

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Figurative Language

Figurative language adds meaning by using words in a nonliteral, often comparative way. Some kinds are more common than others.

**allusion** – a brief, often indirect reference to another text, person, event, or place

Andi is the Einstein of the plant world.  
↓  
Andi knows a lot about plants.

**metaphor** – comparison of two normally unlike things, typically without using words such as *like*, *as*, or *than*

Her living room is a forest.  
↓  
Her living room has a lot of plants.

**hyperbole** – an exaggerated statement not meant to be taken literally

That tree needs nonstop watering.

**personification** – use of humanlike characteristics or qualities to describe nonhuman things

The ferns waved cheerily at me.



involves simile: **The sunflower was as tall as a mountain!**

Choose the kind of figurative language used. Then tell what it means or suggests.

1. The hotel staff really went the extra mile to make our stay comfortable.

\_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
*simile / idiom / allusion*

2. A waterfall of gold ran from the top of Laurel's head to her lower back.

\_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
*metaphor / simile / hyperbole*

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## Figurative Language

3. Marco and Tomas dream of becoming a space-age Lewis and Clark.

\_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
*hyperbole / personification / allusion*

4. As Remy looked at the canvas, inspiration struck like a bolt of lightning.

\_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
*personification / simile / metaphor*

5. The sky turned angry, and the wind began to howl before long.



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7. "I've asked Emily a million times to clean her room," Dad said.

\_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
*hyperbole / metaphor / personification*

8. The dogs laughed together while they played tag.

\_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
*simile / allusion / personification*

# ANSWER KEY

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# ANSWER KEY

## Figurative Language

Answers may vary slightly.

3. Marco and Tomas dream of becoming a space-age Lewis and Clark.

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8. The dogs laughed together while they played tag.

**personification** : **The dogs are having fun while chasing each other.**

*simile / allusion / personification*