

## Similes and metaphors

A **simile** compares two things using the words *like* or *as*.

**Example:** This dirty room is like a pigsty.

The room is as dirty as a pigsty.

In both similes the room is being compared to a pigsty.

A **metaphor** compares two things by saying that one thing is another. A metaphor does not use the words *like* or *as*.

**Example:** This room is a pigsty.

1. Below are similes, metaphors and some normal sentences. Write if the sentence is a simile, metaphor or normal.

a) The storm was an angry bull stampeding through the village. \_\_\_\_\_

b) A friendly smile is like the sun on a cloudy day.  
\_\_\_\_\_

c) I would like some hot chocolate please. \_\_\_\_\_

d) The pigeon strutted like a model around the garden.  
\_\_\_\_\_

e) Your food is delicious and the best I've ever eaten.  
\_\_\_\_\_

f) My Gran is the rock in our family. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Circle the two objects being compared in the sentences below. Underline the word that tells you that the sentence is a simile. Draw a square around the word that tells you it is a metaphor. The first one has been done for you.

a) The (internet) is (information).

b) The phone screamed like a baby for our attention.

c) Thobeka is a calculator when it comes to Maths sums.

d) Mitchel whistles like a bird.

e) Grade 6 H were angels while they waited for their turn.

f) Mrs Thuli looks like a volcano about to erupt when she gets angry.



Remember that the verb *is* changes into *were* in the past tense.

## Personification

**Personification** is when a thing or animal is compared to a human and given human feelings, abilities and qualities.

**Example:** The volcano burped out a cloud of dust.

A volcano can't burp; only living things can burp. But a volcano can suddenly send a cloud of dust into the air which makes it look like it is burping.

1. Draw lines matching each personification below to the object in the margin it best matches.

It shouted my name and ordered me to the office.

It opened its jaws and breathed out hot air.

It stretched out its arms wide and invited me to lie down.

It crawled across the page tiredly leaving  
a blue trail wherever it went.

It winked at me quietly before it hid behind a cloud.

It flew past us throwing sand in the air.

2. Circle all the words below that show personification, that is, the words that only a living thing can be or do.

Night tiptoed across the world.

Her dark hair swallowed all the shadows.

She ordered the day to retreat  
while she took control of the streets.

car

pen

star

school  
intercom

couch

oven