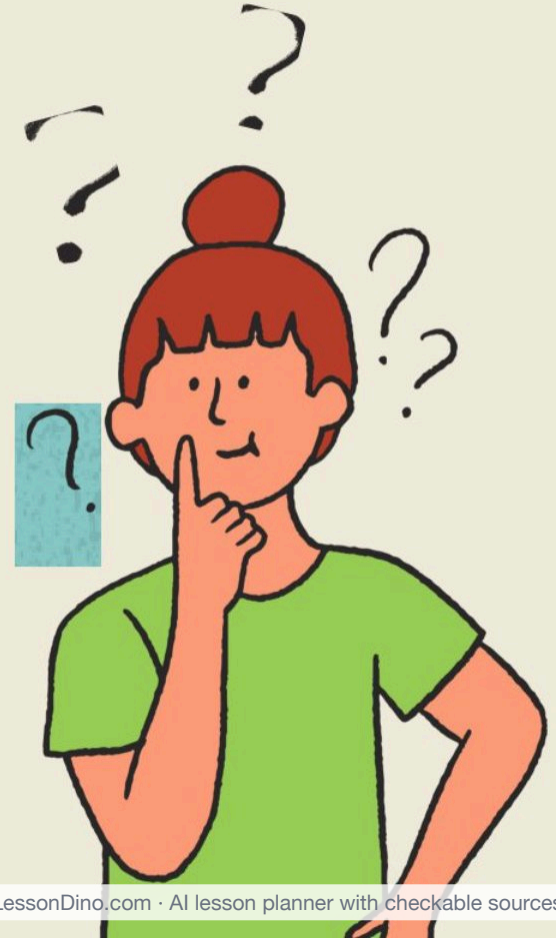
Words That Paint Pictures

figurative language and word shades

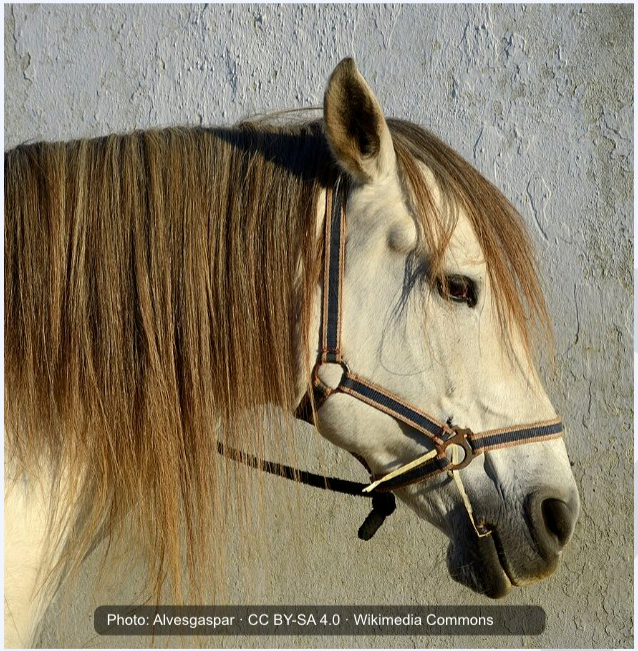


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What could this be?

A student says, 'I'm so hungry I could eat a horse!' What do they mean?





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Four favorites to spot

👀

Simile

Compares with like or as.

⭐

Metaphor

Says one thing is another.

🗣️

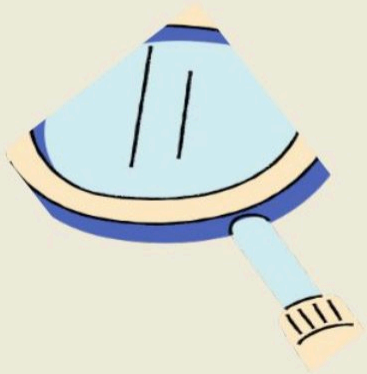
Personification

Gives things human actions.

🎈

Hyperbole

Big exaggeration for effect.



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DID YOU KNOW?

Your brain gets tricky phrases super fast.

It understands figurative ideas as quickly as plain words.



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Which paints the best picture?

Which line makes the morning rush feel wildest?



