Similes and Metaphors

Thursday: Similes and Metaphors

Similes and metaphors are often confused. This work will help you to sort them out.

Simile - when something is 'like' or 'as' something. E.g. The flower was sweet <u>like</u> honey. The flower was <u>as</u> sweet <u>as</u> honey.

Metaphor - when the object <u>becomes</u> what it is being compared to. *E.g. He* <u>was</u> a roaring lion. (He wasn't like a roaring lion, or roaring as loud as a lion).

<u>Challenge 1:</u> See if you can sort these sentences into simile (S) and metaphor (M):

She was as cunning as a fox.

Her coat was as smooth as silk.

His ears were cauliflowers.

It was raining cats and dogs.

He was a sneaky snake towards his friends.

His words were like music to my ears.

Challenge 2:

Start with one of the examples and build a conjunction in to extend the idea. *E.g. His ears were cauliflowers left in the reduced section at Sainsbury's.*

Similes and Metaphors

Look at the following text and identify the similes and metaphors buried in the sentences:

<u>The Door</u>

Creaking like a floorboard, the door cautiously opened. Eeeeek. As it moved, its hinges were shattering glass, emitting a shrill, squeaky sound. Dust tumbled from the door frame as delicately as a floating feather. My heart raced. The air was filled with grime, dancing in the shafts of light. What lay beyond the door had been a mystery for many years. I took a deep breath. I was an archaeologist, no, an adventurer, treading in the footsteps that had been undisturbed for so long. What would I find? My eyes were darts, searching for the target. What would I spot first? My lips became trembling leaves, my fists clenched like a bunch of bananas. Then I saw it...

<u>Challenge 1:</u>

Write similes for these items: an aeroplane, a runner and a feather.

Monday: Similes and Metaphors

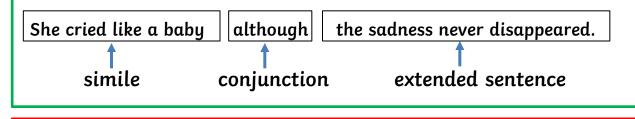
Extending ideas.

Look at these similes:

- The car shot as fast as a speeding bullet.
- He sneezed as loud as banging drums.
- Her skin was like silk.
- He lay in the sun like a hippopotamus.

Challenge 1:

Extend the similes by adding a conjunction e.g. which, but, so, because, although...



<u>Challenge 2:</u>

Use metaphors too. Extend those ideas.

Monday: Similes and Metaphors

'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes

The wind was a torrent of darkness among the gusty trees, The moon was a ghostly galleon tossed upon cloudy seas, The road was a ribbon of moonlight over the purple moor, And the highwayman came riding-Riding - riding -The highwayman came riding, up to the old inn-door.

There are really good examples of metaphors in this poem. Can you spot them?

<u>Questions (challenge 1)</u> 1.What does the writer compare to a ghostly galleon? 2.Use a dictionary - what does 'inn' mean? 3.Where did the Highwayman stop?

<u>Questions (challenge 2/3)</u> 1.Which metaphor do you think is most effective? 2.Describe the setting, based on the verse you have read here. 3.How do you think metaphors help you to understand the scene? 4.What do phrases such as 'riding-riding-riding' tell you about the Highwayman?

Extra challenge: Similes and Metaphors

Like dopey dormice snuffling quietly, Like chicks chattering softly, Like trains rumbling in the distance, The little baby sleeps.

Like banging drums and clashing cymbals, Like clattering dishes and nattering adults, Like howling dogs and bouncing puppies, The school boy returns home.

This poem is made of plenty of similes. Similes about being loud and similes about being quiet.

Challenge:

Add 2 lines to the first verse, before the author writes '...The little baby sleeps.' Add 2 lines to the second verse, before the author writes '...The school boy returns home.'

LA Challenge:

Collect all of the verbs from this poem and use a thesaurus to see if you can find better ones.