

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Similes and Metaphors

**Simile:** A simile is a comparison of one thing to another using the words *like* and *as*.

### **Examples:**

He's as busy as a bee.

She was as tall as a tree.

He ran like lightning.

**Metaphor:** A metaphor is a figure of speech that is used to make a comparison between two things that aren't alike but do have something in common.

### **Examples:**

The snow is a white blanket.

Life is a roller coaster.

The classroom was a zoo.

## GUIDED PRACTICE SIMILE AND METAPHOR EXAMPLES

My dog is as big as a \_\_\_\_\_.



The teenage boy eats like a \_\_\_\_\_.



My baby sister is so cute, she is a little \_\_\_\_\_.



The package didn't weigh much, it \_\_\_\_\_.



I couldn't bite the cookie, it was like a \_\_\_\_\_.



You are a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ to help me clean my room.



## GUIDED PRACTICE SIMILE AND METAPHOR EXAMPLES COMPLETED

My dog is as big as a house or other student suggestion.

The teenage boy eats like a horse or other student suggestion.

My baby sister is so cute, she is a little doll or other student suggestion.

The package didn't weigh much, it was as light as a feather or other student suggestion.

I couldn't bite the cookie, it was like a rock or other student suggestion.

You are a(n) angel or other student suggestion to help me clean my room.



**ON YOUR OWN**

Match the subjects with the comparisons. Write a simile or metaphor for each match. If needed, add words to make complete sentences.

**Subjects**

The cat  
My grandma  
The cooked spinach  
My throat

**Comparisons**

was a dry desert  
is as quick as lightning  
is as clever as a fox  
was soggy seaweed

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_

Now write a simile or a metaphor about yourself or a member of your family. Remember *like* or *as* in a simile.

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## Show What You Know Worksheet

Write "S" if the sentence is a simile. Circle the clue words *like* and *as*. Write "M" if the sentence is a metaphor.

- 1) I was as quiet as a mouse when the baby was sleeping. \_\_\_\_\_



- 2) My sister Jamie and I were like two peas in a pod. \_\_\_\_\_



- 3) She was a little tiger when she got angry. \_\_\_\_\_



- 4) He didn't know what to do at the party. He was a fish out of water. \_\_\_\_\_



- 5) The land was flat as a pancake all the way to the horizon. \_\_\_\_\_







# Calm Before the Storm

## Activity Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Underline the simile or metaphor and circle the word that names it.  
Then explain the meaning of the sentence.

- 1 The lake was as smooth as glass. simile metaphor

\_\_\_\_\_

- 2 The cat's fur was soft like velvet. simile metaphor

\_\_\_\_\_

- 3 Life is a roller coaster. simile metaphor

\_\_\_\_\_

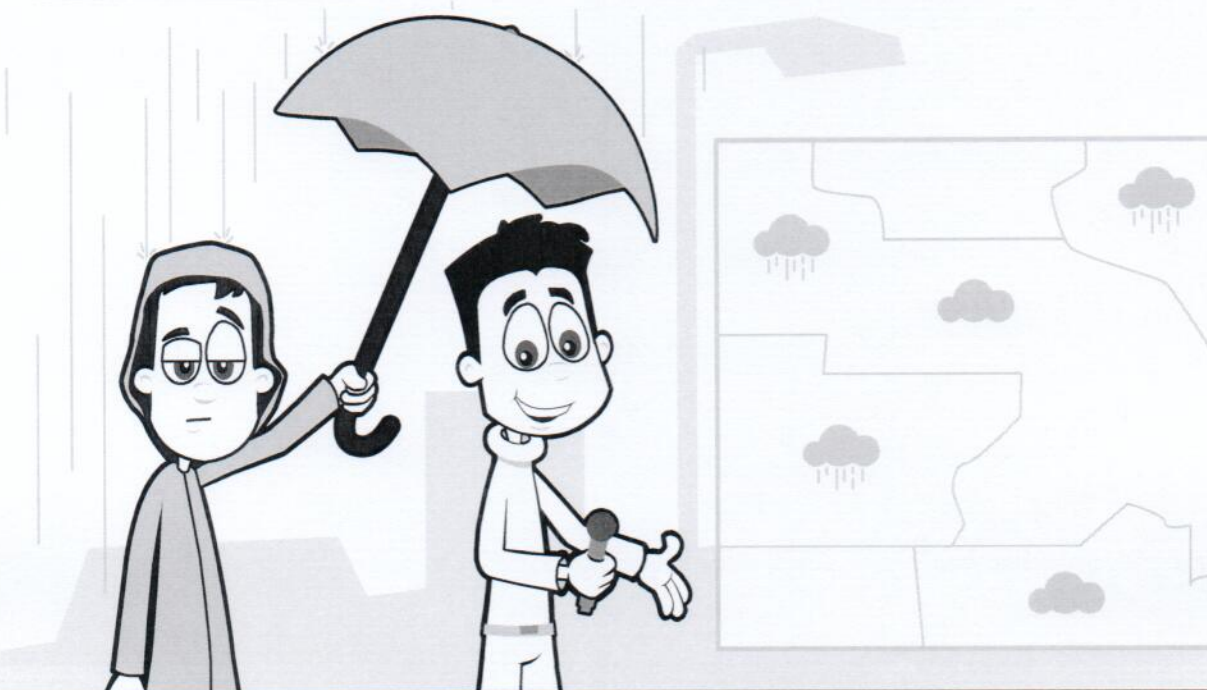
- 4 Sten is a shining star. simile metaphor

