

Name: _____

Date: _____

Sample Answers Wacky Limericks

A **limerick** is a silly poem with five lines. They are meant to be humorous and sometimes use hyperbole to exaggerate a topic. In each of the poems below, underline an example of hyperbole. Then, explain the literal meaning of the hyperbole (what it says) and the figurative meaning (what it really means).

For example, if someone said, "I'm so tired, I could sleep for a year," they really mean that they are very tired.

Limerick	Hyperbole
<p>There was an old man out of Maine, <u>His beard was as long as a train.</u> It dragged on for miles, 'Cross a sea and four isles. That hairy old man out of Maine.</p>	<p>What it says: <u>His beard was as long as a train.</u></p> <hr/> <p>What it really means: <u>His beard was really long.</u></p> <hr/>
<p>There once was a little grey mouse, <u>So strong she could move a whole house.</u> She lifted my bed Right over her head, That strangely strong little grey mouse.</p>	<p>What it says: <u>So strong she could move a whole house.</u></p> <hr/> <p>What it really means: <u>She was very strong.</u></p> <hr/>
<p>I once knew a lady named Kinde, Who ate everything she could find. <u>Being so hungry,</u> <u>She ate a whole tree,</u> Not even a leaf left behind.</p>	<p>What it says: <u>A lady was so hungry she ate a tree.</u></p> <hr/> <p>What it really means: <u>She was super hungry.</u></p> <hr/>