A My backpack weighs a ton

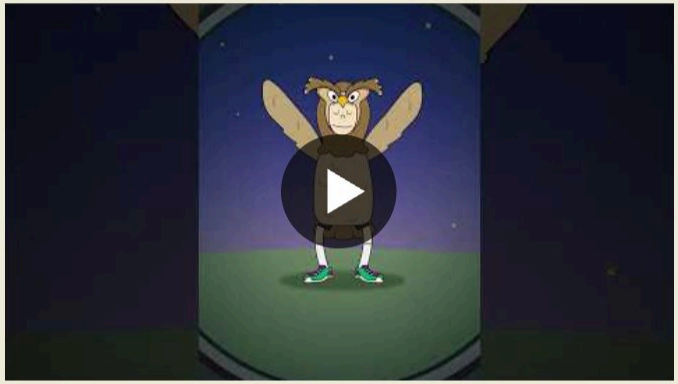
B The alarm clock screamed at me

C I ran like a cheetah to class

Vote with your hands, then explain why.

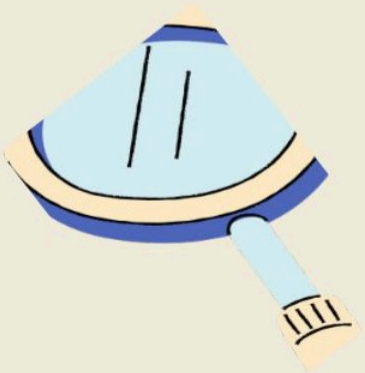
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What is figurative language?



▶ 0:00 – 1:14

- Listen for: plain vs. picture words
- Spot any like or as



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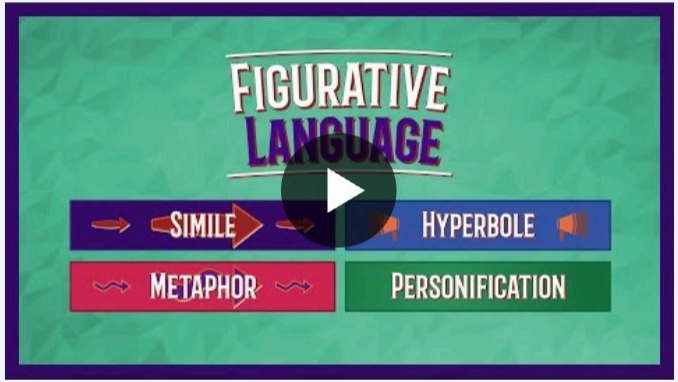


How to crack the code

1. Spot the clue: like, as, or impossible thing
2. Ask: Could this really happen?
3. Picture what it feels like
4. Say the real meaning plainly

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Four types in action



▶ 0:00 – 4:48

- Name each type you hear
- Steal one example to reuse



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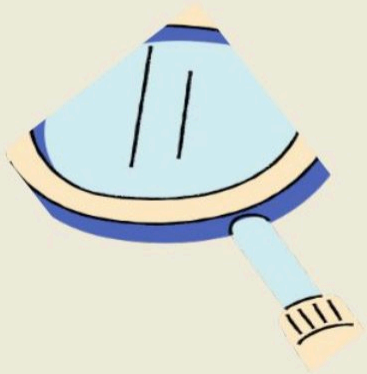
Your task

In pairs, write four wild lines about a school day, one for each type.

1. Pick a boring moment, like lunch line
2. Write a simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole
3. Underline clue words and share strongest line

10 min

In pairs



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Same idea, new shade

👀

Glanced

Looked quickly for a second.

🔍

Stared

Looked long and hard.

😠

Glared

Looked in an angry way.

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Think, pair, share

When does exaggeration help a story? When does it confuse?





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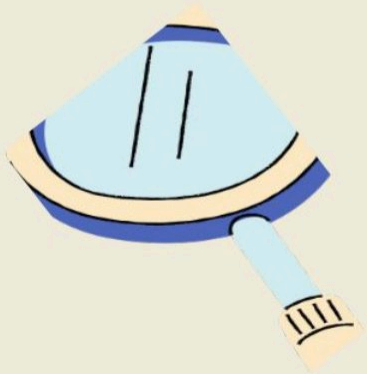
Quick quiz

1. Her smile was as bright as the sun. What type?

2. The classroom was a zoo. What type and meaning?

3. The wind whispered through trees. What type?

4. Glared vs. glanced: which is stronger?



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