\_\_\_\_\_

- 5 The bar of soap was as slippery as an eel. simile metaphor

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Figurative Language

## Question 1 .

Damon tried to get me to read *The Count of Monte Cristo*. I wasn't interested, but Damon was very pushy. He said, "A good book is a treasure chest of knowledge." I still wasn't convinced. Finally he said, "There's sword fighting in it. Trust me; you'll love it." When he mentioned swords, I was hooked, and I ran home to read it.

Which phrase from the passage is an example of a metaphor?

- ☐ A. "I wasn't interested, but Damon was very pushy."
- ☐ B. "Damon tried to get me to read *The Count of Monte Cristo*."
- ☐ C. "When he mentioned swords, I was hooked, and I ran home to read it."
- ☐ D. "A good book is a treasure chest of knowledge."

## Question 2 .

### Rachel's Free Day

Rachel knew that opportunity rarely knocked twice. Today was one of those days. Today, Rachel was free as a bird. She could do anything she wanted, and she decided to take a stroll through the neighborhood. As Rachel walked through the park, she noticed the fresh sea of grass around her.

Rachel reached the local ice cream parlor and asked for a cup of rainbow ice cream. She took a spoonful and put it in her mouth. The delicious ice cream in her mouth felt like a warm hug.

After having the ice cream, Rachel walked to the town's public pool. At the pool, she met her best friend, Cindy. Cindy was the shining star of sports in the town. When it came to winning medals and trophies in sports, luck always danced around Cindy. Rachel got into the pool with Cindy and the two swam around until their stomachs began to growl with hunger.

Rachel and Cindy changed and went to a nearby café and ordered some burgers. The smell of the food was inviting and Rachel's mouth began to water. When the waitress placed their burgers on the table, Rachel couldn't wait to eat the delicious food. She loved every bit of her free time.

**Directions:** Drag the tiles to the correct boxes to complete the pairs. Not all tiles will be used.

Match each example of figurative language from the story with its meaning.

Rachel wants to fly freely  
like a bird in the sky.

Rachel is free to do  
whatever she wants.

The taste of the ice cream  
makes Rachel feel happy.

The taste of the ice creams  
make Rachel feel hot.

The ice cream makes Rachel  
want to hug someone.

Today, Rachel was free as a bird.



The delicious ice cream in her  
mouth felt like a warm hug.





## Question 3 .

One of the most popular superheroes in the comic book industry is the DC Comics superhero Superman. Superman was created by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster in 1933. One thing Superman is most known for is his strength. Superman is the man of steel, and he can leap tall buildings in a single bound.

"Superman is the man of steel" is another way of saying

- ☐ A. ~~Superman is popular.~~
- ☐ B. Superman is strong.
- ☐ C. Superman looks like a building.
- ☐ D. Superman is made of metal.

## Question 4 .

The classroom was a three-ring circus. Students were talking and playing. Martin Comini read from his history book in a loud, booming voice. Margaret Jackson sang opera. Donald Childress jumped rope while Oscar McAlabaster hung paper stars from the ceiling. Karen Ann Oster was like an octopus, grabbing all the art supplies from the shelves. And me? Well, I was as nervous as a cat with a long tail in a room full of rocking chairs. I knew that at any moment, we would be forced to pay for our behavior. At any moment, our principal Mrs. Asterpants would bring order to the room.

No sooner than the thought crossed my mind, Mrs. Asterpants burst through the door. "SIT DOWN!" she bellowed. Her voice was thunder.

Martin Comini fell silent. Karen Ann Oster clasped her hands behind her back. Donald Childress went limp like a dishrag. Mrs. Asterpants was always a wet blanket on our fun.

In the passage above, what does the underlined sentence mean?

- ☐ A. ~~Karen Ann Oster was painting a picture.~~
- ☐ B. Karen Ann Oster turned into an octopus.
- ☐ C. Karen Ann Oster likes octopuses.
- ☐ D. Karen Ann Oster was quickly removing the art supplies.



