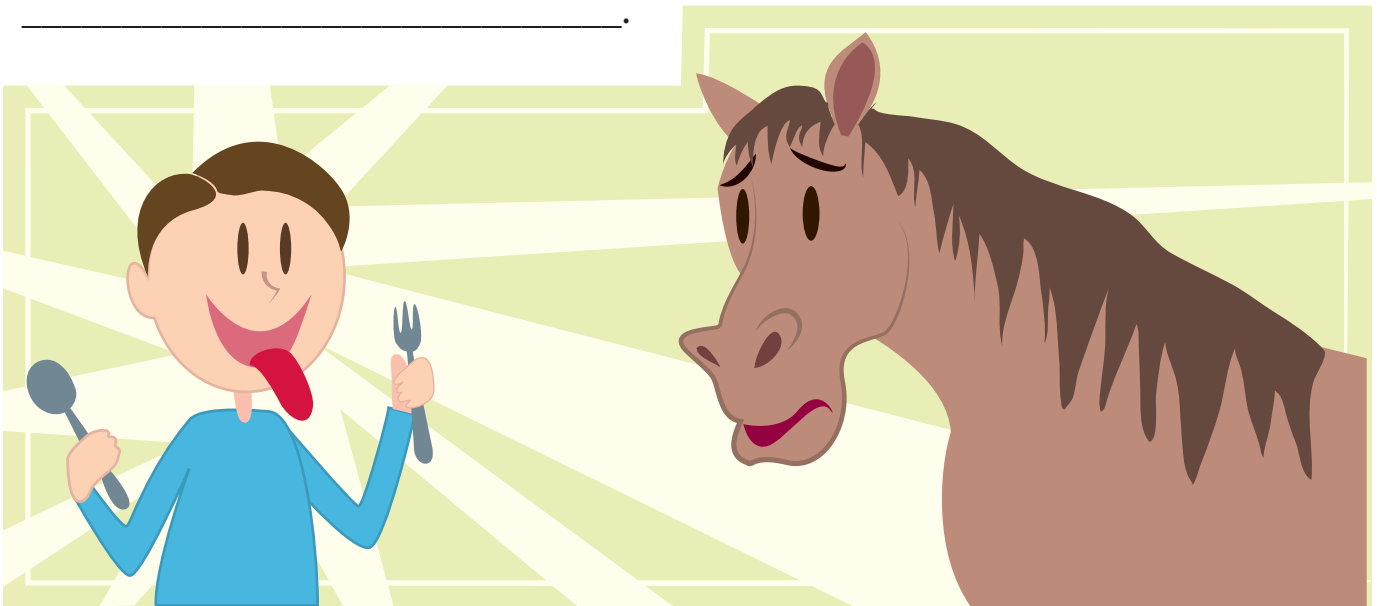
1. I sat in one place so long during the painting class that _____.

2. The house was as big as a _____.

3. After working out for months I was as strong as an _____.

4. My dog made the funniest noise yesterday. It sounded like _____.

5. After I got straight A's on my report card, I was so happy that I could _____.



PERSONIFICATION

Personification: giving an animal or object human-like characteristics, qualities, or feelings

Read the two passages and underline examples of personification. Explain why the poet used personification to describe the subject of each poem.

The Railway Train.

