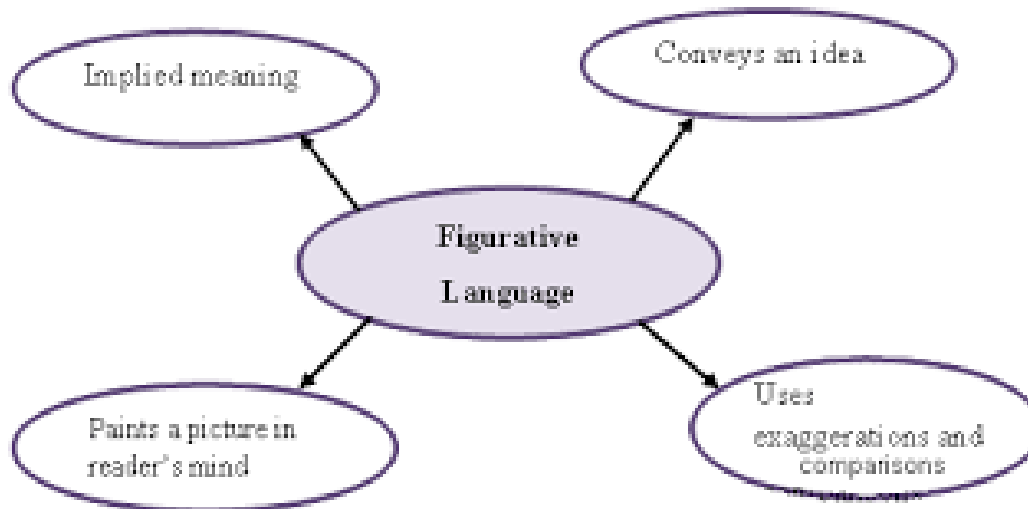




Study Island 7.4 Pathways

Study Island *Study Guide*

Figurative Meanings



Allusions

An **allusion** is a reference to a real or fictitious person, event, place, work of art, or another work of literature within writing.

In order for an allusion to be effective, the reader must be familiar with the original work. In the example below, the reader must be familiar with the fairy tale *Cinderella*.

example:

People hardly recognized Kayla when she arrived to the prom in a limo and wore her mother's beautiful gown. Kayla was the **Cinderella** of the senior class.

Readers who know that Cinderella is a character who was given a magical evening know what the author means by this statement.

You can commonly find allusions to well-known works:

- Roman/Greek mythology
- the Bible
- Shakespearean plays
- fairy tales

examples:

- I can tell by your silly smile that you've been struck by **Cupid's arrow**.
- That old woman is fighting a **David and Goliath** court battle with the huge corporation.

Foreshadowing

Foreshadowing happens when future events in a story, or sometimes the outcome, are **suggested** or **hinted** at by the author before the events happen. It is a method used to build suspense by providing hints of what is to come. In other words, foreshadowing gives the reader **clues** about what will happen next in a story.

Margaret's Busy Day

Margaret plopped into her car for the fifth time that day. She had just one more place to go to—the bakery. The gas warning light glowed bright orange as she started her car, but Margaret was too tired to notice. She was tired from driving all around the city that day. She had picked up the balloons and the streamers. She had rented the cotton candy and popcorn machines, and she had just finished meeting with the magician and the clown.

They better appreciate how much work I'm putting into this carnival, Margaret thought to herself. Her eyes stayed glued to the roads. She didn't want to get lost again on the way to the bakery. She had wasted an hour just trying to find the party store.

Margaret exited the highway and stopped at the red light. If her map was correct, she was supposed to turn right at the next light onto Commerce Street. Margaret moved her car forward when the light turned green. She was just about to turn right when—*Sputter!*—her car suddenly drifted to a stop.

"What's going on?" Margaret shouted anxiously. She tried restarting her car and pressing on the gas, but her car wouldn't move. The cars around her began to honk.

Where is the foreshadowing in the passage? What does it hint at?

The foreshadowing is in the first paragraph. The paragraph says, "The gas warning light glowed bright orange as she started her car, but Margaret was too tired to notice." This sentence foreshadows, or *hints at*, what happens later in the story. At the end of the passage, Margaret's car runs out of gas. This leaves her stuck in the middle of a road.



Figurative Language

Figurative language is a set of literary devices that authors use to bring the reader into the writing. The literary devices use language in such a way that what is being said is different from the actual literal meaning of the words.

Figurative language helps the reader to get a clearer picture of what's happening, and they can also be used to convince the reader of something, or they can be used to simply entertain the reader. Some common types of figurative language are: simile, metaphor, hyperbole, and imagery. Below are some definitions and examples of these types of figurative language.



Figurative Language

Authors use many types of figurative language in order to help the reader visualize and understand what they are writing

- metaphor
- simile
- alliteration
- onomatopoeia
- personification
- hyperbole

} These are some types of figurative language.

Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a figure of speech in which exaggeration is used for emphasis or effect.

example:

- I am so tired that I could sleep for centuries.

Imagery

Imagery deals with senses. It's language which describes something in detail, but it appeals to the senses.

example:

- As Ben opened the door, he was hit in the face with a smell that was similar to rotting pumpkin guts.

The phrase "hit in the face with a smell that was similar to rotting pumpkin guts" is another way of saying the room smelled bad. By describing the smell and saying it was similar to a rotting pumpkin, it paints a picture of a room that must have smelled terrible.

Metaphor

Metaphor is a type of comparison between two objects that are not thought of to be the same. It's similar to a simile, but it doesn't use the words "like" or "as."

example:

- Love is a sad and lonely flower.

Hyperbole



This backpack weighs a ton.



The field is a rainbow of colors.



Onomatopoeia

Onomatopoeia is the formation or the use of words that imitate the sounds associated with the objects or actions they refer to.

example:

- moo, buzz, splat

Personification

Personification is a figure of speech in which things are given human qualities or are shown as having human form.

examples:

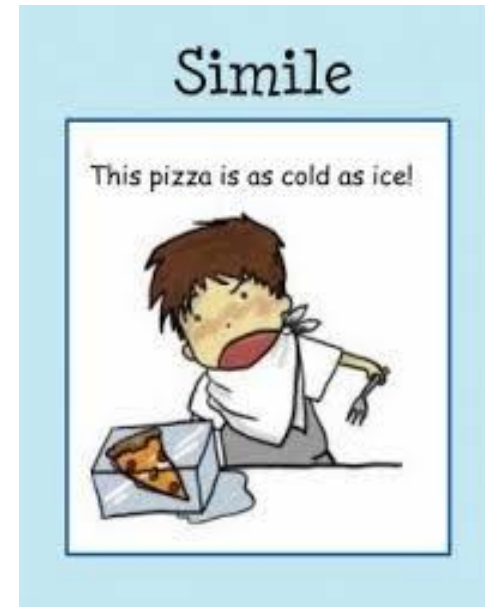
- The thunder boomed angrily.
- The moon smiled down on Earth.

Simile

A simile is a comparison between two unlike objects using the words "like" or "as."

example:

- Angus Scrimm was as tall as a tree.



Idioms

An **idiom** is an example of a type of figurative language that authors use to make their writing more exciting. The intended meaning of an idiom is not the same as the literal meaning of the words. You have to memorize the meanings of idioms or figure out their meanings by using context clues.

Examples:



"Under the weather" is a common idiom or idiomatic expression. You might miss a day of school because you feel "under the weather." The meaning of the expression has nothing to do with the weather. It means you feel ill.



"You got up on the wrong side of bed" is another example. It doesn't really mean there is a wrong side of bed. It means that you woke up cranky or angry.