

## alliteration

Helps writers punch points home by repeating the same sound (usually a consonant) of the first or second letter in a series of words. It tends to catch the reader's eye.



**The professor praised his pupil's flowery prose.**



## hyperbole

When a writer exaggerates something - typically in a humorous way.

**My eyes widened at the sight of the mile-high sundaes that were brought to our table.**



## metaphor

A comparison between two things. They don't necessarily have to be alike, but they should make a link in the reader's mind.

**Nobody invites Edward to parties because he is a wet blanket.**



## personification

When something non-human is given human-like qualities.

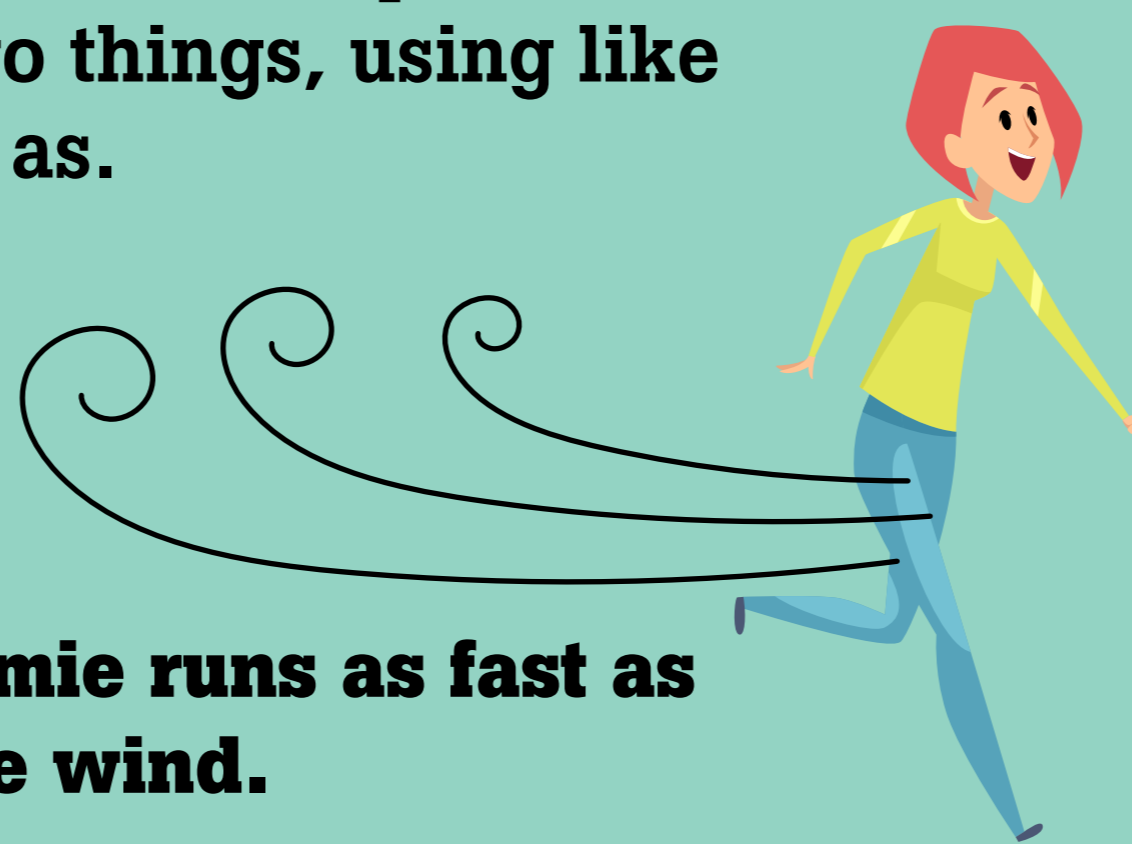


**The leaves danced in the wind on the cold October afternoon.**

## simile

A direct comparison between two things, using like or as.

**Jamie runs as fast as the wind.**



## symbolism

When something that has one meaning is used to represent something entirely different. For example, using an image of the American flag to represent patriotism.