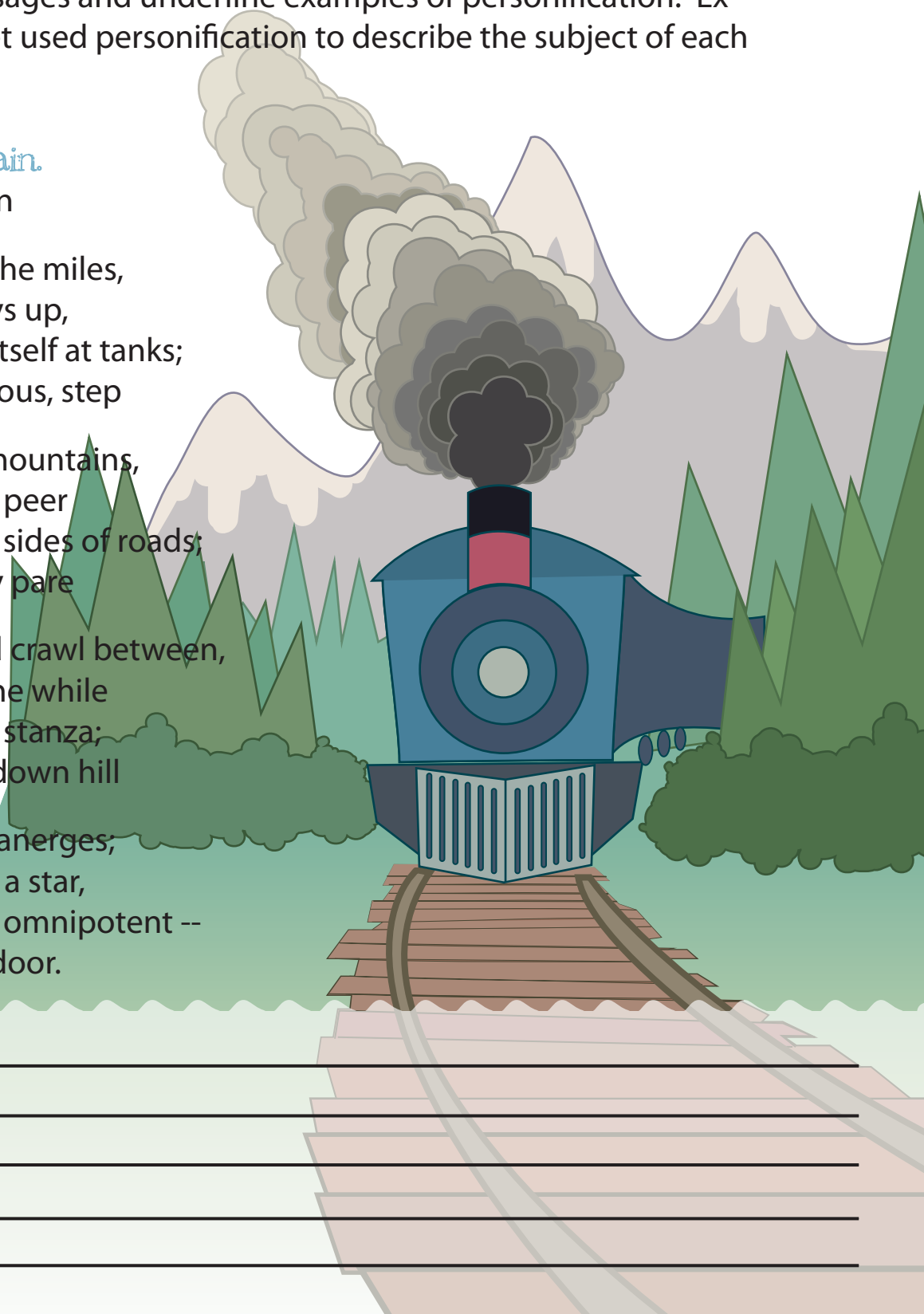
By Emily Dickinson

I like to see it lap the miles,
And lick the valleys up,
And stop to feed itself at tanks;
And then, prodigious, step

Around a pile of mountains,
And, supercilious, peer
In shanties by the sides of roads;
And then a quarry pare

To fit its sides, and crawl between,
Complaining all the while
In horrid, hooting stanza;
Then chase itself down hill

And neigh like Boanerges;
Then, punctual as a star,
Stop -- docile and omnipotent --
At its own stable door.



