

Name _____

Date _____

What are Similes?



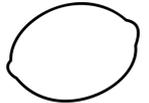
Similes are used to compare two things that are different in most ways but are the same in one, important way. The words "like" and "as" are used to compare the two things. Authors use similes to make their writing more interesting and descriptive.

Examples:

Lucy sings like a bird.



Sam's raincoat was as yellow as a lemon.



A. Read each simile. Then write the two words that are being compared in the blanks.

1. Maria was as graceful as a swan. _____ to _____
2. Lara's lips were as red as a cherry. _____ to _____
3. Tony ran like a cheetah. _____ to _____
4. The library was as quiet as a graveyard. _____ to _____
5. The kitten's fur was like velvet. _____ to _____
6. Dad's snoring was as loud as a freight train. _____ to _____
7. Mario's fingers were like icicles. _____ to _____
8. Jenna's scream was like a siren. _____ to _____

B. Complete each simile with a word from the box.

1. The dog was as black as _____.
2. Joanie was walking as slow as a _____.
3. Alaina's eyes were shining like the _____.
4. The clouds were like _____.
5. The man's voice was as loud as _____.
6. The crayons melted in the sun like _____.
7. Allan's feet were as big as _____.

thunder
marshmallows
turtle
boats
coal
ice cream
sun

Name: _____

Similes



Choose the best ending for each simile.

1. Ted is very brave. Ted is as brave as...

- a. a puppy
- b. a lion
- c. a pigeon
- d. a zebra

2. This TV show is boring. Watching this show is like...

- a. fighting an alligator
- b. reading an exciting book
- c. watching paint dry
- d. driving a race car

3. Peter is very thin. Peter is as skinny as...

- a. a bean pole
- b. a sleeping bulldog
- c. an ancient oak tree
- d. a tall sailboat

4. The wood was easy to cut. Mary's saw cut through the wood like...

- a. rain pounding on a tin roof
- b. sharp scissors through a tin can
- c. diamonds on a necklace
- d. a hot knife through butter

5. Kendra isn't feeling well and her face is pale. She is as pale as...

- a. a ghost
- b. a squirrel
- c. a bucket of sand
- d. a black and white penguin

6. Kenneth is very rough and clumsy. Kenneth is like...

- a. a cow in a rainforest
- b. a bull in a china shop
- c. a lion hunting prey
- d. a tiger pouncing on a rabbit

7. These toys are rare and hard-to-find. They're as scarce as...

- a. birds' feathers
- b. horses' hair
- c. hens' teeth
- d. turtles' shells

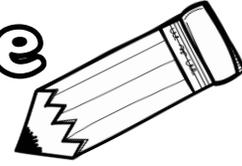
8. The kids were all coming to the pool. The pool attracted kids like...

- a. rain to the desert sands
- b. elephants to mice
- c. a balloons to helium
- d. flies to honey

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Metaphor Practice



A. Use words from the box to complete each metaphor.

sandpaper	snake	breeze	bull	jello	glass
bell	music	volcano	rock	oven	diamonds

1. Emily's eyes were sparkling _____.
2. Allan is so sneaky. He is a _____.
3. There was not even a ripple on the lake. The water was _____.
4. After being parked in the sun all day, our car was an _____.
5. We can always depend on Uncle James. He is a _____.
6. He was so angry. He was a _____ ready to erupt.
7. Her laugh was a tinkling _____.
8. She could barely stand. Her legs were _____.
9. Dad forgot to shave today and his face is _____.
10. His voice was _____ to my ears.
11. The test was so easy! It was a _____.
12. Cody was a charging _____ on the football field.

B. Now try writing your own metaphors.

1. Write a metaphor about someone who is very stubborn. _____

2. Write a metaphor about someone who is very slow. _____

3. Write a metaphor about someone's hair. _____

Name _____



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Answer ID # 0844735

Select the choice that explains the meaning of the metaphor as it is used in the sentence.

