

# 9 Types of Figurative Language + Examples

## allusion

makes a comparison to another work or character

He's the Romeo to my Juliet.

## hyperbole

exaggerates to make a point

He was dying of boredom.

## idiom

figure of speech that only makes sense when taken figuratively, not literally

I'm ready to hit the sack.

## metaphor

compares two unlike things that share an attribute by saying one is the other

My house is a three-ring circus.

## metonymy

uses one word to represent a common link to a larger concept

Can you give me a hand?

## personification

gives human-like attributes to a non-human thing

The leaves danced in the wind.

## simile

compares two unlike things with *like* or *as*

You're as pretty as a picture.

## symbolism

uses an object to represent something else

The boy waved his flag as the soldiers returned home.

## synecdoche

uses one part of a noun to describe the whole noun

I've got four mouths to feed at home.