## Question 5

## The Fight

Once again, Barbara had a fight with her parents during dinner and stormed off to her room. Barbara's mom had scolded her when Barbara refused to eat her vegetables. In turn, Barbara became furious when her mom refused to give her dessert. Finally, Barbara jumped out of her seat in anger and ran up to her room and shut the door.

"That girl is an Amazon warrior. There is no telling what might set her off," Barbara's dad said as he sat down to his coffee.

"I wish she would calm down and listen to me for once like Brett does," Barbara's mom sighed.

Brett heard this and ran up to his sister's room.

"Maybe you can just listen to her for once!" Brett told Barbara.

"Well, she never listens to me! All she does is yell at me," Barbara replied angrily.

Brett went down and told his mom that she should not scold Barbara so often.

"If she would stop wasting food, I would not have the need to scold her," Mom said.

When Brett went back to Barbara and told her what their mom had said, Barbara got off her bed.

"Stop playing Hermes. I am coming down to talk to mom directly," Barbara said and the two went downstairs.

"Mom, I am sorry for getting so angry. I will try to control my anger and listen to you the next time," Barbara said softly, "but I really don't care for Brussel sprouts."

"Thank you, sweetheart. How about some dessert now?" Mom replied with a smile.

Barbara understood that being calm and gentle could save her from getting into fights with her mom. She smiled happily at her mom.

In the story, Barbara's dad refers to her as an Amazon warrior. This means Barbara

- ☐ A. ~~is a strong and smart girl.~~
- ☐ B. is a short-tempered girl.
- ☐ C. knows how to use weapons.
- ☐ D. wants to become a soldier.

## Question 6

The season ends as a hissing ember  
that jumps from a fire pit  
into a patch of dried leaves.  
Spring is like fire that way.  
It burns away the winter.

The road we travel is like a brown ribbon  
unfurled over a gravel sea.  
The wind kicks up the dust and grit.  
Even Lake Tenkiller wears a layer of dust  
like a heavy coat in the summer.

The surface only shakes when the rivers  
empty into it like a child spilling secrets.  
As the flood pushes in, the water is a dancer  
free and flowing and unchained by the banks.  
Spring is more dirty and free than I will ever know.

What phrase in this poem is a simile?

- ☐ A. "Spring is like fire"
- ☐ B. ~~"unchained by the banks"~~
- ☐ C. "It burns away the winter"
- ☐ D. "The surface only shakes"

## Question 7

## The Two Sisters

Ursula had some important work at the bank, and she had asked her younger sister Violet to accompany her.

"It won't be so boring, Violet. You will see people rushing from one counter to another," said Ursula, trying to convince Violet to go with her. Ursula did not feel like going to the bank alone.

In the beginning, watching people rushing about trying to complete their work seemed interesting to Violet. She looked at the workers in the bank, who were as busy as bees. Some were talking to customers, and some were looking at the computer screens.

Soon, Violet began to get tired of sitting and having nothing to do. She peeped into the book that Ursula was reading and noticed that the book did not have any pictures in it. She wondered how her sister could be interested in a book that looked as dull as a dishwasher.

"What is the use of reading a book if it doesn't have pictures?" asked Violet.

"Pictures take your focus away from the story. You end up looking at pictures more than reading the story," explained Ursula.

"But pictures help you understand the story and make it more real," argued Violet.

*I never thought of it like that. Perhaps, Violet makes sense*, thought Ursula. She realized that her younger sister did make a strong argument.

"You are right, sis!" Ursula said with a smile.

As she walked toward the counter with her file, she thought about Violet's words and realized that older siblings may not always be correct. Sometimes, younger siblings can be correct too. She decided to treat Violet to her favorite ice cream on their way back home.

Read this sentence from the story.

She looked at the workers in the bank, who were as busy as bees.

Based on the story, the phrase as busy as bees means that

- ☒ A. ~~people at the bank were humming like bees.~~
- ☐ B. people at the bank were dressed like bees.
- ☐ C. people at the bank were busy with work.
- ☐ D. people at the bank were busy making honey.

## Question 8

Jenny knelt down behind the dining room table as quiet as a whisper. The glow from the candle lit the room. Shadows leapt like dancers across the walls as the wind from the outside crept under the front door.

She approached the window trying not to make any noise, but the boards from the floor squeaked with each step she took. She closed her eyes and waited for them to quiet. One by one she began to close the curtains of each window. Suddenly, the wind blew again. It shrieked like a wild animal outside of the door. The shadows from her candle stretched out like fingers moving against the floor. This has been the windiest day Jenny had ever known.

"The shadows from her candle stretched out like fingers moving against the floor."

Which phrase in this sentence is a simile?

- ☒ A. "fingers moving against the floor"
- ☐ B. "The shadows from her candle stretched"
- ☐ C. "shadows from her candle stretched out like fingers"
- ☐ D. "against the floor"

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