FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE TASK CARDS

SIMILE - METAPHOR - IDIOM - PERSONIFICATION - ALLITERATION

GRADES 4-6



Terms of Use

Please read before you print your first page.

One classroom license

- This file is for one classroom: one teacher, one group of students.
- Please do not share it, post it online, or sell it.
- Extra licenses for a team or a school are available on the product page.

Made to print

- Print the pages, cut the task cards apart (page 7 to 14 are the cards) and laminate them if you like. The recording sheets, sort mat and writing pages are for each student.
- The name line, every answer box, every ruled box and every check box are also type-in fields in any PDF reader (Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview, or your browser) if you would rather type than write. Save As to keep it.
- It works offline. No account and no internet connection are needed after you download it.

Print at 100 percent

Turn off fit to page and shrink to fit so the cards, the cut labels and the ruled lines stay the size they are drawn. Every student page is black and white inside a colored border, so it still reads when copied in black and white.

Student work

A filled-in tracker, class grid or team note carries a real student's name. Keep it in the data folder, and use a first name only on any page that leaves your hands.

Need help?

If a field will not behave or a page will not print the way you expect, use Ask a Question on the product page before leaving a review. Every question is read, and a fix to the file ships as a free update: re-download it any time from My Purchases.

Credits and fonts

Fonts by KA Fonts (Kaitlynn Albani), used under their commercial license. The borders, icons and ruled boxes are drawn by us; the only clip art is a few Educlips and Whimsy Clips pictures on the cover and on some reference and writing pages. The credits page at the back lists the sources. Please keep it with the file if you pass it to a substitute.

© Bright Path Sped. For single-classroom use by the original purchaser.

PREVIEW

How To Read a Page

The parts of a page, then the page types in the order they come.

The parts of a page

- **The task card.** 4 cards to a page, 3.7 by 4.9 inches, edge to edge: one cut across and one cut down.
- **The shape on a card.** A circle, square or triangle by the number. Page 5 says what each means; students are not told.
- **The underline.** The figurative words on every card are underlined, so students know which part the question is about.
- **The answer box and check boxes.** A bordered box or a lettered check box. Click it to type, or print and write in it.
- **The cut labels.** 15 pieces in 3 rows of 5, each 1.48 by 1.5 inches, edge to edge, for the sort mat.

Page type	What it looks like	What the student does
The five kinds	1 page	Read each kind, its clue and its example.
Task cards	8 pages, 32 cards	Read a card. Pick A, B, C or D.
Recording sheets	2 pages, 16 rows each	Write the clue words. Check one letter.
Sort mat and labels	2 pages, 15 pieces	Glue a name, a clue and an example. Write card numbers.
The Big Game	1 page, 5 phrases	Name each phrase in a short story.
Literal or figurative, write your own	2 pages, 8 sentences, 5 prompts	Check one. Then write a sentence of each kind.

Untimed, unscored on the page

No student page has a timer or a score on it. The keys and the tracker are for you. The answer keys are on pages 22 to 24.

Writing pages

The writing key (page 24) says what to look for, not one right sentence. Accept any answer that uses the kind correctly.

Printing and the type-in fields

Every page prints clean in black and white. The name line, every answer box, every ruled box and every check box are type-in fields in any PDF reader: click one, type, then save. This is a printable PDF, not a slideshow or a word-processor file.

Room to work

If a student needs more room, hand over one recording sheet at a time, or let students say the answer to a partner before writing it.

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____



The Five Kinds

Read the five kinds. Look at the clues.

Figurative words mean more than they say. Literal words mean exactly what they say.

Simile

It compares two things using the word like or as.

Example: The moon was like a silver coin in the sky.

Clue: Look for like or as.

Metaphor

It says one thing IS another thing.

Example: The playground was a zoo at recess.

Clue: One thing is another. No like or as.

Idiom

It is a saying whose meaning is not the meaning of its words.

Example: It is raining cats and dogs outside.

Clue: The words do not mean what they say.

Personification

It gives a thing the actions of a person.

Example: The leaves waved goodbye to the branches.

Clue: A thing does what only a person does.

Alliteration

It repeats the same first sound in words that are close together.

Example: Dizzy dragonflies dipped over the pond.

Clue: Same first sound, again and again.

PREVIEW

1 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

The new puppy was <u>as quick as a squirrel</u> on the soccer field.

A Metaphor
B Personification
C Simile
D Alliteration

2 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

Our classroom <u>is a beehive</u> on the last day before break.

A Metaphor
B Simile
C Idiom
D Alliteration

3 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

Marco was so nervous that he had <u>butterflies in his stomach</u>.

A Simile
B Metaphor
C Personification
D Idiom

4 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

The old porch swing <u>groaned</u> every time we sat down.

A Metaphor
B Personification
C Idiom
D Alliteration

PREVIEW

9 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

The wind <u>whispered secrets</u> to the tall pine trees.