The Moon

by Emily Dickinson

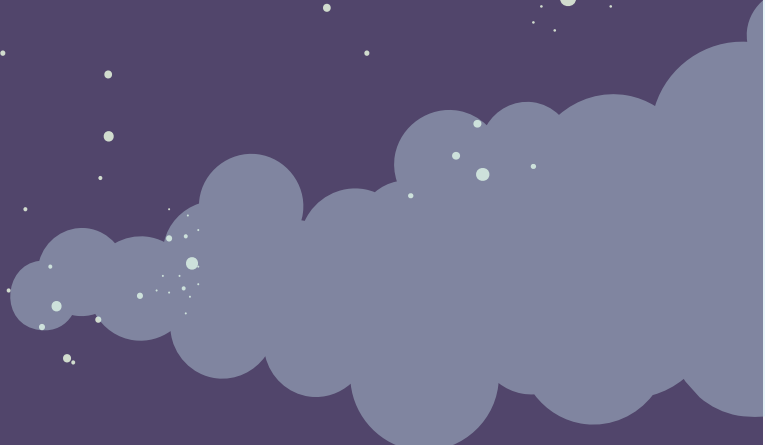
The moon was but a chin of gold
A night or two ago,
And now she turns her perfect face
Upon the world below.

Her forehead is of amplest blond;
Her cheek like beryl stone;
Her eye unto the summer dew
The likest I have known.

Her lips of amber never part;
But what must be the smile
Upon her friend she could bestow
Were such her silver will!

And what a privilege to be
But the remotest star!
For certainly her way might pass
Beside your twinkling door.

Her bonnet is the firmament,
The universe her shoe,
The stars the trinkets at her belt,
Her dainties of blue.



Handwriting practice area with six horizontal lines on a white background with a scalloped border.

WRITING PROMPT

Now write your own examples of personification! Jot down the characteristics, qualities and feelings for each subject word, and write a sentence using personification.

