

SIMILES & METAPHORS

REM 902

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A TEACHING RESOURCE FROM



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INTRODUCTION

This unit was designed to provide students with a variety of practice exercises in the use of similes and metaphors. It contains a mixture of familiar similes and metaphors, as well as opportunities for students to create their own.

As students work through the activities, they will begin to see the comparisons made with similes as an excellent way to add color and interest to both writing and conversation.

The activities begin with easy exercises in identifying similes and the characteristics being compared. As the unit progresses, the activities begin to involve the creation of original phrases and the use of negative or opposite similes.

Students should be encouraged to watch for similes in the material they read as well as listen for and use them in conversation.

The unit is reproducible to give the teacher flexibility in its use. It is perfect for a whole class, small groups, or individual students.

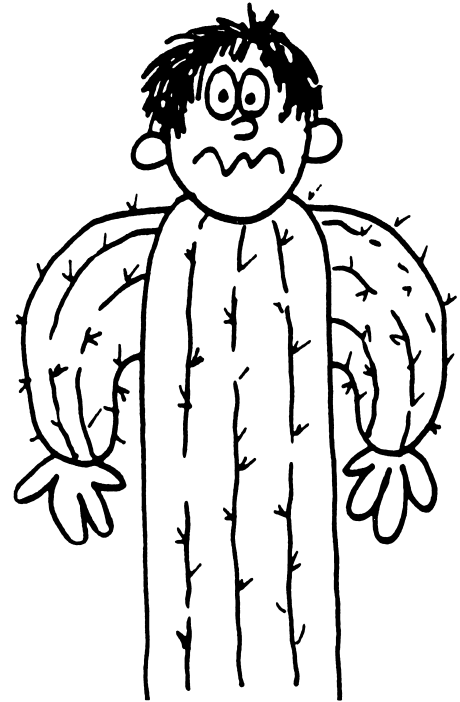
A simile compares two things in some way.
The things are usually very **different**.

My SWEATER feels as prickly as a CACTUS.

A sweater and a cactus are very different.
This is a **simile**.

The ROSE BUSH feels as prickly as a CACTUS.

A rose bush and a cactus are too much alike. They are both plants, and we know they are both prickly. This is **NOT a simile**.



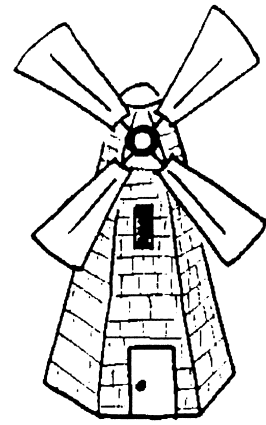
Read each sentence. Draw a line under the two things being compared. If the sentence is a **simile**, write “S” on the line.

- ____ 1. Her voice sounds like a squeaking door.
- ____ 2. Martha was as tall as Jeff.
- ____ 3. The tulip was as red as a rose.
- ____ 4. His nose was as red as a cherry.
- ____ 5. The cake was as heavy as a brick.
- ____ 6. The plum tree is as big as the apple tree.
- ____ 7. The plastic cup was as shiny as the glass one.
- ____ 8. The crocodile is bumpier than an old log.
- ____ 9. Her hair is like a rag mop.
- ____ 10. To Maggie, spelling is as easy as math.
- ____ 11. The moon shone almost as brightly as the sun.
- ____ 12. The hole in the road was as big as the Grand Canyon.

In a simile, the two things may be very **different**, but they have one characteristic that is the same.

There is always one of the following words in a simile:
as, like, than.

Read the similes below and answer the questions.



1. **The sun made the sidewalk as hot as a frying pan.**

a) What two things are being compared?

b) In the simile, how are they alike?

2. **The policeman waved his arms around like a windmill.**

a) What two things are being compared?

b) In the simile, what makes them alike?

3. **The elephant is as big as a house.**

a) What two things are being compared?

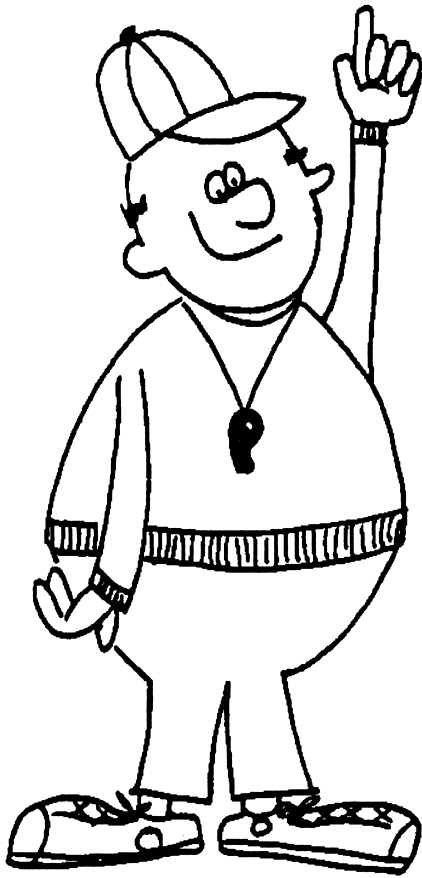
b) In the simile, what makes them alike?

4. **Jimmy climbs trees like a monkey.**

a) What two things are being compared?

b) How are they alike?





Read each sentence.

On the lines, write the words that tell which two things are being compared.

1. Mr. Sylent's office was as quiet as a cemetery.

and _____

2. Cynthia Shoe is slower than a snail in syrup.

and _____

3. Mrs. Raddle is madder than an old, wet hen.

and _____

4. Coach Cool is rounder than a basketball.

and _____

5. When Baby Brillo cries, he sounds like a siren.

_____ and _____

6. The moon looked like a big yellow grapefruit.

_____ and _____

7. Flash Frye runs faster than a deer.

_____ and _____

8. His smile looked like a slice of the moon.

_____ and _____