

Figurative Language Worksheet

First, match each figure of language with the appropriate label and circle or **highlight** the specific language that creates the figure. Sometimes there are two different figures in the same words.

Second, *explain* what is being compared to what in the figure of speech.

A. Personification

B. Metaphor

C. Simile

D. Hyperbole

1. ____ “Time is but the stream I go a-fishing in. I drink at it; but while I drink I see the sandy bottom and detect how shallow it is. Its thin current slides away, but eternity remains.”
(Henry David Thoreau, “Where I lived and what I lived for”)
2. ____ Undisturbed and serene, the stubborn rock refused to move, no matter how hard the grunting workmen pushed. “C’mon, baby, move your butt!” cajoled Bill as he pried under the rock with a crow bar.
3. ____ “The coconut trees were like feather dusters struck by lighting.” (Mark Twain, “Roughing It”)
4. ____ As the powerful hurricane rushed toward the coast, the Grim Reaper (death) stood ready to harvest a new crop.
5. ____ “Summer fogs are common on the Oregon Coast; inland heat waves drag them from the Pacific as a man with a fever pulls the blanket to his chin.” (D.J. Duncan, *The River Why*)
6. ____ The frightened fisherman looked over the edge of the boat into the inky blackness of the ocean, wondering what mammoth creature was bending his fishing rod so.
7. ____ Never, thought the love-struck Alma, had there been a piece of music so melodious, so angelic, so sublime, as that which now floated up to her window from Herbert’s old violin.
8. ____ The mosquitoes, eager for a feast, sang ominously about my ears as I settled into the dark of my tent.
9. ____ Who was it who first said “TV is a barren wasteland?”
10. ____ Thinking her children had been wronged, Eliza readied herself for a fight, fangs and claws bared. Blood up and bellowing she entered the principal’s office with the formidable presence of a wounded she-bear.