

Part Two

Standards Focus: Figurative Language

One of the most captivating aspects of good literature is the use of **figurative language**, or ideas communicated beyond their literal meaning to create an image in the reader’s or audience’s mind. There are several types of figurative language, also called figures of speech. For this exercise, you will use the following figures of speech:

- **metaphor**- a comparison, based upon similarity or resemblance, of two or more objects: “The pillow was a cloud.” Metaphors can also be more complex: “His recliner was his throne and his remote, his scepter; with these he ruled his kingdom.”
- **simile**- a comparison made between two unlike objects, using the words “like” or “as” in the comparison: “The pillow was *like* a marshmallow.”
- **personification**- giving human qualities or characteristics to non-human objects: “The wind sang its sad song.”

Directions: Read each quote from Part Two. Look at the underlined figure of speech in the sentence, then decide what type of figure of speech is being used. Finally, analyze the comparison being made, the object being personified or exaggerated, or the image being created by explaining the meaning of the figure of speech. An example has been done for you.

Ex. “Each page becomes a black butterfly. Beautiful, eh? Light the third page from the second and so on, chain smoking, chapter by chapter” ...There sat Beatty, perspiring gently, the floor littered with swarms of black moths that had died in a single storm.”

Figure of Speech: metaphor

Analysis: Bradbury compares the burnt pages of the book to a swarm of black moths, as the pages lie there, “dead” from the fire.

1. “She was beginning to shriek now, sitting there like a wax doll melting in its own heat.”

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

2. “There were people on the suction train but he held the book in his hands and the silly thought came to him, if you read fast and read all, maybe some of the sand will stay in the sieve.”

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

3. “The train radio vomited upon Montag, in retaliation, a great tonload of music made of tin, copper, silver, chromium, and brass.”

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

4. “The night I kicked the pill bottle in the dark, like kicking a buried mine.”