

Name _____ Period _____

Standards Focus: Figurative Language

One of the most captivating aspects of good literature is the use of **figurative language**, or ideas communicated beyond their literal meaning to create an image in the reader's or audience's mind. There are several types of figurative language, also called figures of speech. In this exercise, you will use the following figures of speech:

- **metaphor**- a comparison made between two unlike objects: "The pillow was a cloud."
- **simile**- a comparison made between two unlike objects, using the words "like" or "as" in the comparison: "The pillow was *like* a marshmallow."
- **personification**- giving human qualities or characteristics to non-human objects: "The wind sang its sad song."
- **hyperbole**- truth is exaggerated for humor or emphasis: "I *died* when the boy I *like* finally talked to me."

Directions: Read each quote from Chapters One through Five. Look at the underlined figure of speech in the sentence, then decide what type of figure of speech it is. Finally identify the comparison being made or the object being personified or exaggerated. An example has been done for you.

Ex. "I never had a brain until Freak came along and let me borrow his for a while, and that's the truth, the whole truth." (pg. 1)

Figure of Speech: hyperbole (or metaphor)

Analysis: Max wasn't very smart until Freak came along and taught him how to learn.

1. "Except I had a way of saying things with my fists and my feet even before we became Freak the Mighty..." (1)

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

2. "And Gram right away shushes him and says don't ever say that, because little pictures have big ears, which makes me run to the mirror to see if it is my big ears made me look like *Him*." (4)

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

3. "...he's exploding out of his shoes." (4)

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

4. "I'm just this critter hiding out in the basement, drooling in my comic books or whatever." (6)

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

5. "At first she's a glimpse, caught her going between the van and the front door, talking to the beards." (7)

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

6. "...she has this glow, a secret spotlight that follows her around and makes her eyes light up." (13)

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

Directions: Now identify and underline the figure(s) of speech in the sentence, then decide what type of figure of speech it is. Finally identify the comparison being made or the object being personified or exaggerated.

7. "...my feet are going wild that year and I keep tripping over everything. Cracks in the sidewalk, ants on the sidewalk, shadows, anything." (8)

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

8. "If you didn't know, you would think he was like a kindergarten creeper who forgot how to walk, he's that small." (11)

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

9. "I *am* amazed, because it does fly just like a little bird, flitting up and down and around, higher than I can reach." (13)

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

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10. "It's cool and dim in there and you float like a cloud – no, you *are* a cloud..." (21)

Figures of Speech: 1. _____ ; 2. _____

Analysis: _____

Now, find two other examples of figures of speech from Chapters One through Five and write them on the lines. Identify the type of figure of speech and write an analysis.

11. _____

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____

12. _____

Figure of Speech: _____

Analysis: _____