

# Figurative Language Types

<i>Alliteration</i>	Repetitive consonant sounds at the beginning of several words in a single sentence create melody, establish mood, call attention to important words, and point out similarities and contrasts.	<i>Dusk demands daylight.</i>
<i>Hyperbole</i>	An exaggerated statement used to make a strong impression but not intended to be taken literally. It is not used to mislead the reader but to emphasize a point.	<i>My backpack weighs a ton. He's as big as a house.</i>
<i>Idiom</i>	An expression that cannot be understood from the literal meanings of the individual words. Many idioms that are frequently used are also considered clichés.	<i>He laughed his head off.</i>
<i>Irony</i>	Something humorous based on contradiction. Something said or written that uses humor based on words suggesting the opposite of their literal meaning.	<i>It was ironic that the fire station burned down.</i>
<i>Simile</i>	A literal comparison between two relatively unlike things that actually have something important in common. The two ideas are connected with the words "like" or "as."	<i>Jamie runs as fast as the wind.</i>
<i>Metaphor</i>	An implied comparison between two relatively unlike things that actually have something important in common. It is similar to a simile but does not use "like" or "as."	<i>Don't invite Ed to the party; he's a wet blanket.</i>
<i>Onomatopoeia</i>	Sound words, often written in all capital letters, bold type, and/or one-word sentences.	<i>The bees buzzed angrily.</i>
<i>Personification</i>	Describing an inanimate object or animal as having human-like qualities.	<i>The leaves danced in the wind.</i>
<i>Pun</i>	A humorous use of words that involves a word or phrase that has more than one possible meaning.	<i>We're not getting anywhere in geometry class; it feels like we're going in circles.</i>