A Personification
B Simile
C Idiom
D Alliteration

10 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

<u>Seven sleepy seals slid</u> down the slippery rocks.

A Simile
B Metaphor
C Personification
D Alliteration

11 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

Writing the report was <u>a piece of cake</u> for Nia.

A Simile
B Metaphor
C Idiom
D Personification

12 **What does the underlined part mean?**

The baby's cheeks were <u>as red as ripe tomatoes</u> after the race.

A shaped like tomatoes
B very red
C covered in tomato juice
D cold from the wind

PREVIEW

17 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

The rain fell <u>like tiny drumsticks</u> on the tin roof.

A Metaphor
B Simile
C Personification
D Alliteration

18 **What does the underlined part mean?**

Our team <u>hit the sack</u> early before the big game.

A hit a bag of flour
B lost the game
C practiced harder
D went to bed

19 **What does the underlined part mean?**

Mr. Lee's voice <u>was a warm blanket</u> as he read the story.

A calm and comforting
B loud and scratchy
C wrapped around the room
D too quiet to hear

20 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

The old clock on the wall <u>watched</u> us all through the test.

A Metaphor
B Idiom
C Personification
D Alliteration

PREVIEW

25 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

Ben stared at the test. His mind was a blank page, and every answer he had studied had vanished.

A Simile
B Personification
C Alliteration
D Metaphor

26 **What does the underlined part mean?**

Lena had practiced her speech all week. When it was her turn, she took a deep breath and told herself to break a leg.

A be careful not to fall
B good luck
C run to the stage
D stop talking

27 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

Grandpa carried a tray to the picnic table. Crispy corn, crunchy carrots, and creamy cheese covered it.

A Simile
B Metaphor
C Alliteration
D Idiom

28 **Which kind of figurative language is underlined?**

The campfire crackled as the night grew cold. Sparks flew up like tiny orange stars, then faded into the dark.

A Simile
B Idiom
C Personification
D Alliteration

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

My Answers 1 to 16



Fill in one box for each card.

	The clue words I found	My pick
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
11	_____	☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
12	_____	☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
13	_____	☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
14	_____	☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
15	_____	☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
16	_____	☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____

Sort Mat

Glue the labels. Write each card number in its column.

glue the name	glue the name	glue the name	glue the name	glue the name
glue the clue	glue the clue	glue the clue	glue the clue	glue the clue
glue an example	glue an example	glue an example	glue an example	glue an example

PREVIEW

My name _____ Date _____

The Big Game



Read the story. Name each phrase.

The Big Game

The soccer game was about to start, and **(1) the bleachers were a bowl of noise**. We stood by the field while **(2) the cold wind nipped at our noses**. Mia took the ball and **(3) ran like a rocket down the sideline**. Her **(4) fast, fearless feet flew past two defenders**, and the crowd cheered. With one minute left, we were **(5) on pins and needles**, waiting to see if she would score.

A Simile **B Metaphor** **C Idiom** **D Personification** **E Alliteration**

Name each numbered phrase. Write the letter in the box.

1. the bleachers were a bowl of noise ☐
2. the cold wind nipped at our noses ☐
3. ran like a rocket down the sideline ☐
4. fast, fearless feet flew past two defenders ☐
5. on pins and needles ☐

Pick one phrase. What picture does it put in your mind? Why is it better than plain words?

PREVIEW

Preview · Bright Path Sped

My name _____ Date _____

Write Your Own



Write your own. Use the tips.

Tips. Simile: use like or as. Metaphor: say it IS. Personification: a thing acts like a person.

Sayings for number 3

under the weather **on thin ice** **hold your horses** **bite off more than you can chew** **the ball is in your court**

1. Write a simile about a storm or a pet. Use like or as.

2. Write a metaphor about your school or your street. Say it IS something.

3. Use one saying from the bank in a sentence.

4. Make a clock, the wind or a car do something only a person can do.

5. Write a sentence with four words that start with the same sound.

PREVIEW

Answer Key: Cards 17 to 32

Cards 17 to 22 are squares; cards 23 to 32 are triangles with a short passage.

