

# Similes and Metaphors

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 10



## Quick Review

A **simile** compares two DIFFERENT things using *like* or *as* (*busy as a bee*). A **metaphor** compares without those words — it says one thing IS another (*Time is money*). Be careful: a sentence with *like* or *as* is NOT a simile if it just compares two of the same kind (*She is as tall as my sister* = literal comparison).

## PRACTICE

Choose the best answer. Watch for tricky distractors that use *like* or *as* literally.

- Which sentence is a SIMILE?
  - Her smile was a sunrise.
  - She is as old as my older brother.
  - Her smile was as bright as a sunrise.
  - Her smile lit up the whole room.
- Which sentence is a METAPHOR?
  - His voice was like thunder.
  - He thundered down the hallway.
  - His voice was thunder, rumbling through the gym.
  - He was as loud as my older sister.
- What does this metaphor mean?  
*Her voice was thunder.*
  - soft and gentle, almost a whisper
  - quick and short, like a single clap
  - unclear and hard to make out
  - loud and powerful, rumbling through the room
- What does this simile mean?  
*The lake was as smooth as glass.*
  - very still, with no waves or ripples
  - dangerous and full of broken pieces
  - clear enough to see straight through to the bottom
  - cold to the touch and shiny on top



5. Choose the SIMILE.
- A. The kitten is a tiny ball of fur.
  - B. The kitten's fur is softer than a cloud.
  - C. The kitten purrs like a tiny motor.
  - D. The kitten is as cute as my cousin's cat.
6. Choose the METAPHOR.
- A. The classroom was as loud as a zoo.
  - B. The classroom was a zoo at recess time.
  - C. The classroom buzzed with excitement.
  - D. The classroom was bigger than ours.
7. What does the metaphor mean?  
*My brother is a couch potato.*
- A. He loves to garden and grow vegetables.
  - B. He spends most of his time sitting and watching TV.
  - C. He is round and quiet like a vegetable.
  - D. He cooks meals while sitting on the couch.
8. Which sentence uses a SIMILE to show SPEED?
- A. The runner was a rocket.
  - B. The runner zoomed past everyone on the track.
  - C. The runner was faster than her older sister.
  - D. The runner moved like the wind.
9. What does the simile mean?  
*The math test was as easy as pie.*
- A. It was very simple and quick to do.
  - B. It was small and round.
  - C. It was sweet to look at.
  - D. It had layers, like a pie.
10. All four sentences are about the line moving SLOWLY. Which is the SIMILE?
- A. The line was slower than ours.
  - B. The line crawled toward the door.
  - C. The line moved like cold molasses.
  - D. The line was molasses today.



## Answer Keys

- 1  A  B  C  D
- 2  A  B  C  D
- 3  A  B  C  D
- 4  A  B  C  D
- 5  A  B  C  D

- 6  A  B  C  D
- 7  A  B  C  D
- 8  A  B  C  D
- 9  A  B  C  D
- 10  A  B  C  D

### Explanations

1. C	C compares two different things (a smile and a sunrise) using <i>as bright as</i> . A drops the <i>like/as</i> and renames the smile a sunrise (that's a metaphor). B uses <i>as...as</i> but compares two ages — a literal comparison, not a simile. D gives the smile a human action (personification).
2. C	C says the voice IS thunder — no <i>like/as</i> . A uses <i>like</i> (simile). B turns thunder into a verb (vivid verb / personification). D uses <i>as...as</i> on two of the same kind (loudness vs. sister's loudness) — literal.
3. D	Thunder is the slow, deep, rumbling boom of a storm — D matches both <i>loud</i> and <i>powerful</i> . A is the opposite; B describes a sharp crack (more like a clap of thunder than rolling thunder); C is unrelated.
4. A	Glass's key trait here is its smooth, flat surface — A matches stillness. B latches onto <i>broken glass</i> (wrong trait); C is about clearness (a different glass trait); D names other glass traits but not smoothness.
5. C	C compares two different things (a kitten's purr and a motor) with <i>like</i> — a simile. A drops the <i>like/as</i> (metaphor). B uses <i>softer than</i> (a literal-style comparison, not a simile). D uses <i>as...as</i> but compares two cats — literal.
6. B	B says the classroom IS a zoo — no <i>like/as</i> — a metaphor. A is the simile version. C uses a vivid verb (personification of the room). D is a literal comparison of size.
7. B	<b>Couch potato</b> = someone who sits and watches TV instead of being active. A and D take the words literally (gardening, cooking); C reads <i>potato</i> as describing appearance.
8. D	D uses <i>like</i> to compare a runner to wind — a simile. A drops <i>like/as</i> (metaphor). B uses a vivid verb (no comparison). C uses <i>faster than</i> on two runners (literal comparison).
9. A	<b>Easy as pie</b> = very easy. B, C, and D all read the pie literally (size, taste, layers) and miss the figurative meaning.
10. C	C uses <i>like</i> to compare the line to molasses — simile. A uses <i>slower than</i> on two lines (literal). B uses a personifying verb (no <i>like/as</i> ). D is the metaphor version (no <i>like/as</i> ).



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