

Figurative Language Study Sheet

1. alliteration The repetition of beginning sounds.
2. simile Comparing two things using "like" or "as."
3. hyperbole Extreme exaggeration.
4. metaphor Comparing two things without using "like" or "as."
5. oxymoron Two contradictory words joined together.
6. idiom A commonly used phrase or expression whose literal meaning is different from its figurative meaning.
7. personification Giving human qualities to inanimate objects.
8. onomatopoeia The formation of a word from a sound associated with what is named.
9. imagery Descriptive language that creates a picture in your mind.
10. symbol A person, place, or object which has a meaning in itself but suggests another meaning as well.
11. pun A play on words using double meaning for fun.
12. assonance The repetition of vowel sounds.
13. cliché An overused phrase or expression used so often that it's no longer original, interesting, or effective.
14. irony The use of words that mean the opposite of what you really mean, especially in order to be funny. A situation in which the opposite of what is expected happens.
15. analogy A comparison of two things based on their being alike in some way.
16. allegory A symbolic narrative in which the characters and events are symbols that stand for a spiritual, historical, or political situation.