Figurative Language

Figurative language is the use of descriptive words and phrases to convey information without directly saying it.



Figurative Language	Definition	Example
simile	a comparison of two unlike things using <i>like</i> or as	The leaves crunched <u>like</u> potato chips.
metaphor	a comparison of two unlike things without using <i>like</i> or as	My <u>dog</u> is a <u>ball of energy</u> .
hyperbole	an obvious exaggeration that is not meant to be understood literally	I've told you this <u>a million</u> <u>times</u> already!
personification	giving human qualities to nonhuman things	The willow tree's <u>branches</u> <u>dance</u> in the wind.
onomatopoeia	words that imitate the sounds that they describe	The burger patties <u>sizzled</u> on the grill.
alliteration	the repetition of the same initial sound	The <u>busy bee bounced</u> from <u>bush</u> to <u>bush</u> .
idiom	a group of words that has a different meaning from its literal meaning	I practice the piano <u>once in</u> <u>a blue moon</u> .
adage	a memorable saying that is usually considered true	It's better to be safe than sorry.
proverb	a saying that contains advice or a truth	Actions speak louder than words.
allusion	a word or phrase that hints at something or someone well known	Chocolate chip ice cream is my <u>Achilles' heel</u> .
pun	a play on words that uses multiple meanings of a word or uses words that sound alike but have different meanings	I wish I could be a doctor, but I don't have the <u>patients</u> .