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# Playing with Meaning

A number of literary devices are employed by authors to create images in the reader's mind, and help the reader understand a piece of writing in greater depth. Among them are those that play with meaning that can liven up a piece and make reading more interesting.

## **Simile**

A simile is a comparison between two things using the word "like" or "as".

*e.g. The hole in the shirt is as big as a toonie.*

## **Metaphor**

A metaphor is a comparison between two unlike things without using the word "like" or "as".

*e.g. Little Ginny is the jewel of the family.*

## **Irony**

An irony refers to the use of words to convey a meaning that is the opposite of their literal meaning.

*e.g. Looking at the downpour of rain, Justin said, "It's really a great day for the soccer game!"*

## **Symbolism**

Symbolism refers to the use of an object or action to convey both a literal meaning and a meaning beyond what is described. Some symbols are universal and have conventional meanings.

*e.g. Matt woke up, feeling a ray of warmth on his face. Looking out of the window, he saw the sun shining warmly. The sky had finally cleared after weeks of gloomy weather. Matt smiled. He knew he would never be the same again.*

The sun is widely recognized as a symbol of hope, glory, and new beginning. In the example above, the sun represents the beginning of a new life for Matt.

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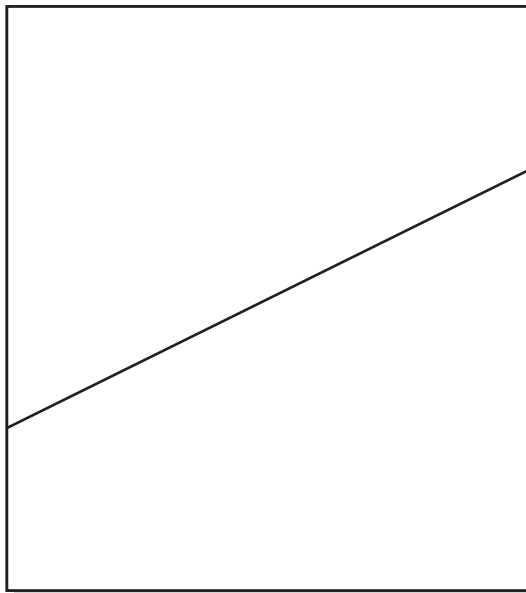
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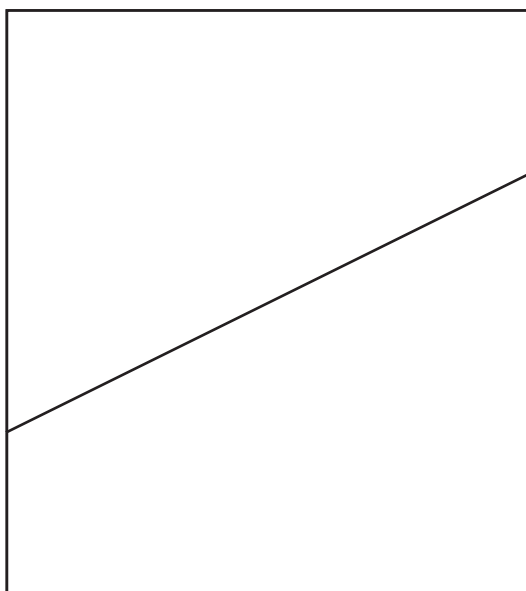
# Similes and Metaphors

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

**Find a simile and a metaphor from the book. Draw the two things being compared in each example. Write the examples from the book. Then rewrite the simile as a metaphor and the metaphor as a simile.**

	Simile from the Book
	_____ _____
	My Metaphor
	_____ _____

	Metaphor from the Book
	_____ _____
	My Simile
	_____ _____