

Figurative Language Cheat Sheet

USE 3 DIFFERENT ONES ON YOUR CULTURE CLUSTER PROJECT!

1. **Alliteration**- a stylistic device in which a number of words, having the same first consonant sound, occur close together in a series.
 - a. *But a better butter makes a batter better.*
 - b. *Sally sat by the seashore collecting seashells.*
2. **Hyperbole**- a figure of speech that involves an exaggeration of ideas for the sake of emphasis.
 - a. *My grandmother is as old as the hills.*
 - b. *Your suitcase weighs a ton!*
 - c. *A ton of worry was lifted from the beggar's back when he received the alms.*
 - d. *He saw a man as tall a power poll.*
3. **Idiom**- refers to a set expression or a phrase comprising two or more words.
 - a. *Every cloud has its silver lining but it is sometimes a little difficult to get it to the mint.*
4. **Imagery**- to use figurative language to represent objects, actions, and ideas in such a way that it appeals to our physical senses.
 - a. *It was dark and dim in the forest.*

The words "dark" and "dim" are visual images.
 - b. *The children were screaming and shouting in the fields.*
5. **Irony**- a figure of speech in which words are 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.
 - a. *The doctor is as kind hearted as a wolf.*
 - b. *He took a much-needed vacation, backpacking in the mountains. Unfortunately, he came back dead tired.*
 - c. *His friend's hand was as soft as a rock.*
6. **Metaphor**-a figure of speech that makes an implicit, implied, or hidden comparison between two things that are unrelated, but which share some common characteristics.
 - a. *My brother was **boiling mad**. (This implies he was too angry.)*
 - b. *The assignment was a **breeze**. (This implies that the assignment was not difficult.)*
 - c. *War is the **mother of all battles**.*
 - d. *Her dance is a **great poem**.*

7. **Personification**- a figure of speech in which a thing – an idea or an animal – is given human attributes. The non-human objects are portrayed in such a way that we feel they have the ability to act like human beings.
- Look at my car. She is a beauty, isn't she?*
 - The wind whispered through dry grass.*
 - The flowers danced in the gentle breeze.*
 - The shadow of the moon danced on the lake.*
 - There was a heavy thunderstorm, the wind snorted outside, rattling my window panes.*
 - The flowers were blooming, and the bees kissed them every now and then.*
 - The flood raged over the entire village.*
8. **Simile**- makes a comparison, showing similarities between two different things. Unlike a metaphor, a simile draws resemblance with the help of the words “like” or “as.”
- Our soldiers are as brave as lions.*
 - Her cheeks are red like a rose.*
 - He is as funny as a monkey.*
 - In winter, when it rained he climbed into bed, and felt as snug as a bug in a rug.*
 - At exam time, the high school student was as busy as a bee.*
9. **Onomatopoeia**- defined as a word, which imitates the natural sounds of a thing. It creates a sound effect that mimics the thing described, making the description more expressive and interesting.
- The books fell on the table with a loud thump.*
 - He looked at the roaring sky.*
 - The rustling leaves kept me awake.*

The different sounds of animals are also considered as examples of **onomatopoeia**. You will recognize the following sounds easily:

- Meow
- Moo
- Neigh
- Tweet
- Oink
- Baa

For more examples:

<https://literarydevices.net/figurative-language/>