<p>1. My pillow was a cloud after the long day.</p> <p>The metaphor pillow was a cloud:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A My pillow was in the sky.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B My pillow was white.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C My pillow felt soft and fluffy.</p>	<p>2. Mom was boiling mad when I came home late for dinner.</p> <p>The metaphor boiling mad:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A Mom was very angry.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B Mom was a little upset.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C Mom was making dinner.</p>
<p>3. Tanya's baby is such an angel because all she does is eat and sleep.</p> <p>The metaphor baby is such an angel:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A Tanya's baby died.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B Tanya's baby cries a lot.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C Tanya's baby is very good.</p>	<p>4. The night is growing old and yet I have so much homework left to do!</p> <p>The metaphor night is growing old:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A I had plenty of time.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B It was getting late.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C I am a night owl.</p>
<p>5. Ed's life is a shadow of his father's.</p> <p>The metaphor life is a shadow:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A Ed's father was a criminal.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B Ed is a good person.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C Ed is doing things in life as his father did.</p>	<p>6. Dominic is a shark when it comes to his business dealings.</p> <p>The metaphor Dominic is a shark:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A Dominic is kind.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B Dominic is controlling and powerful.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C Dominic owns a pool.</p>
<p>7. The room became an icebox every time the air conditioning went on.</p> <p>The metaphor room became an icebox:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A It is hot inside the room.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B It is cold inside the air conditioned room.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C You must leave the refrigerator door open to stay cool.</p>	<p>8. The car is a dinosaur so we better buy a new one.</p> <p>The metaphor car is a dinosaur:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A The car was truly made in prehistoric times.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B The car is very old.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C The car is very new.</p>
<p>9. The new employee is very green, but that will change after a while on the job.</p> <p>The metaphor employee is very green:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A The new employee is an alien.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B The new employee is sick.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C The new employee has a lot to learn.</p>	<p>10. This is our neck of the woods so we are comfortable here</p> <p>The metaphor neck of the woods:</p> <p><input type="radio"/> A We live in the forest.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> B The Adirondack Mountains are nearby.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> C This is where we live or this is with what we are familiar.</p>

Directions

Read this article. Then answer questions 6 through 10.

Waiting for the Little Penguins

by Vijayalakshmi Chary

Bottled-nosed dolphins, green sea turtles, brightly colored fish, and the coral reef are all part of Australia's ocean life. Did you know that the little penguins are too?

At the Phillip Island Nature Park near Melbourne, visitors bundle up in jackets, scarves, and mittens. They have come to see the little penguins. After walking along a high boardwalk, they huddle on the bleachers at Summerland Beach. They keep their eyes glued to the sea, and they wait.

Behind the waves, the little penguins call one another and group together. After dark, groups of royal blue and white little penguins appear on the seashore. These groups are called rafts. Little penguins are safer when they are in rafts; in one raft there can be as few as three or as many as 300 penguins! Many rafts appear scattered along the beach. Within three hours, 26,000 little penguins come home from the sea!

Once they are on the beach, the little penguins trudge through the bumpy sand to their separate burrows on the sand dunes. This long, hard trek from the sea to their burrow is a dangerous one because predators are nearby. Dogs and foxes can smell them. White-breasted sea eagles and Pacific gulls can spot them. Darkness helps protect them because it is harder to see them.

The little penguins search for their burrows as the visitors walk back on the boardwalk. They waddle a few feet, stop, look, and plod along again. "Huk, huk!" The little penguins are calling



one another. A penguin colony is a noisy one. Some little penguins are fighting over burrows. Some are calling their mates.

The penguins at Phillip Island Nature Park were first named fairy penguins. Why has that name been replaced by little penguin? These penguins (*Eudyptula minor*) are the smallest penguins in the world. They stand one foot tall and weigh 2.2 pounds each. These penguins live for six to seven years. One penguin has been recorded to live 21 years.

Every morning before sunrise, the little penguins hurry across the sand in the opposite direction of the night before. This time they splash into the cool sea.

The little penguin is a quick swimmer and excellent diver. All day long, it hunts for small fish, squid, and crab larvae. After it captures a prey, a few jerks of the penguin's head can swallow a fish up to 15 centimeters long—almost half its height! But it must take care in the sea too. It can become a nice meal for a hungry shark or a leopard seal.

