

Ministry of Education
Secondary Engagement Programme
September 2020

WEEK SIX: Lesson Three

Subject: English Language (week 6) **Grade: Eight**

Topic: comprehension

Sub-topic: Simile (identifying the use of simile in poetry)

Objectives: After participating in classroom discussions, Grade 8 students will correctly:

- (1) **Define the term simile**
- (2) **Identify the use of similes in given poems**

- (3) **Concept: A simile is a comparison between two things using the words like or as**

CONTENT

A [simile](#) is a figure of speech that compares two different things in an interesting way using the words like or as. The objective of a simile is to spark an interesting connection in a reader's or listener's mind. A simile is one of the most common forms of [figurative language](#).

Examples of similes can be found just about anywhere from poems to song lyrics and even in everyday conversations.

For example, when someone says "He is **as busy as a bee**," it means he is working hard, as bees are known to be extremely busy.

If someone says "I am **as snug as a bug in a rug**," they mean that they feel very comfortable and cozy or are tucked up tight in bed.

Some other well-known similes you will often hear are:

- As cute as a kitten
- As happy as a clam
- As light as a feather
- As blind as a bat
- As bold as brass
- As bright as a button
- As shiny as a new pin

- As cold as ice
- As common as dirt
- As cool as a cucumber
- As hard as nails
- As hot as hell
- As innocent as a lamb
- As tall as a giraffe
- As tough as nails
- As white as a ghost
- As sweet as sugar
- As black as coal

EXAMPLE 1

READ THE POEM BELOW AND IDENTIFY THE USE OF THE SIMILE IN SAME

Jerry's mind wandered during class

Like a balloon floating up in the air.

While he daydreamed about eating lunch

His stomach growled loud like a bear.

His classmates laughed like hyenas.

Which made him feel like a fool.

From now on he'd listen to his mom

And eat breakfast before coming to school.

ACTIVITY 1

"Like a bruised, little bird
Too confused to fly,
I'm trapped, in a word,
So confined am I.
A captive, collared lion
Alone in its pen,
I'm pacin' and dyin'
In a manmade den.
For an eagle was not meant
To be locked in a cage,
Its life to be spent
Like a picture on a page."

ACTIVITY 2

READ THE POEMS BELOW THEN IDENTIFY THE USE OF THE SIMILE

Dreams

[Langston Hughes](#)

Hold fast to dreams
For if dreams die
Life is a broken-winged bird
That cannot fly.

Hold fast to dreams
For when dreams go
Life is a barren field
Frozen with snow.

ACTIVITY 3

Harlem

BY LANGSTON HUGHES

What happens to a dream deferred?

Does it dry up

like a raisin in the sun?

Or fester like a sore—

And then run?

Does it stink like rotten meat?

Or crust and sugar over—

like a syrupy sweet?

Maybe it just sags

like a heavy load.

Or does it explode?

ACTIVITY 4 (CREATIVE WRITING)

COMPOSE AN ORIGINAL POEM AND INCLUDE THE USE OF TWO SIMILES.

Grade: 8

Topic: comprehension

Sub-topic: Simile (identifying the use of simile in poetry)

ANSWER SHEET (SIMILE IS IN BOLD AND UNDERLINED)

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