

Figurative Language

Figurative language uses figures of speech. The writer describes things by using unusual comparisons, for effect, interest, or to make things clearer.

Figurative language uses figures of speech to help create a clear image in the reader's mind.

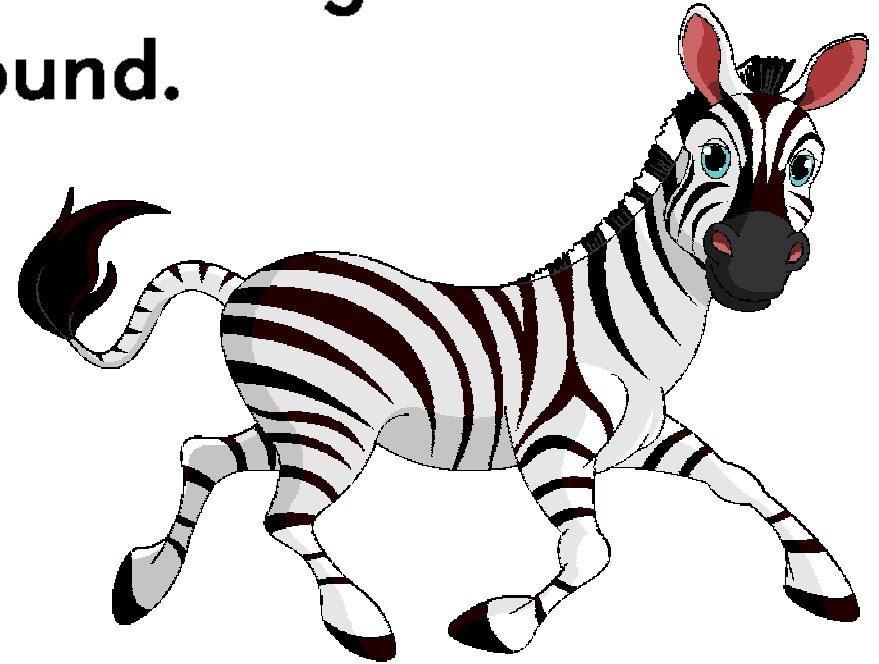
alliteration **idiom** **simile**

hyperbole **onomatopoeia**

metaphor **personification**

alliteration

- where words in a sentence begin with the same sound.



**Zany zebras zigzagged through
the zoo.**

hyperbole

- when exaggeration is used for effect.



**I had to read a book that was
about a million pages long.**

idiom

- a commonly used expression whose meaning does not relate to the literal meaning of its words.



That exam was a piece of cake.

metaphor

- like a simile, but instead of using 'like' or 'as' it compares two things by suggesting that something is something else.



The road was a ribbon of moonlight.

onomatopoeia

- when a word makes the sound of the thing it describes.



personification

- type of figurative language that gives an object human characteristics (emotions, sensations, speech, physical movements).



The hot sun smiled down on us.

simile

- a comparison phrase which finds similar characteristics in two objects and compares them, always by using the words 'like' or 'as'.



Mary could swim like a fish.