Card	Right answer	Kind	Underlined words and clue
17	B. Simile	Simile	Underlined: "like tiny drumsticks". Look for like or as.
18	D. went to bed	Idiom	Underlined: "hit the sack". Idiom (the words do not mean what they say.)
19	A. calm and comforting	Metaphor	Underlined: "was a warm blanket". Metaphor (one thing is another. no like or as.)
20	C. Personification	Personification	Underlined: "watched". A thing does what only a person does.
21	B. Idiom	Idiom	Underlined: "crying over spilled milk". The words do not mean what they say.
22	C. moved gently back and forth	Personification	Underlined: "danced". Personification (a thing does what only a person does.)
23	A. Alliteration	Alliteration	Underlined: "Slippery sneakers squeaked". Same first sound, again and again.
24	D. moved back and forth in a rolling way	Simile	Underlined: "swayed like ocean waves". Simile (look for like or as.)
25	D. Metaphor	Metaphor	Underlined: "was a blank page". One thing is another. No like or as.
26	B. good luck	Idiom	Underlined: "break a leg". Idiom (the words do not mean what they say.)
27	C. Alliteration	Alliteration	Underlined: "Crispy corn, crunchy carrots, and creamy cheese". Same first sound, again and again.
28	A. Simile	Simile	Underlined: "like tiny orange stars". Look for like or as.
29	C. confusing and easy to get lost in	Metaphor	Underlined: "was a giant maze". Metaphor (one thing is another. no like or as.)
30	A. blew hard and made a loud noise	Personification	Underlined: "howled angrily". Personification (a thing does what only a person does.)
31	D. Alliteration	Alliteration	Underlined: "Bright banners bounced". Same first sound, again and again.
32	B. weak and wobbly	Simile	Underlined: "like wet noodles". Simile (look for like or as.)

PREVIEW

Figurative Language Tracker

One student, every scored page. Filled example: page 29.

Student _____ Teacher _____ Month _____

Page	Page type and set	Items	Right	Date	Notes
7	Task Cards 1 to 4	4			
8	Task Cards 5 to 8	4			
9	Task Cards 9 to 12	4			
10	Task Cards 13 to 16	4			
11	Task Cards 17 to 20	4			
12	Task Cards 21 to 24	4			
13	Task Cards 25 to 28	4			
14	Task Cards 29 to 32	4			
17	Sort Mat (card numbers)	32			
19	The Big Game	5			
20	Literal or Figurative?	8			

PREVIEW

How to fill this in

Write how many items the student got right with no prompt, and the date. A blank means not tried yet, never wrong. There are 77 items on the 11 scored pages. Answer keys: pages 22 to 24. Filled example: page 29.

This month we are working on (your own standard or wording)

Team Note

Use this page between team meetings or when a student moves classes, to hand off what changed without writing a note from scratch. Everything below is observable, with a blank for the number or the wording your team already uses.

Student _____ Team member _____ Date _____

Page type	Covered since last note (Y/N)	Items right	Still blank
Task cards 1 to 10			
Task cards 11 to 22			
Task cards 23 to 32			
Recording sheets			
Sort mat			
The Big Game			
Literal or figurative			
Write your own			

What I saw (observable, not a conclusion)

- Got ___ of 32 task cards right without a prompt (pages 7 to 14).
- Placed ___ of 32 card numbers in the right column of the mat (page 17).
- Got ___ of 8 literal-or-figurative sentences right (page 20).
- Named the clue words in a complete sentence: yes / no / with a reminder.

Next step

- Next set or page: ___, because ___ (what you saw).
- What to try in another class or at home: ___.
- What to keep doing because it is working: ___.
- Anything for the team meeting to decide: ___ (this page records what happened, never a label or a plan).

Summary, in one or two sentences, for whoever reads this next

A filled-in line, for reference

"Got 7 of 8 literal-or-figurative sentences right on 10/15. Next step: reread the simile clue on page 6 and try cards 11 to 14 again." That is the level of detail this page is built for. It matches the filled example on page 29.

PREVIEW

Jordan's Tracker (Invented Student)

Jordan T. is invented; nothing on this page describes a real student. The blank tracker is on page 25.

Student: Jordan T. (an invented student)

Teacher: Ms. Rivera (invented)

Month: October

Page	Page type and set	Items	Right	Date	Notes
7	Task Cards 1 to 4	4	4	10/6	-
8	Task Cards 5 to 8	4	3	10/7	Called a simile a metaphor
9	Task Cards 9 to 12	4	4	10/8	-
10	Task Cards 13 to 16	4	2	10/9	Took a saying word for word
11	Task Cards 17 to 20	4	3	10/13	Mixed up personification and metaphor
12	Task Cards 21 to 24	4	-	-	-
13	Task Cards 25 to 28	4	-	-	-
14	Task Cards 29 to 32	4	-	-	-
17	Sort Mat	32	26	10/16	Mixed up metaphor and personification
19	The Big Game	5	4	10/14	Missed the idiom
20	Literal or Figurative?	8	7	10/15	Took a simile as literal

PREVIEW

How to read it

Jordan T. has done **8 of 11** scored pages and got **53 of 65** items right with no prompt. **2** pages were all right and **6** carry a note. Every number comes from the table.

What the table points to

The lowest page is Task Cards 13 to 16 (2 of 4). That is where the next practice goes. The 3 pages left blank are not tried yet, never wrong.

Binder Cover

Slide this into the front of a binder. Type a name in the two fields or write it by hand. The divider tabs and a spine label to cut out are on the next page (page 32).

English Language Arts - Grades 4-6

FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE TASK CARDS

Read It, Name It, Sort It

Simile | **Metaphor** | **Idiom** | **Personification** | **Alliteration**

Teacher _____

Class or student _____

PREVIEW