After a long day at sea, the little penguins swim once again towards the seashore, calling one another. Just before sunset, many bundled visitors gather on the bleachers. They keep their eyes glued to the sea. They wait for the little penguins again.

6 According to information in the article, why do little penguins gather in rafts?

- A** to keep safe
- B** to stay warm
- C** to dig burrows
- D** to hunt for fish

7 Why do the little penguins go ashore after sunset?

- A** It is too cold for them in the ocean at night.
- B** The sand is cool enough to walk on only at night.
- C** They know people on the beach will feed them at night.
- D** It is harder for gulls and other birds to hunt them at night.

8 According to information in the article, penguins return to the sea in the morning to

- A** stay cool
- B** look for food
- C** find their mates
- D** hide from people

9 Based on information in the article, it is likely that little penguins

- A** move quickly on land and in water
- B** are noisier in the water than on land
- C** move more easily in water than on land
- D** find food easier on land than in the water

10 People **most likely** want to see these penguins because

- A** they are part of an Australian nature park
- B** they are the smallest penguins in the world
- C** there are only a few penguins of this type left
- D** they make funny sounds when they are fighting

Go On

Directions

Read this article. Then answer questions 11 through 15.

Frozen Bubbles

by Verlie Hutchens

What would happen if you tried to blow a soap bubble in below-freezing weather? Would it freeze solid and fall to the ground? Would you have to hit it with a hammer to break it? These questions occurred to me one cold winter day. It was too cold to play in the snow, but it was a perfect time to experiment with blowing frozen bubbles.

To blow frozen bubbles, I had to wait until the air outside was very cold. (For this activity, that meant 10 degrees below 0 Fahrenheit or colder.) I didn't have the bubble stuff that comes in a jar, so I used dishwashing soap. Adding a drop of glycerin made the soap work even better. (I found glycerin at a pharmacy.) I chose a place out of the wind, and blew bubbles the same way I always do. I watched to see what would happen. Here's what I learned.

If the temperature is low enough, the skin of the bubble frosts over, becoming cloudy instead of clear. And what about those rainbow swirls you see in soap bubbles? The rainbow colors stay even when the bubbles frost, but they don't swirl anymore. The bubbles still float in the air. They don't fall to the ground any faster than they would on a warm summer day.



When these frozen bubbles break, they don't turn into droplets as summer bubbles do. They turn into sparkling rainbow confetti and flutter to the ground. Sometimes a frozen bubble will roll across the snow without breaking. If it breaks, it may leave a leathery bubble skin on the ground. If nothing disturbs the bubble, it may stay there for a long time.

Sometimes I could catch a bubble and hold it until the heat of my hand made it pop.

I learned one other thing about blowing frozen bubbles. It's so much fun, I want to try it again next year!

- 11** What is this article **mainly** about?
- A** learning how to conduct science experiments
 - B** discovering games that are fun to play in the snow
 - C** inventing a new kind of soap that makes stronger bubbles
 - D** finding out what happens to bubbles in freezing temperatures

- 12** How does the author begin the article?
- A** by describing the steps needed to do the experiment
 - B** by giving answers to common questions about the topic
 - C** by asking questions that will be answered in the article
 - D** by comparing the two types of bubbles that will be discussed

- 13** What would **most likely** happen if you tried to catch a summer bubble in your hand?
- A** It would roll around without breaking.
 - B** It would break as soon as you touched it.
 - C** It would burst into pieces of colored confetti.
 - D** It would leave a leathery skin on your fingers.

- 14** When a frozen bubble breaks, how is it different from a summer bubble?
- A** It makes a popping sound.
 - B** It flutters to the ground like confetti.
 - C** It falls to the ground in tiny drops of soap.
 - D** It forms droplets that roll across the ground.

- 15** Which idea from the article expresses an **opinion** about frozen bubbles?
- A** “The skin of the bubble frosts over.”
 - B** “The rainbow colors stay.”
 - C** “It may leave a leathery bubble skin on the ground.”
 - D** “It’s so much fun.”