Figurative Language Notes
A note about notes...

• Items in purple are instructions or examples; do not worry about copying anything that is written in purple.

• I will not be collecting most notes, so you can use whatever writing utensil you like. Use color coding as much as possible!

• Sometimes I will leave the note-taking style up to you, and sometimes I will require you to use a particular organizational method.

• Today, use Cornell Notes Style.
Figurative Language Notes

What is literal language?

- Accurately describing something without exaggeration.
  - Correct: My cat literally landed on her feet after falling from the roof.
  - Incorrect: I literally lost my mind.

What is figurative language?

- Language that goes beyond everyday literal language to compare, emphasize, or clarify.
  - Oxymoron, Idiom, Simile, Metaphor, Personification...many more!
Figurative Language Notes

**Simile:**

- A comparison between dissimilar objects using “like” or “as.” “Than” is sometimes used.

  Ex: The house is **like** a jail.
  Ex: The ballerina was **as agile as** a bird.
  Ex: She was more sly **than** a fox on a hunt.
  Ex: Find an example in “The Highwayman” and label it.

**Metaphor:**

- A direct comparison of dissimilar things.

  Ex: The house is **like** a jail.
  Ex: The ballerina was **an agile bird.**
  Ex: Find an example in “The Highwayman” and label it.
Simile vs. Metaphor

Simile

The ballerina was **as agile as** a bird.

Metaphor

The ballerina was an agile bird.
**Figurative Language Notes**

**Personification:**
- Ascribing/giving human characteristics to nonhuman objects or animals

Ex: The printer was a stubborn elderly man who did as he liked.

*What can we tell about the printer?*
*How does the speaker feel about the printer?*

Ex: The flower beamed like a young debutante on her way to a ball.

*What comes to mind?*
*How do you picture the flower?*
Figurative Language Notes

Let’s practice –

Hold up a...
1. Simile
2. Metaphor
3. Personification
4. None of the above

1. The dry skin was like the desert’s floor. **sim.**
2. The Hoover Dam is a marvelous structure. **None - opinion**
3. The Hoover Dam is like a giant half pipe for skateboarding. **sim.**
4. The Colorado River is a snake slithering through numerous south western states. **met.**
5. The ocean crashed against the rocks with angry passion. **pers.**
Figurative Language Notes

Analogy:

- A comparison of objects or ideas that are completely different but are alike in one important way.

**Ex:** The rose blooms as fully as the iris.

**Ex:** The heart pumps blood like rivers pump streams.

**Ex:** A wolf is to a pack as a seagull is to a flock.

**Ex:** Write your own

- Yes, analogies overlap with metaphors and similes!
Figurative Language Notes

Hyperbole:

- Exaggeration or overstatement. Often meant to be farcical (funny). Used for dramatic effect.

  **Ex**: My grandma is so old, she walked into an antique store and they kept her!

  **Ex**: I’m so hungry I could eat a horse.

  **Ex**: Write your own

- Yes, these overlap with other FL terms!
Figurative Language Notes

Chuck Norris jokes are great examples of Hyperbole:

CHUCK NORRIS DOESN'T USE THE FORCE
The forces uses Chuck Norris.
Figurative Language Notes

Chuck Norris jokes are great examples of Hyperbole:

WHEN CHUCK NORRIS WAS BORN THE ONLY ONE WHO CRIED WAS THE DOCTOR;
NEVER SLAP CHUCK NORRIS.
Figurative Language Notes

Chuck Norris jokes are great examples of Hyperbole:

DEATH ONCE HAD A
NEAR-CHUCK EXPERIENCE
Chuck Norris jokes are great examples of Hyperbole:
Figurative Language Notes

Idiom: • An everyday expression that carries meaning not offered by a dictionary.

Ex: Don’t let the cat out of the bag.
Ex: These notes are a piece of cake.
(This one is also a metaphor.)
Ex: Don’t judge a person until you walk a mile in his shoes.
Ex: Write your own
Figurative Language Notes

Symbol: • An object that represents a deeper, more meaningful situation, theme, or identity.

Ex: CTE!

Ex: USA

Ex: Write...or draw... your own.
Figurative Language Notes

**Allusion:**
- Implied or indirect reference (to a person, place, or event)

  **Ex:** Build your house from brick, not straw.

  *What tale is this an allusion to?*

  **Ex:** When I ask for volunteers, it’s not like you’re going to have to represent a district or anything!

  *What book/movie is this an allusion to?*
Figurative Language Notes

Oxymoron:

• Two words that seem contradictory when used together.

  Ex: jumbo shrimp
  Ex: act naturally
  Ex: pretty ugly
  Ex: seriously joking
  Ex: found missing
  Ex: Hell’s Angels
  Ex: temporary tattoo
  Ex: Can you name two of your own?
Figurative Language Notes

1. Irony:

- **Verbal**: When the speaker means the opposite of what he/she actually says. Implied with tone (sarcasm)

  **Ex**: “Thanks for the speeding ticket officer, you really made my day!”

  **Ex**: “Oh goody, I am so excited for this test I did not study for!”
2. Irony:

• **Situational**: An outcome of events contrary to what was expected.

  Ex: The politician trying to get laws passed against drug trafficking is discovered to be a drug addict.

  Ex: My friend who is afraid of heights suggested that we go skydiving.

  Ex: Write one/point to one.
Figurative Language Notes

Ironic:

- **Situational:** An outcome of events contrary to what was expected.

Logic Play

**NOTHING IS WRITTEN IN STONE**
3. Irony:

**Dramatic:** When the audience is aware of something that the characters on stage are not aware of.

*Ex:* In Disney’s *Frozen* when Olaf sings about what he would do if it were summer.
Figurative Language Notes

3. Irony:

**Dramatic:** When the audience is aware of something that the characters on stage are not aware of.

*Ex:* In Disney’s *Snow White*, the audience knows the apple is poisoned, but Snow White does not.
3. Irony:

**Dramatic:** When the audience is aware of something that the characters on stage are not aware of.

**Ex:** In Disney’s *The Lion King*, Simba thinks he is responsible for his father’s death, but we all know it was his evil Uncle Scar who planned the whole thing.
3. Irony:

**Dramatic**: When the audience is aware of something that the characters on stage are not aware of.

**Ex**: In Disney’s *Toy Story* when Andy is on screen, the audience knows the toys can talk, but Andy does not.
Alliteration:

- Recurrent or repeating consonant (non-vowels) sounds in a sentence.

**Ex:** Sally sells sea shells by the sea shore.

**Ex:** How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood.

**Ex:** Write your own.
Literary Device Notes

Assonance:

- Rhyme in which the same vowel sounds are used but with different consonants.

  Ex: Nine blind mice
  Ex: reticence and penitent
  Ex: Which I with sword will open
  Ex: Write 2 or 3
Literary Device Notes

Onomatopoeia:

- Words that produce the sound they make.

  Ex: Hiss, fizz
  Ex: Meow, woof, cuckoo
  Ex: Zip, boom, click
  Ex: Find + highlight examples in “The Highwayman”
Literary Device Notes

Onomatopoeia:

BOOM! BOOM!

BANG!!

Pow. Pow, Pow!

SIR, WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT OUR ADVERSARIES ACTUALLY HAVE NO WEAPONS WHATSOEVER.

THE FALL OF THE ONOMATOPOEIAN EMPIRE