

Figurative Language

Part of creating a successful piece of creative writing is utilising figurative language techniques.

Some of the most useful techniques are:

Metaphor

Simile

Personification

Hyperbole

Each of these techniques have a different effect and purpose.

Metaphor

This is a comparison
between two, often
unrelated, subjects.

Metaphor

Whilst similar to a simile, a metaphor does not use like or as. This means the comparison is more direct. You are saying one thing *IS* another thing.

Metaphor

This allows us to gain an understanding of a person or thing because of our knowledge of the shared trait.

E.g. Life is a rollercoaster, All the world's a stage, Love is a drug.

Simile

This is a comparison
between two, often
unrelated, subjects.

Simile

Unlike the metaphor a simile uses the words 'like' or 'as'.

This means a simile is not stating that the one thing is the same as the other, rather they are similar in some way.

Simile

Just like a metaphor, this allows us to gain an understanding of a person or thing because of our knowledge of the shared trait.

*E.g. Life is like a box of chocolates,
Slow as a sloth.*