

Figurative Language Cheat Sheet

SIMILE

Using "like" or "as"
to compare
2 things

ex. It was as cold as ice outside.

METAPHOR

Compares two things
without the use of a
transition word

ex. He was a clown

IDIOM

Has a word or
phrase not meant
to be taken literally

ex. Time flies when you're having fun.

ALLITERATION

Two or more words in a
sentence or line in a poem that
begin with the same sound.

ex. Sally sold seashells down by the seashore.

PERSONIFICATION

To give human qualities to
something that is not human.

ex. My couch screamed when I sat down.

ONOMATOPOEIA

Use words to
represent a sound.

ex. The bee buzzed in my ear

HYPERBOLE

Uses extreme
exaggeration

ex. I ate as much as ten men!