

I can identify the key
features of a character
description

- a range of powerful adjectives
- adverbials inc. fronted adverbials
- expanded noun phrases
- a range of figurative language to include
similes, metaphors and show, don't tell
- use of action to advance the character
- dialogue to help describe your character

What Is Figurative Language?

Figurative language is a way of using words to compare something to something else - beyond the literal meaning.

Figurative language is used for emphasis and impact.
I've told you a million times to clean your room!



She ran as fast as lightning.



His team was on top of the world after winning the championship game.



Why Use Figurative Language?

Figurative language makes our writing more interesting. It also helps the reader create a mental image of our meaning.

Which sounds more interesting?

We are alike.

OR

We are two peas in a pod.

Types of Figurative Language

Here are a few types we will discuss:

Simile

Metaphor

Personification

Alliteration

Onomatopoeia

Simile

A simile compares two things by using the words 'like' or 'as.'

Your eyes sparkle like diamonds.

The classroom looked like a tornado had gone through!

I tiptoed as quietly as a mouse.

Similes always include the words 'like' or 'as.'

Metaphor

A metaphor compares one thing to another without using 'like' or 'as.'

Laughter is music for the soul.

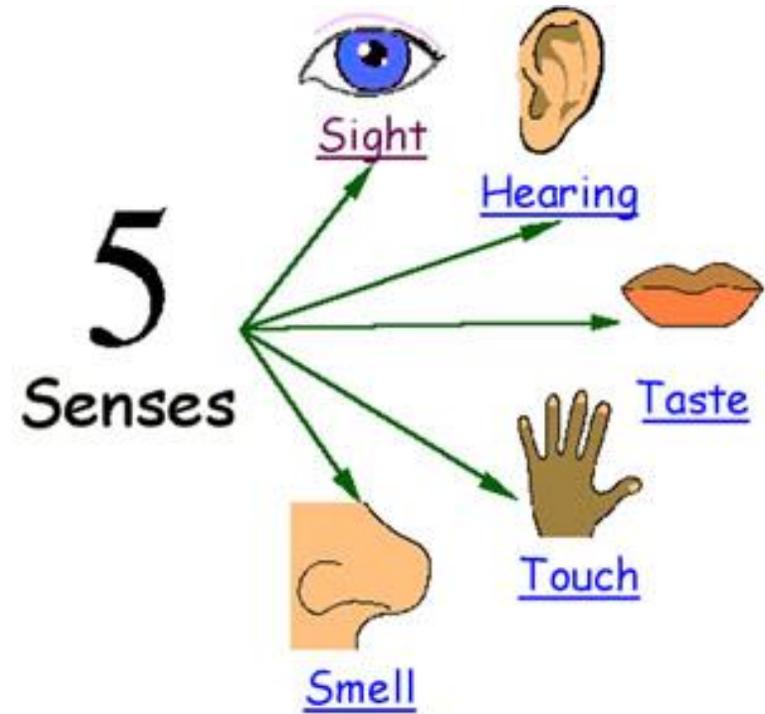
You are my sunshine.

Those ideas are food for thought.

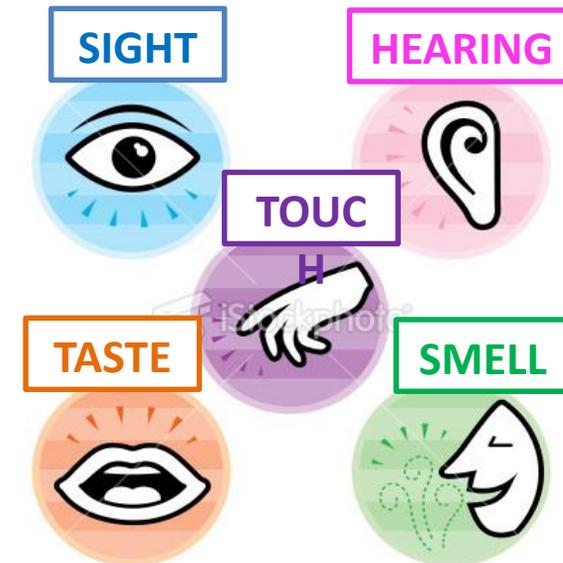
Metaphors say one thing is another.

Character

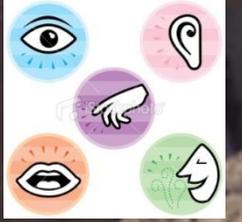
- When you write about a character, you need to make sure you use lots of description so a reader can picture the character.
- Effective descriptions advance the character without just telling the reader what they can see.



It was a direct hit. Robin's father had never felt so proud. Suddenly, his naive son bounded into the open. Leaves rustled, twigs snapped and the crows sang their warning. "Robin!" his father whispered, chasing the boy down. After only a few paces, Robin was hurled to the ground by his father. Piercing eyes glared at him. "What's the matter with you? Haven't I told you? Run in the forest and you can be heard for miles!" he said through gritted teeth. Robin froze; his face filled with embarrassment. Robin's father abruptly rose to his feet. His face was naturally pale, but something was wrong. Very wrong. Any colour in his cheeks had quickly vanished. "What is..." Robin's father put his hand over his son's mouth - stopping him in his tracks. Clutching his great bow, he drew an arrow. He effortlessly pulled it back and released, sending the arrow into the darkness. A bone-chilling cry emerged from the trees in response. "Run Robin! Run as I have taught you and don't look back." In a flash, Robin was out of sight, weaving, dodging and turning like a hare evading its hunter. With Robin gone, his father dropped to his knees. The gang of unruly men approached menacingly. Robin's father was a man of great stature, of great strength, but fighting back was not an option. Not this time.



Vocabulary ideas:
*swooped, plumes,
majestic, soared*



Describe the character. You must include a metaphor (saying something is something else e.g. *the wind was a howling wolf*)

Did I...

describe the character's appearance?



describe the character's background/past?

describe how the character speaks?



describe how the character moves?

describe the character's actions, thoughts and feelings?

describe the character's personality?



include figurative language to enhance my description?
e.g. His heart swelled with a sea of tears, her whining voice sounded like the screech of an untuned violin...