

English Language Worksheet

Grade 9

April 6-10, 2020

Figurative and literal Language:

Literal and figurative language is a distinction in traditional systems for analyzing language. Literal language refers to words that do not deviate from their defined meaning. Figurative language refers to words, and groups of words, that exaggerate or alter the usual meanings of the component words. Figurative language may involve analogy to similar concepts or other contexts, and may involve exaggerations. These alterations result in figures of speech. Figurative language departs from literal meaning to achieve a special effect or meaning. Literal means adhering to the basic facts, or to the ordinary usage and standard meanings of words. It refers to what is actually or obviously true, with no exaggeration.

The Comparative Devices

1. Simile:

A simile compares two especially different things. The two share at least one similarity between them. The comparison is presented directly through the use of “as” or “like”. A simile contributes to the reader’s understanding by helping them to visualize the comparison in a new and vivid way.

Example: The math teacher is as tall as a light post.

2. Metaphor:

The metaphor is based on a point of comparison between two things that are unlike. Whereas the simile makes the comparison direct and explicit by using “as” or “like”, the metaphor says that one thing is the other

Example: The math teacher is a light post.

3. Personification:

Personification is a literary device which presents an inanimate object, idea or concept as though it were a person with human qualities and feelings. In other words, a thing or object is given a human characteristic because of some similarity between the thing and the person.

Example: Lightning danced across the sky.

Evaluating the effectiveness of the devices:

- Does it help to make the meaning clearer?
- Does it present the idea in a new and interesting way?
- Does it help the reader/listener to visualize the comparison?
- Does it evoke feeling or thought?
- Does it capture the attention of the reader or listener?

The Sound Devices:

1.Alliteration

Alliteration is defined as the repetition of initial consonant sounds at short intervals. The alliteration is used to:

- Call attention to particular words by creating a musical pattern
- Emphasize something
- Add meaning
- Help the reader/listener to remember

Examples: Peter Piper Picked a Peck of Pickled Pepper

She Sells Sea Shells by the Sea Shore

2.Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia describes a word which seems to imitate a sound.

Examples: boom, swish, crack, whoosh, clash, clatter, hiss, gurgle, rattle

Example: I heard the water *trickling* down the stream.

The Contradictory Devices

1. Irony

Irony is used in such a way that their intended meaning is different from the actual meaning of the words. It may also be a situation that ends up in quite a different way than what is generally anticipated. In simple words, it is a difference between appearance and reality.

Examples:

1. You laugh at a person who slipped stepping on a banana peel, and the next thing you know, you've slipped too.
2. He took a much-needed vacation, backpacking in the mountains. Unfortunately, he came back dead tired.

2. Oxymoron

Oxymoron contains words that seem to contradict each other; two opposite ideas are joined to create an effect.

Examples

1. There was a **love-hate** relationship between the two neighboring communities.
2. The green pasture surrounded by hills was teeming with a **deafening silence**.

3. Sarcasm

Sarcasm refers to the use of words that mean the opposite of what you really want to say, especially in order to insult someone or show irritation and should not be taken literally.

Examples

Situation	Sarcastic Remark
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When a sister faces her sloppy brother:	I love those mustard stains on your oversized hoodie. They really bring out the colour in your eyes.
When something bad happens:	That's just what I needed today!
When a husband comes home after a long day at work:	I work 40 hours a week for us to be this poor.

ACTIVITY

Instructions: Identify the type of device used in each sentence.

1. The wild and woolly walrus waits and wonders when we'll walk by.
2. After staying up so late the night before, Phoebe felt like the living dead.
3. When the examination finished, the candidate felt as light as a feather.
4. Paid volunteers were working for the company.
5. The flowers were blooming, and the bees kissed them every now and then.
6. The student was given 'excellent' on getting zero in the exam.
7. The books fell on the table with a loud thump.
8. He acts silly at times, but he was blessed with a brilliant brain.
9. The assignment was a breeze.
10. A new road to freedom passes through this valley of death.
11. Although we laughed a lot, the movie was a tragic comedy.
12. I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it.
13. When the teacher entered the class, the 9th-grade students were fighting like cats and dogs.
14. The diplomat said the friendship of the two countries was as deep as an ocean.
15. The flood raged over the entire village.
16. A vehicle was parked right in front of the no-parking sign.
17. The CEO of a big tobacco company said he did not smoke.
18. Nice perfume. How long did you marinate in it?

19. His car suffered a severe stroke in the middle of the road, and refused to move forward.

20. The new manager is as friendly as a rattlesnake.

Email responses to **YOUR SUBJECT TEACHER:**

Ms. Brown: google classroom/zoom

Ms. Morris: morrisleoneisha@yahoo.com

Ms. Parchment: educator.language@yahoo.com

Ms. Redway: misdeared@gmail.com

Ms. Gooden: anniegooden1@yahoo.com

Ms. Clarke: pinnysac8@gmail.com