

Figurative language is a way of comparing different and sometimes unrelated objects to bring about a new way of viewing the world. It is important in creative writing to capture the reader's attention, stimulate imaginative thinking, and offer a fresh perspective.

Term

Definition

Example

Hyperbole

Big exaggeration, usually with humor

mile-high ice cream cones



Sing at the top of your lungs

Idiom

The language peculiar to a group of people



Metaphor

Comparing two things by using one type of object or using it in place of another to suggest the likeness between them

Her stomach was a bottomless pit



The sun smiled down on me

Personification

Giving something human qualities



His face was as white as a ghost

Simile

Comparing two unlike things that is often introduced by "like" or "as"