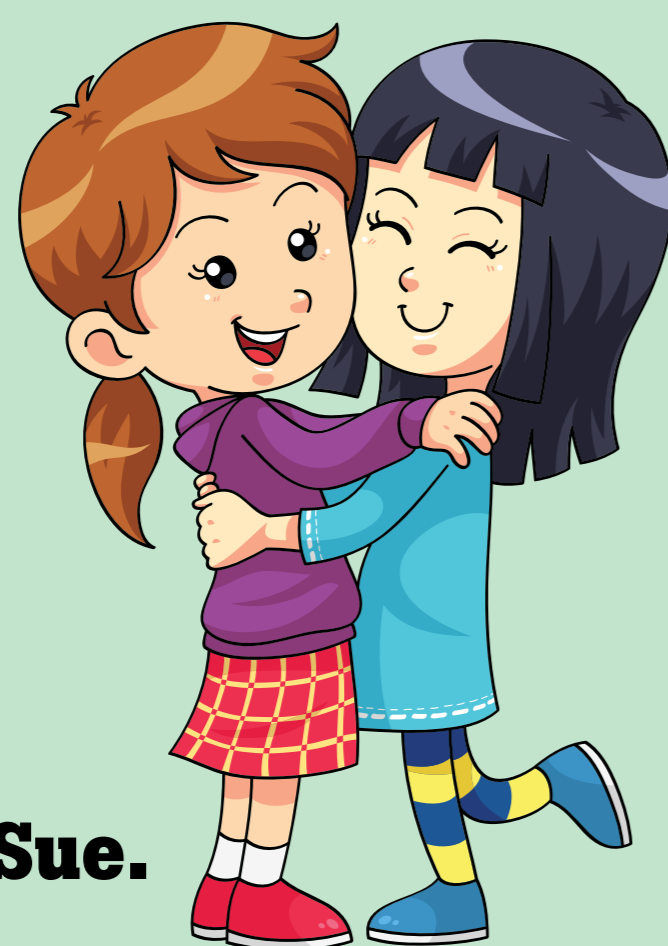
**The boy proudly flew his flag on the 4th of July.**



## assonance

When you repeat a vowel sound in a phrase.

**True, I do like Sue.**



## cliché

A phrase that is repeated so often, it's nearly meaningless.

**Try walking a mile in my shoes.**



## idiom

An expression used by a group of people with a meaning that can only be understood through common usage. (Many idioms are also considered clichés.)

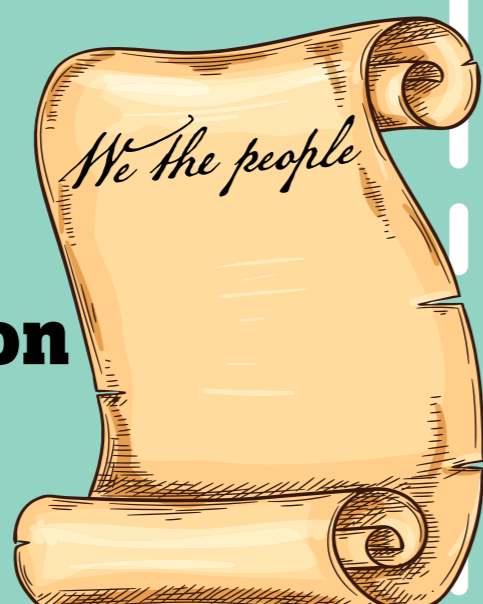
**I'm waiting for him to kick the bucket.**



## metonymy

A figure of speech where one word is replaced with a word that's closely associated with it. For example, you might hear Washington used to refer to the U.S. government.

**The political corruption in Washington is just unreal.**

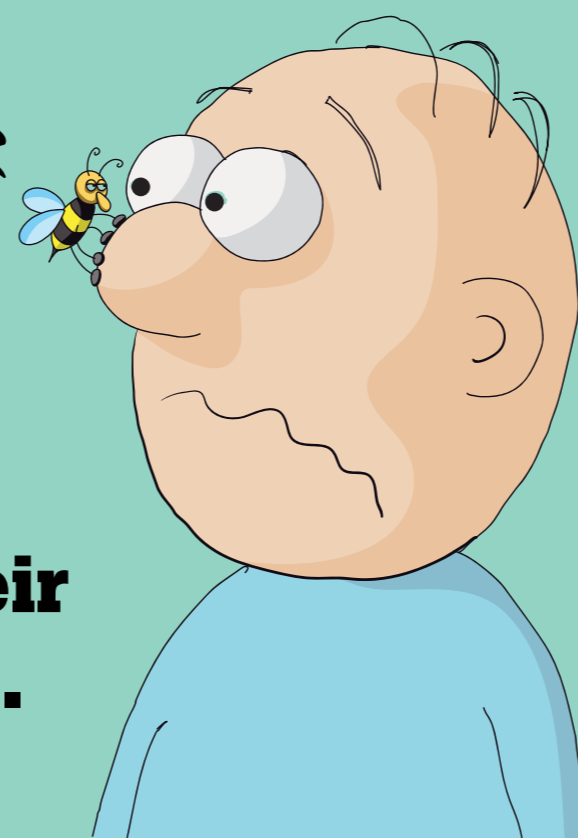


## onomatopoeia

The name of an action imitates the sound it makes.

**The bees buzz angrily when their hive is disturbed.**

buzzzzzzzz



## synecdoche

a figure of speech using a word or words to represent a whole. For example, when you refer to credit cards as "plastic".

**Rather than using cash, she just paid with her plastic.**

