

Module 4: Self-Discovery Through Facing Life's Obstacles

Topic 3 Content: Figurative Language

Introduction

The image shows a digital interface for a lesson on figurative language. At the top, a dark grey header contains the text "Figurative Language" in white. Below this, a white box with a green plus sign icon contains the text: "Introduction In order to fully understand 'Courage,' you must first understand the figurative language used throughout the poem. Click on each of the markers to explore how figurative language is used in the poem 'Courage' by Ann Sexton." Below the introduction box, the word "LANGUAGE" is partially visible in a large, light blue font. In the center of the interface, three terms are displayed, each preceded by a red circle with a white plus sign: "Simile", "Personification", and "Metaphor". Each term is underlined with a thin red line.

In order to fully understand "Courage," you must first understand the figurative language used throughout the poem. Click on each of the markers to explore how figurative language is used in the poem "Courage" by Ann Sexton.

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Simile

Figurative Language

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Simile
A simile is a direct comparison of dissimilar things using “like” or “as.” In one example from the poem, Sexton uses a simile to describe a child's first step. “The child's first step/as awesome as an earthquake.”

Personification **Metaphor**

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Metaphor

Figurative Language

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

+ Simile

+ Metaphor

Metaphor
A metaphor is an implied comparison in which two very different things are compared by redefining one of them. Here is an example of a metaphor describing the words that bullies used in the early stages of life, "you drank their acid." The word "acid" is used showing how toxic the bullies' words really are.

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Personification

The graphic is titled "Figurative Language" in a dark header. Below the header, the words "FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE" are written in large, green, serif capital letters. To the left of this title is a green circle with a white plus sign. Below the title, the word "Simile" is written in a large, black, serif font, preceded by a red circle with a white plus sign. To the left of "Simile" is a white box with a red circle and a white plus sign. Inside this box, the word "Personification" is written in bold, followed by a paragraph: "With personification, the author gives human qualities to non-human objects or creatures. This is used by the author to create imagery. In 'Courage,' you will view a few examples of personification. Sexton personifies 'sorrow' by writing, 'you gave it a back rub and then you covered it with a blanket.'" To the right of this box, the word "Metaphor" is written in a large, black, serif font, preceded by a red circle with a white plus sign.

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