FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

> ➤ **Learning outcomes:**

- **To know the different types of imagery**
- **To distinguish between simile and metaphor**
- **To be able to write a poem using personification**
- **To be able to point the main purpose of a text**
- **To be aware that texts are written for a specific audience and with a purpose**

> ➤ **Assessment criteria:**

- **Can identify different types of imagery**
- **Can write a poem using personification**

Figurative language is when words and ideas are used <u>to create mental images and give impressions</u>. When we use figurative language in our poetry it gives our ideas strength and helps the reader to understand what we mean.

Here are the key types of imagery that you should be able to identify and discuss:

SIMILE: It directly compares one thing to another as a description. They are easy to spot because of the use of words "like" or "as". For example:

-He was tall **like** a skyscraper

- The man was **as** cold **as** ice

METAPHOR: a description which is not meant to be taken literally. Metaphors are similar to similes in that they also create a comparison but instead of saying something is "like" or "as" something else, metaphors say it **is** that thing. For example:

- The **army of ants** was on the rampage

> **Task 1: Look at the METAPHORS and SIMILES below and:**

1) **Circle whether the statement is a metaphor/simile**
2) **Say what the metaphor/simile makes you think of**

a. Metaphor/Simile

When Elena won the English prize she felt like the cat that had got the cream.

This makes me think that Elena felt...

b. Metaphor/Simile

Martin's rage was a rampaging bull, charging through the classroom.

This makes me think that Martin was...

c. Metaphor/Simile

The burglar stalked the building like a cat
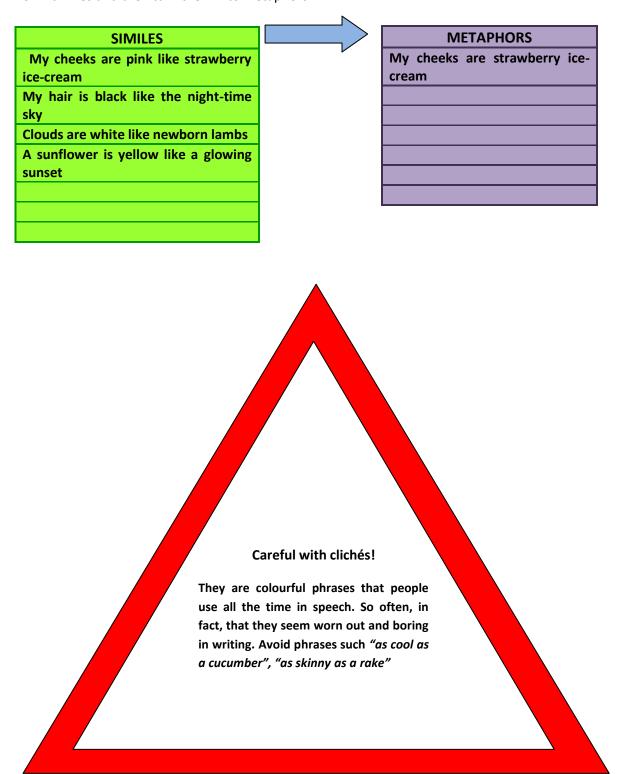
This makes me think that the burglar was...

d. Metaphor/Simile

Lucy was confused until the teacher threw some light on the situation.

This makes me think that Lucy felt...

➢ **Task 2: Can you turn similes into metaphors?**

Try turning the similes into metaphors. When you have done this, try making up some of your own similes and then turn them into metaphors.

SIMILES
My cheeks are pink like strawberry ice-cream
My hair is black like the night-time sky
Clouds are white like newborn lambs
A sunflower is yellow like a glowing sunset

METAPHORS
My cheeks are strawberry ice-cream

Careful with clichés!

They are colourful phrases that people use all the time in speech. So often, in fact, that they seem worn out and boring in writing. Avoid phrases such *"as cool as a cucumber", "as skinny as a rake"*

Personification: It is a description in which an animal, object or idea is referred to as if it were human, or is given human attributes. For example:

-The sun **smiled** brightly all day

- Leaves **danced** in the breeze

> **Task 3: Which word gives the quality of a person.**

1) The sun stretches its warmth across the land.

2) The chair danced as the baby bounced to and fro.

3) The darkness wrapped its arms around me.

> **Task 4: What does this tell you and how do you feel?**

1) The wind sang her mournful song through the falling leaves.

2) The video camera observed the whole scene.

3) The rain kissed my cheeks as it fell.

4) The daffodils nodded their yellow heads at the walkers.

5) The china danced on the shelves during the earthquake.

6) The car engine coughed and spluttered when it started during the blizzard.

A House Awake

The house awakes and stretches it chimneys to the sky.

The door opens to greet the passers by.

The curtains open and the windows peer out.

The china dances on the mantelpiece as the family start to shout.

> ➢ **Task 5: Analyse how personification has been used in this poem**
> ➢ **Task 6: Now write your own poem personifying one of the following:**

>   *Tree   Toothbrush   pencil   rose   fire*

> **Or choose an object of your choice.**

> *Think carefully about the human qualities you could use to make your chosen subject come to life!*

> ➢ **Task 7: Then get a partner to read your work and discuss your ideas together**

> **Task 8: Self-assessment**

We are going to watch a PPT presentation and you have to identify if the sentences contain a personification, simile or metaphor.

In the boxes next to each of the sentences below, either write P (personification), S (simile) or M (metaphor).

The Alarm clock went off like a bomb!

☐

She was as quiet as a mouse

☐

The ants marched home

☐

The moon is a ghostly galleon tossed upon cloudy seas

☐

She's as mad as a hatter!

☐

The trees whispered to each other in the darkness

☐

The sun went to bed.

☐

She ate the mountain of food greedily

☐

The frog's tongue moved like lightning

☐

➢ **Homework: Work on the poem**

Hyperbole

Hyperbole is an exaggeration. It is used to emphasise an idea. It says that something is bigger, smaller, faster, slower, better or worse than something else. For example: - He is so tall he almost touches the sky; - I have told you a thousand times not to do that; - You are the naughtiest boy in the world

➢ **Task 10: Are they Huge Hyperboles: yes/no**

a.   He has large feet.

b.   Julie's eyes became larger than saucers.

c.   The flowers in the garden were quite pretty.

d.   'Sydney Tower' is the highest building in Sydney.

e.   The man had alpine shoulders.