



**Assessment/Evidence:**

Students will share their sentences with classmates and discuss which are more effective and strive to determine why some are more effective than others.

**Adaptations for Beginning Students:**

Beginning students may be prompted with ideas offered by peers or the instructor. Such students may also be given extended time.

**Adaptations for Advanced Students:**

Advanced students may be asked to write more than the exercise requires. They may also be challenged to write a poem instead of prose. In addition, they may be given a challenging time limit for completing the assignment.

**Teacher Reflection/Lesson Evaluation:**

Students should easily perceive the importance of figurative language for creating vivid and accurate communication.

This lesson was created by Middletown ABLE.

## Literary Terms

### Figurative Language

#### Definitions and Examples

simile - comparison using *like* or *as*

His drunken voice sounded like a machine in need of oil.

metaphor - comparison without using *like* or *as*

The highways were tunnels of silence.

personification - giving human characteristics to the non-living

The curtains drowsily hugged the window of the suspect's home.

oxymoron - two words which contradict one another

The jumbo shrimp were featured on the menu in the seafood restaurant that was robbed.

allusion - a reference to a person, place, or event of which most people are aware

The tall, lanky youth in the domestic case thought himself a Romeo.

hyperbole - an exaggeration or overstatement

I have a thousand accident reports to write this evening.

Literary Terms  
Figurative Language  
Exercises

Use a simile to finish these statements

1. The intoxicated man was as incoherent as

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2. The 911 caller was as upset as

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3. The two neighbors argued like

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4. The traffic jam was like

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5. The witness was as \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_

6. The domestic squabble was as \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_

7. The vehicular damage was as \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_

Use a metaphor to finish these statements, but think of a different comparison than the one you wrote above.

8. The intoxicated man was

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9. The upset 911 caller was

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10. The two neighbors were

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We often like to think of objects around us as having human characteristics. For example, we like to personify our vehicles. Write a sentence with a personification of the following.

11. The wreckage \_\_\_\_\_

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Write another:

12. The accident site was \_\_\_\_\_

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We frequently exaggerate to gain sympathy, to make people laugh, or to simply tell a lively story. Write two sentences that contain a hyperbole, or exaggeration, describing a medical concern.

13. The K9 training seemed \_\_\_\_\_

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14. The police report paperwork seemed \_\_\_\_\_

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Sometimes humor is achieved with the use of an oxymoron.

15. What would it mean if someone said that a "a quiet night on the streets" is an oxymoron?

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16. What would it mean if someone said that a "boring beat" is an oxymoron?

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17. What would it mean if someone said that "uncomplicated paperwork" is an oxymoron?

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18. What is a simile?

19. What is a metaphor?

20. What is figurative language?