

# Figurative Language

## Personification

Personification is when a non-living or a non-human thing is given living characteristics.

### Why do writers use personification?



- Personification helps the writer to bring a passage alive by introducing a human characteristic with which the reader can identify.
- To make the reader more interested in the topic and raise the reader's curiosity.
- It makes reading about the topic worthwhile.

## Alliteration

The repetition of consonant sounds, usually at the start of the words.

### Why do writers use alliteration?



- Helps draw our attention to a line in a poem or passage.
- To create a particular image.
- To slow down our reading or speed up the words in order to create an atmosphere.
- Advertisers use it to make things easy to remember.

## Onomatopoeia

When the sound of the word imitates or suggests the meaning or noise of the action described.

### Why do writers use onomatopoeia?



- To help the reader experience what is happening by recalling the sound that something makes and thereby improving the reader's ability to understand what is being described.

## Simile

A phrase that compares two things, using 'like' or 'as'. A simile works by suggesting the two things have characteristics that are similar.

### Why do writers use similes?



- Similes are used by writers to help the reader form a mental image of the comparison, which increases understanding of what the writer is trying to communicate.
- Similes add colour and vitality to writing.

## Metaphor

A metaphor is a comparison between two things as if they were the same.

### Why do writers use metaphors?



- Writers use metaphors to involve their readers more, by making the reader feel, as opposed to just helping them understand.
- Metaphors focus the reader's attention on a specific detail.
- A Metaphor helps to link your point to a familiar topic that your reader has knowledge of and can connect to.