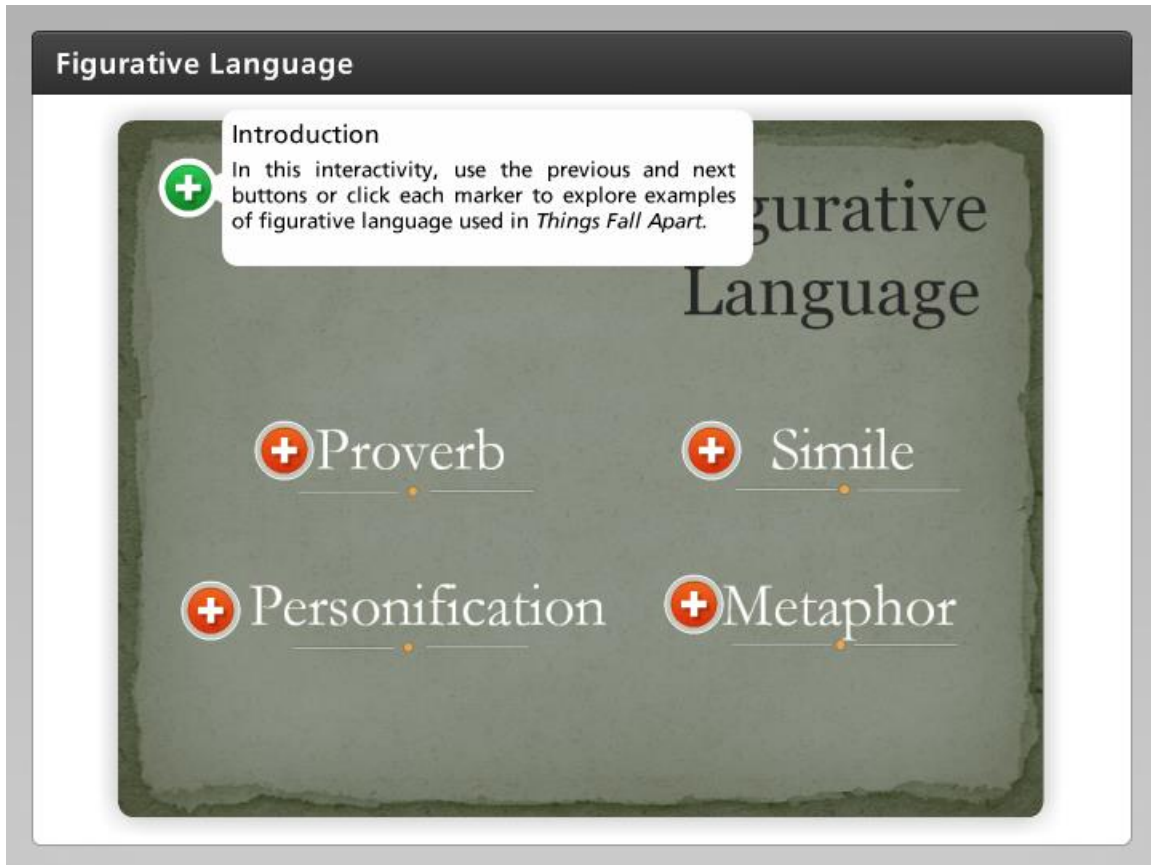


## Module 6: Identifying One's Strengths and Weaknesses

### Topic 2 Content: Figurative Language

#### Introduction



**Figurative Language**

**Introduction**  
In this interactivity, use the previous and next buttons or click each marker to explore examples of figurative language used in *Things Fall Apart*.

**Proverb**

**Simile**

**Personification**

**Metaphor**

In this interactivity, use the previous and next buttons or click each marker to explore examples of figurative language used in *Things Fall Apart*.

## Module 6: Identifying One's Strengths and Weaknesses

### Topic 2 Content: Figurative Language

#### Proverb

**Figurative Language**

**Proverb**  
Proverbs are short, snappy sayings that express a general truth or practical advice. They not only increase the interest level of the novel, but they also give insight into the characters and the society as a whole.

"If a child washed his hands he could eat with kings." What do you think this proverb means? Perhaps by removing the dirt of ancestors, the protagonist has a chance for a different future. It could also mean that every person chooses his or her own destiny.

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## Module 6: Identifying One's Strengths and Weaknesses

### Topic 2 Content: Figurative Language

#### Simile

The graphic is titled "Figurative Language" in a dark header. Below the header, the words "Figurative Language" are written in a large, serif font. To the left, a white box with a green plus sign in a circle contains the definition of a simile. Below the definition, three other figurative language terms are listed: "Personification", "Simile", and "Metaphor", each preceded by a red plus sign in a circle.