1. Ocean

CHARACTERISTICS: _____

QUALITIES: _____

FEELINGS: _____

Write a Sentence: _____

2. Snow

CHARACTERISTICS: _____

QUALITY: _____

FEELING: _____

Write a Sentence: _____

3. River

CHARACTERISTICS: _____

QUALITY: _____

FEELING: _____

Write a Sentence: _____

4. Monkey

CHARACTERISTICS: _____

QUALITY: _____

FEELING: _____

Write a Sentence: _____

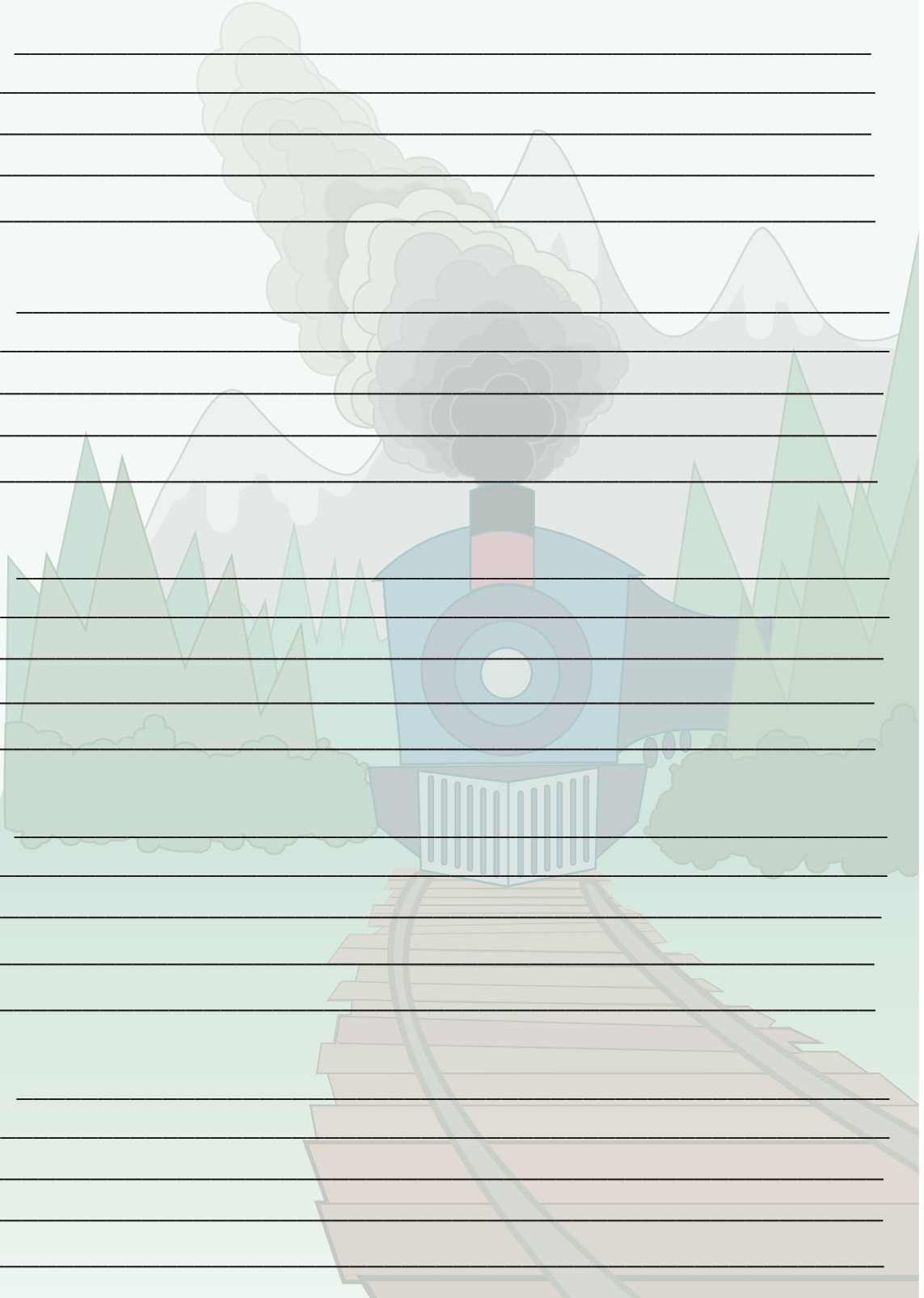
5. Pickles

CHARACTERISTICS: _____

QUALITY: _____

FEELING: _____

Write a Sentence: _____



Alliteration

An alliteration repeats consonant sounds at the beginning of words.

Example:

"Dewdrops Dancing Down Daisies"

By Paul Mc Cann

Don't delay dawns disarming display .

Dusk demands daylight .

*Dewdrops dwell delicately
drawing dazzling delight .*

Dewdrops dilute daisies domain .

*Distinguished debutantes . Diamonds defray delivered
daylights distilled daisy dance .*

A good way to spot alliteration in a sentence is to sound out the sentence, looking for words with identical consonant sounds. Read through these sentences. Identify and circle the alliteration.

1. Anna ate some awful appetizers.
2. Harry hit Henry on the head.
3. Frank found a pack of furry foxes.
4. Edward eats eggs, enjoying each exquisite bite.
5. Fred's friends fried chicken for Friday's food.
6. Gretchen's giraffe gobbled the tree leaves greedily.
7. Barney bounced back, causing banging and booming.
8. Heather's hamster hungrily awaits his food.
9. Izzie's ice cream is interestingly delicious.
10. Jackson's jackrabbit is jumping and jiggling all over the place.



ASSONANCE -AND- CONSONANCE

ASSONANCE is the repetition of vowel sounds in words that are close together. It's the sound that is important and not the letters used.

Examples: "By twinkling twilight he sang a nice song to pass the night" (Long i)

"Two tulips danced to music on the wind" (Long u)

Don't confuse assonance with alliteration. The "tw" in twinkling and twilight are alliteration because these consonant sounds are at the beginning of the words. The "t" sound in two, tulips and to is also alliteration.

CONSONANCE is the repetition of consonant sounds at the ends of words and that follow stressed syllables in words close together.

Examples: "Norm, the worm, weathered the storm without harm."

