Exercise

Figure of Speech
Simile or Metaphor

Decide whether each sentence contains a simile or a metaphor.

1. The giant’s steps were thunder as he ran toward Jack.
2. The pillow was a cloud when I put my head upon it.
3. The bar of soap was a slippery eel during the dog’s bath.
4. I felt like a cheetah when I ran the race.
5. Those boys are like two peas in a pod.
Symbolism

Symbolism is using one thing (a symbol) to stand for or represent something else. A symbol can be anything that stands for something else. Symbols are everywhere!!! Symbols can represent feelings, math, countries, religions, people, sports, or words. Authors use symbols to represent ideas in their writing.
Symbols in writing

She never spoke as she slid across the room. Her eyes narrowed as she stepped pass the dinner table. No one dared to look her in the eyes now. The crowded room parted to allow the woman in red to pass by. The whole room grew quiet. The only sound was her red dress swishing as a warning to those in her path.

What might the colour red symbolize in this example?
Symbols in writing

The air grew cold as the black night set in. The young man began to panic. He must stay warm some how. As he looked through the snow covered hills he began to understand... there was no escape. As this thought became clear the shadow of night surrounded him into a deep sleep.

What might the “shadow of night” mean?
Hyperbole

WHEN I WAS A KID WE'D WALK TWICE AS FAR... ALL UPHILL AND AGAINST THE WIND... AND WE'D SPRINKLE TWICE, MAYBE THREE TIMES AS MANY SEEDS...

JOHNNY APPLSEED AND HIS GRANNY SMITH
Hyperbole

Hyperbole is intentionally exaggerated figures of speech. They are used to emphasize a point or add excitement or humor. Examples of hyperbole can occur in similes and metaphors.

Examples:

1. He was so tired that he could have slept for a month.
2. The water was a million feet deep.
3. I’m so hungry I could eat a horse.
4. She was as slow as a sloth on a hot day.
Hyperbole

Write 1 hyperbole sentence of your own for each item listed.

1. Sun
2. School
3. Car
4. Cheetah
5. Make one of your own.

“I’m so hungry, I could eat a horse.”
Imagery

Imagery is writing that appeals to the 5 senses (sight, touch, taste, smell, sound) to help create mental pictures.

Examples:

• (From “The Night before Christmas”) The children were nestled, all snug in their beds, While visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads.

• The reader can feel the warmth and taste and see the candy.

• In the next example, look for sounds and smells.

• The salty, thick air was filled with sinister, rumbling clouds as the storm approached.
Imagery

Write 3-5 sentences that use the 5 senses to create a mental picture. Write the sense above the words you use.