

Figurative Language Translator

Mission: This poem is packed with figurative language: words that mean more than they say. Identify each type, then translate the lines into plain, literal language so a younger reader can understand.

Big question: How do similes, metaphors, personification, idioms, and hyperbole create meaning?

★ Warm-up: Name that figure

Identify each type.

"My backpack weighs a ton." ✓ **Hyperbole.**

"The classroom was a zoo." ✓ **Metaphor.**

Key vocabulary

Simile	A comparison using like or as.
Metaphor	A comparison that says one thing IS another.
Personification	Giving human qualities to non-human things.
Hyperbole	A huge exaggeration.
Idiom	A saying with a meaning different from its words.

1 Box 1

Tag the poem

In the simulator: Tag all five highlighted-able lines with the correct type.

What did you notice?

2 Box 2

Simile vs. metaphor

How is "The morning sun was a golden coin" different from "ran as fast as a rocket"?

- ☐ The first says the sun IS a coin (metaphor); the second uses "as" (simile) ☐ They are both similes
☐ Neither compares anything

✓ **The first says the sun IS a coin (metaphor); the second uses "as" (simile)**

3 Box 3

Translate: personification

Translate "The wind whispered secrets to the leaves" into literal language.

Look for: Mentions the wind; Says what really happened; at least 6 words

4 Box 4

Translate: hyperbole & idiom

Translate each line literally.

"I've waited a million years!"

Look for: Explains he waited a long time; at least 5 words

"Let's hit the road."

Look for: Explains the real meaning (leave); at least 4 words

5 Box 5

Why use it?

Why might the poet say the sun was "a golden coin" instead of "the sun was bright"?

- ☐ It creates a vivid picture of how shiny and round the sun looked ☐ Coins are worth money
☐ It is easier to understand

✓ **It creates a vivid picture of how shiny and round the sun looked**

6 Box 6

Legend: write your own Legend only

Write two lines about lunchtime: one simile and one personification.

Look for: Includes a simile; at least 14 words

Exit ticket: answer the big question in your own words

How do similes, metaphors, personification, idioms, and hyperbole create meaning?

Look for: Figurative language compares or exaggerates to create pictures in the reader's mind. Similes compare with "like" or "as"; metaphors say one thing IS another; personification gives human actions to things; hyperbole exaggerates; idioms are sayings whose meaning differs from the literal words.

Completion codes

Students see a code like **ABC-I3** when they finish. The first part must match below. The letter is the level (E = Explorer, I = Investigator, L = Legend), and the number at the end is how many stars they earned.

Level	Code starts with
 Explorer	1AL-E
 Investigator	1FD-I
 Legend	X73-L

 Watch for these misconceptions

- "Any comparison is a simile." It is a simile only if it uses like or as.
- "Context clues are always in the same sentence." Sometimes they are in the next sentence.
- "Idioms mean what they say." Their meaning is not literal.