"Errors occurred when the editor of the story slept."

Read the poem below and circle each case of assonance or consonance.

Hint: Read the poem out loud so you can really hear the sound of the words.

THE RAVEN

By Edgar Allan Poe

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered weak and weary,

Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore—

While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,

As of someone gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.

"'Tis some visitor," I muttered, "tapping at my chamber door;

Only this and nothing more."



Assonance and consonance are often used together. Read the quotes below and figure out where assonance and/or consonance are being used. Then write down what sounds are being repeated.

EXAMPLE: Or hear old Triton blow his wreathed horn. o-Assonance

1. From the molten golden notes, _____
2. Her finger hungered for a ring. _____
3. Cupid laid by his brand. _____
4. How they clang, and clash, _____
5. and roar! What a horror they outpour. _____
6. Whose woods these are I think I know. _____
7. He saw the cost and hauled off. _____
8. Gayle tapped a finger on the sack of books in her lap.

9. I sipped the rim with palatable lip. _____
10. A gallant knight, in sunshine and in shadow, _____
11. "Thou art a fool," said my head to my heart. _____
12. What a world of merriment their melody foretells!

13. It was half as funny after, when they laughed so at the staff.

14. Well that was short but sweet. _____

**A
S
S
O
N
A
N
C
E** **-AND-** **C
O
N
S
O
N
A
N
C
E**

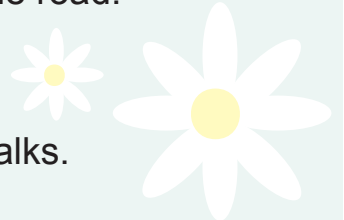
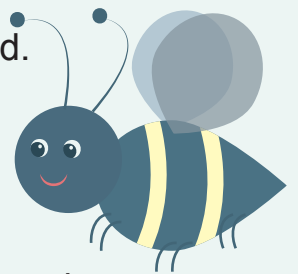
ONOMATOPOEIA

An **onomatopoeia** (pronounced: on-oh-mat-oh-PEA-uh) is a word that imitates the sound that it describes.

Choose a word from the word bank to help complete the sentences.

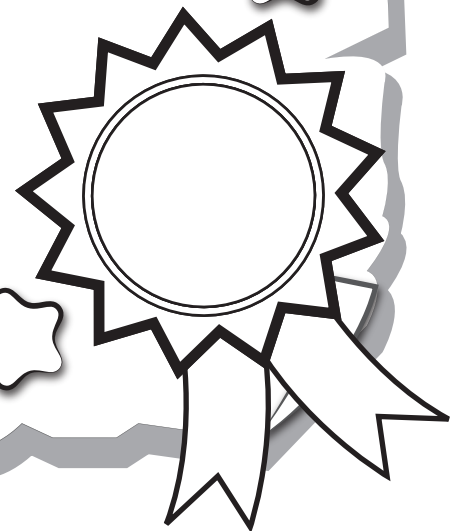
- The bird loved to _____ a merry tune.
- The _____ of the clock kept me up all night.
- The food on the stove made a nice _____.
- She kept making a _____ noise with her pen and it drove the teacher crazy!
- The little dogs like to _____ at the cat.
- Something upset the lion and it made a loud _____.
- I heard the ruler _____ against the desk.
- His teeth started to _____ outside in the cold.
- The fire made a _____ when they added more wood.
- As the car started up it made a loud _____.
- The chalk _____ on the black board.
- The wheel went _____ as we ran over a nail in the road.
- The ducklings _____ behind their mother.
- Her dress makes a _____ noise as she walks.
- The bees happily _____ around the garden.

quack
pop
tick
roar
bark
snap
chatter
swish
crack
bang
screech
sizzle
click
chirp
buzz



Great job!

is an Education.com writing superstar



Answer Sheets

Figurative Language

Hold the Homographs

Double Meanings

Mixed Practice: Similes and Metaphors

Assonance and Consonance

Want more workbooks? Join Education.com Plus to save time and money.
<http://www.education.com/education-plus/>

Answer Sheet

Hold the HOMOGRAPHYS!!!

