

Adventures in Language: Figurative Flourishes

Learning objective: To identify and explain the use of similes, metaphors, and personification in descriptive writing.

Read the story below about Max the monkey and answer the questions. Use the word bank to help you identify the different types of figurative language used.

Max the monkey sat high in the ancient oak tree. The wind whispered secrets through the leaves, telling stories of distant lands. Max felt as brave as a lion as he looked down at the jungle floor. Below him, the river was a shimmering silver ribbon winding through the forest. Max clutched his notepad tightly; his brain was a busy buzzing hive of mathematical equations, waiting to be solved. He loved to watch the golden sun give the trees a warm, glowing hug at the end of the day.

Word bank: Simile · Metaphor · Personification

1. Find and copy one example of a simile from the text. Explain how you know it is a simile. (2 marks)

2. The author writes that 'the wind whispered secrets through the leaves.' Which type of figurative language is this? Explain why. (2 marks)

3. Identify the metaphor used to describe the river. What does this tell the reader about the shape and look of the river? (2 marks)

4. Look at the phrase: 'the golden sun give the trees a warm, glowing hug.' Which technique is used here, and what does it suggest about the sunlight? (2 marks)

5. In the text, Max's brain is described as a 'busy buzzing hive.' Why do you think the author chose this metaphor for Max? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of the river as a 'shimmering silver ribbon' and the sun giving the trees a 'warm, glowing hug' based on the descriptions in the story.



Extension challenge: Write two sentences of your own describing a stormy day. Include one simile and one example of personification.