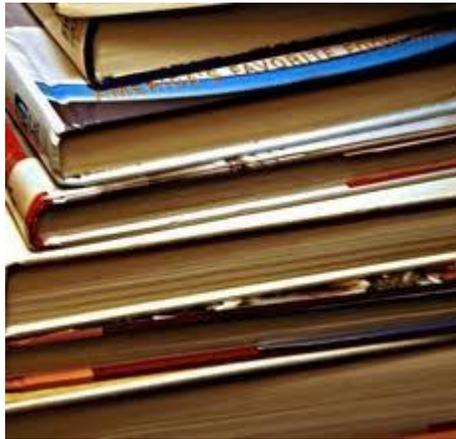


Elements of Literature - British

West Brooke Curriculum

By Jennifer Westbrook



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This is a Sample.

Several of the exercises in this work text can be repeated throughout the year with different books.

Elements of Literature: Similes, Metaphors, Hyperboles, and Personification

Simile- A simile is a comparison of two unlike things using the words *like* or *as*. Authors use similes to create images in the reader's mind and to make writing more vivid.

→Rosaline was as happy as a lark.

In the example above, Rosaline is compared to a melodious bird. It means that she was extremely happy.

→Jehovah said to Abraham, "I shall surely bless you and I shall surely multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens and like the grains of the sand that are on the seashore" (Gen. 22:17)
Abraham's seed or offspring was compared to what two things in this scripture?

→"For we are alien residents before you and settlers the same as all our forefathers. Like a shadow our days are upon the earth and there is no hope." (1 Chron. 29:15)

The way in which a shadow changes in size and finally is no more as a result of the sun's progress is used as a simile of man's being short-lived or transient.

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Metaphor- Like a Simile, a metaphor is a comparison of two unlike things. However, a metaphor does not include the words *like* or *as*. A metaphor states a comparison as if it were fact; it is more forceful than a Simile.

→During June, the car was an oven, and the pioneers baked inside it.
In the example above, the hot car is being compared to an oven.

→Jesus said to his disciples, "You are the light of the world." (Matt. 5:14)
Jesus' disciples were not literally lights but they were a light to the world by the good news that they brought into it. People could see through the "darkness" of the pagan beliefs that were surrounding them.

→"For we were only yesterday, and we know nothing, because our days on earth are a shadow." (Job 8:9)

Compare this scripture to the one you read above about a shadow (1 Chronicles 29:15).
Why is Job 8:9 a metaphor?

Hyperbole- Hyperbole is using exaggeration for effect.

→Bob said, "I am so thirsty, I could drink a river."

Bob's thirst is exaggerated by suggesting that he could drink an entire river.

→Jesus asked, "Why Do you look at the straw in your brother's eye, but do not consider the rafter in your own eye?" (Matt. 7:3)

Notice the exaggerated illustration that Jesus used in comparing the difference between a straw and a rafter you can determine that your mistakes are probably much greater than that of your brothers.

Personification- personification is giving human characteristics to something that is not human. It is used to emphasize a particular emotion or situation.

→The ocean waves danced and played on the beach.

In the example above the ocean waves can dance and play like a human.

→"grief and sighing must flee away" (I sa. 35:10)

Here grief and sighing are emotions and yet they are fleeing away like a human would.

Similes, Metaphors, Hyperboles, and Personification

A. In the sentences and scriptures below, mark them with an S for Simile, an M for Metaphor, or an H for Hyperbole.

- 1) _____ I was so angry I could have spit fire.
- 2) _____ David sang, “You are a crag and my stronghold.”
- 3) _____ I am so tired I could sleep for ten years.
- 4) _____ Jack can be as stubborn as a mule.
- 5) _____ The winds gathered strength and the Conestoga wagon became a tossing ship on the prairie.
- 6) _____ “Jehovah is guarding you. Jehovah is your shade on your right hand.”
- 7) _____ “And each one must prove to be like a hiding place from the wind and a place of concealment from the rainstorm, like streams of water in a waterless country, like the shadow of a heavy crag in an exhausted land.”
- 8) _____ “The tongue is a fire.”
- 9) _____ Jesus denounced the Pharisees as “blind guides, who strain out the gnat but gulp down the camel.”
- 10) _____ “Happy is the man...reads in an undertone day and night. And he will certainly become like a tree planted by streams of water,”
- 11) _____ “Death ruled as king from Adam down to Moses”
- 12) _____ Jesus said, “If YOU have faith the size of a mustard grain, YOU will say to this mountain, ‘Transfer from here to there,’ and it will transfer, and nothing will be impossible for YOU.”
- 13) _____ “true wisdom itself keeps crying aloud in the very street.”
- 14) _____ Spring dresses the trees in new colorful clothes.

B. In your journal write an example of each a simile, a metaphor, a hyperbole, and personification.

For more information on these forms of speech and how you can use them in your teaching please read the subheading “Start with Similes and Metaphors” pg 240-241 from *Benefit from Theocratic Ministry School Education*. Also you can read the article “The Bible’s Vivid Figures of Speech” w84 6/1 18-19 and “This Is Impossible!” w92 11/15 32

Similes, Metaphors, and Hyperboles

- 1) H
- 2) M
- 3) H
- 4) S
- 5) M
- 6) M
- 7) S
- 8) M
- 9) H
- 10) S
- 11) P
- 12) H
- 13) P
- 14) P