NAME _____

Homographs are words that look the same but have more than one meaning, and sometimes more than one pronunciation. For example, there is an animal called a “bat”, and there is also a “bat” that baseball players use to hit the ball.



Read the definitions below and write down the homograph that best fits both sentences.

1. The front of a ship OR a ribbon tied up in a girl's hair. **bow**
2. A place for stray animals OR 16 ounces. **pound**
3. The outer layer of a tree OR the sound a dog makes. **bark**
4. A person who rules a country OR something used to measure. **ruler**
5. A type of flower OR the past tense of “to rise”. **rose**
6. The earth beneath you OR the past tense of “to grind”. **ground**
7. A type of tree that grows in warm climates OR a part of you hand. **palm**
8. Spectacles you wear to improve vision OR cups to drink from. **glasses**
9. To rip something OR a fluid that comes from the eye. **tear**
10. To be a short distance away OR to cover an opening. **close**

RIDDLE CHALLENGE!

Why was the picture sent to jail?

Answer: Because it was framed.

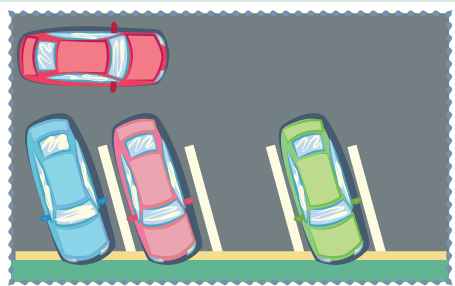


Answer Sheet

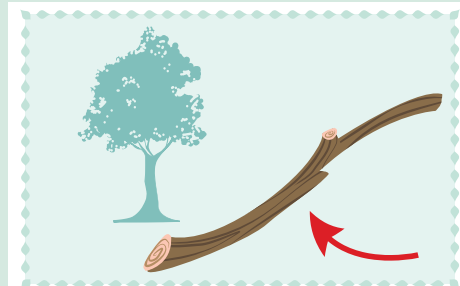
DOUBLE MEANING

NAME _____

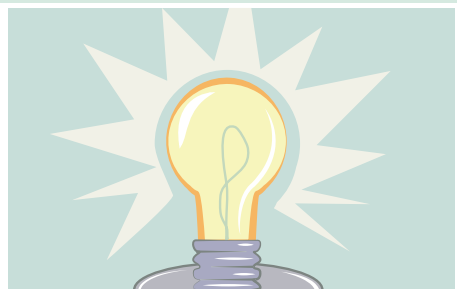
Use each pair of pictures and clues to figure out the homographs!



OR: A PLACE WITH TREES
park



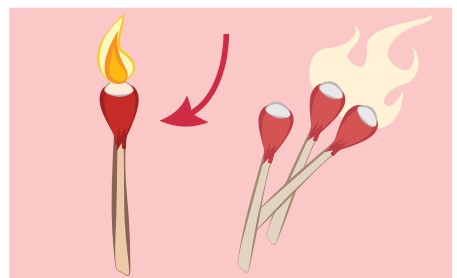
OR: TO CLING TO SOMETHING
stick



OR: AN ADJECTIVE TO
DESCRIBE SOMEONE SMART
bright



OR: TO HIT SOMETHING WITH
YOUR FISTS
punch



OR: 2 THINGS THAT GO TOGETHER
match



OR: A LOUD NOISE
pop

Answer Sheet

Mixed Practice:

Similes and Metaphors

Read the sentence and circle the 2 words being compared in each sentence. Determine whether each sentence is a *simile* or a *metaphor*, and write down the meaning based on the context of the sentence.

Example: She walks like a duck.

Meaning: Simile - The girl walks funny.

1. Steven sings like a nightingale.

Meaning: Simile - Steven sings beautifully.

2. The candle is a beacon of sunshine.

Meaning: Metaphor - The candle's light in the dark gives me hope, or is very comforting.