**Figurative Language**

**Figurative Language**

**+** Simile

A simile is a direct comparison of dissimilar things using the words "like" or "as." In the novel, Okonkwo is described as being "slippery as a fish in water." Through this simile, you visualize Okonkwo, the protagonist of the story, actually being slippery like a fish when he wrestles.

**+** Personification      **+** Metaphor

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## Module 6: Identifying One's Strengths and Weaknesses

### Topic 2 Content: Figurative Language

#### Metaphor

**Figurative Language**

**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 struggles of Okonkwo: "And so at a very early age when he was striving desperately to build a barn through share-cropping, Okonkwo was also fending for his father's house. It was like pouring grains of corn into a bag full of holes."

**Simile**

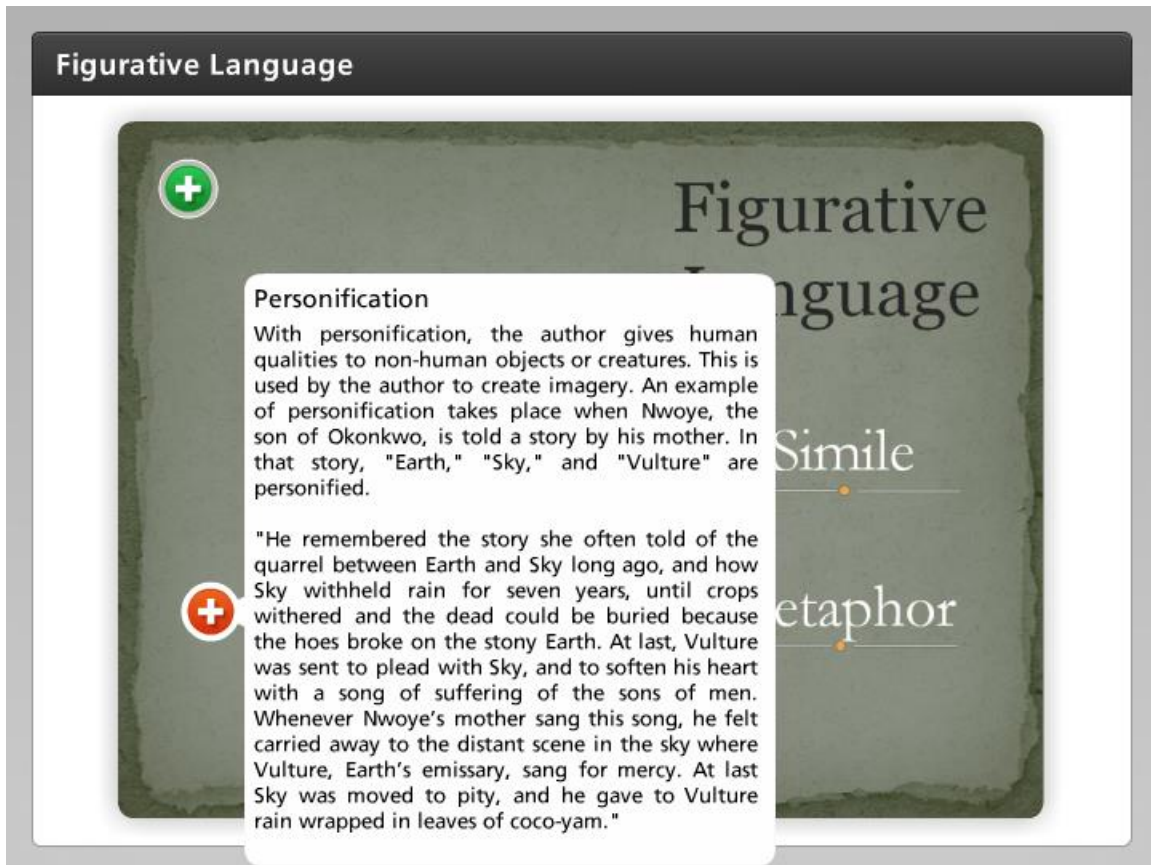
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## Module 6: Identifying One's Strengths and Weaknesses

### Topic 2 Content: Figurative Language

#### Personification



**Figurative Language**

**Personification**

With personification, the author gives human qualities to non-human objects or creatures. This is used by the author to create imagery. An example of personification takes place when Nwoye, the son of Okonkwo, is told a story by his mother. In that story, "Earth," "Sky," and "Vulture" are personified.

"He remembered the story she often told of the quarrel between Earth and Sky long ago, and how Sky withheld rain for seven years, until crops withered and the dead could be buried because the hoes broke on the stony Earth. At last, Vulture was sent to plead with Sky, and to soften his heart with a song of suffering of the sons of men. Whenever Nwoye's mother sang this song, he felt carried away to the distant scene in the sky where Vulture, Earth's emissary, sang for mercy. At last Sky was moved to pity, and he gave to Vulture rain wrapped in leaves of coco-yam."

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