3. The moon is a lantern in the sky.

Meaning: Metaphor - The moon shines light.

4. Kirsten sleeps like a log.

Meaning: Simile - Kirsten sleeps very heavily/soundly.

5. Gretchen is a fish when she swims.

Meaning: Metaphor - Gretchen is a good swimmer.

6. Phillip is lightning when he runs a race.

Meaning: Metaphor - Phillip is very fast.

7. The bunny's fur is a blanket of warmth.

Meaning: Metaphor - The bunny's fur is warm.

8. Anne's voice is velvet.

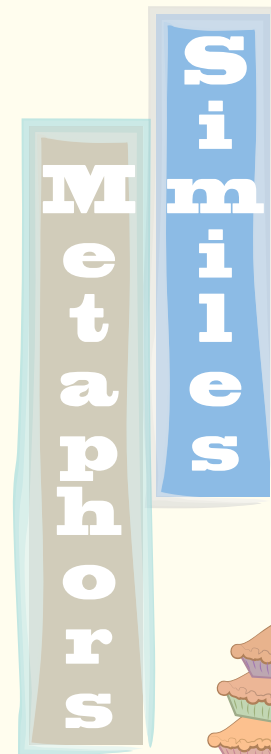
Meaning: Metaphor - Anne has a soft, soothing voice.

9. Peter is as sweet as pie.

Meaning: Simile - Peter is very nice/friendly.

10. Chris is like a computer when he does his math.

Meaning: Simile - Chris is really good at math.



Answer Sheet

Similes and Metaphors!

Figure out whether each sentence below is a simile or a metaphor. Then write down the meaning of each sentence below based on how it is being used in a sentence!

Example: You are a couch potato.

Meaning: Metaphor. Someone who sits and does nothing.

1. She eats like a pig!

Simile - She is a messy eater.

2. This contract is as solid as the ground we stand on.

Simile - The contract cannot be broken.

3. The world is my oyster.

Metaphor - The world is mine, and I'm free to do anything! OR I get wealth and/or riches from the world.

4. That guy is as nutty as a fruitcake.

Simile - This guy is crazy.

5. She is such an airhead.

Metaphor - She is flakey, unreliable and/or ditzy.

6. Don't just sit there like a bump on a log.

Simile - Don't be lazy and unproductive.

7. He's a diamond in the rough.

Metaphor - He is a rare find.

8. Time is a thief.

Metaphor - Time is a force we can't control, and it "robs" us of our youth/health.

9. I am as tired as a dog.

Simile - I'm really really tired.

10. You are my sunshine.

Metaphor - I really like you and enjoy your company.



Answer Sheet

NAME: _____

Assonance and consonance are often used together. Read the quotes below and figure out where assonance and/or consonance are being used. Then write down what sounds are being repeated.

EXAMPLE: Or hear old Triton blow his wreathed horn. o-Assonance

1. From the molten golden notes, _____ (o)-A, (en)-C

2. Her finger hungered for a ring. _____ (ng), (er)-C

3. Cupid laid by his brand. _____ (i)-A

4. How they clang, and clash, _____ (a)-A

5. and roar! What a horror they outpour. _____ (or sound)-C

6. Whose woods these are I think I know. _____ (s)-C

7. He saw the cost and hauled off. _____ (awe sound)-A

8. Gayle tapped a finger on the sack of books in her lap.
_____ (a)-A

9. I sipped the rim with palatable lip. _____ (i)-A

10. A gallant knight, in sunshine and in shadow, _____ (a)-A

11. "Thou art a fool," said my head to my heart. _____ (a)-A, (rt)-C

12. What a world of merriment their melody foretells!
_____ (r)-C

13. It was half as funny after, when they laughed so at the staff.
_____ (aff sound)-C

14. Well that was short but sweet. _____ (t)-C

A
S
S
O
N
A
N
C
E

-AND-

C
O
N
S
O
N
A
N
C
E