Similes and metaphors worksheet

4th grade reading · Vocabulary · L.4.5.A

Name _____ Date _____

For grown-ups: 12 questions from our similes and metaphors practice, easier ones first. Read a question aloud if your child wants that, then check together with the answer key on page 3. Circle the letter of the best answer, or the right word where there are no letters.

1. **True or false: "The moon was a silver coin" is a simile.**

   ○ **True** ○ **False**

2. **What does this simile mean?**

   > After the race, Leo's legs felt like jelly.

   A. His legs were strong
   B. His legs were purple
   C. His legs were wobbly and weak
   D. His legs were sweet

3. **Is this a simile or a metaphor?**

   > The classroom was a zoo after the fire drill.

   A. Simile **B.** Metaphor **C.** Neither

4. **What two things are being compared?**

   > Grandpa's hands were like sandpaper.

   A. Grandpa and a carpenter
   B. Sandpaper and wood
   C. Grandpa and his hands
   D. Hands and sandpaper

5. **Is this a simile or a metaphor?**

   > The baby's cheeks were as red as apples.

   A. Simile **B.** Metaphor **C.** Neither

6. **What is being compared in this metaphor, and why?**

   > The hallway was a river of students rushing to lunch.

   A. The hallway and a school, because both are buildings
   B. Lunch and a river, because both are wet
   C. The hallway and a river, because the students flowed along like water
   D. Students and fish, because they swim

7. **What does this simile tell you about Kenji?**

   > Kenji was as quiet as a mouse during the whole movie.

   A. He was small
   B. He was scared
   C. He ate cheese
   D. He made almost no noise

Similes and metaphors worksheet

4th grade reading · questions, continued

8. **True or false: "Her laugh was as warm as a summer afternoon" means her laugh made people feel good.**

   ○ **True** ○ **False**

9. **Which sentence contains a simile?**

   A. The snow covered the yard.
   B. The snow was a soft white blanket over the yard.
   C. The snow fell like feathers from the sky.
   D. The snow was very deep.

10. **What does the author mean by this metaphor?**

    > The test was a mountain, and Sofia had forgotten her climbing gear.

    A. The test was about mountains
    B. Sofia likes hiking more than tests
    C. Sofia took the test on a mountain
    D. The test was very hard and Sofia was not prepared

11. **Which sentence is literal, not figurative?**

    A. Time flew by at the carnival.
    B. The puppy chewed my sneaker.
    C. The wind whispered through the trees.
    D. Her smile was sunshine on a cloudy day.

12. **Why might a writer say "the old car coughed and wheezed" instead of "the old car made noises"?**

    A. To make the car seem like a sick, tired person
    B. Because cars really have lungs
    C. To show the car was brand new
    D. Because it is shorter

Answer key: Similes and metaphors

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1. **False**
   It says the moon WAS a coin, with no "like" or "as," so it is a metaphor.
2. **C. His legs were wobbly and weak**
   Jelly wobbles and is soft, so the simile means Leo's legs were shaky and weak.
3. **B. Metaphor**
   It is a metaphor. It says the classroom was a zoo, comparing the noisy room to a zoo directly.
4. **D. Hands and sandpaper**
   The simile compares Grandpa's hands to sandpaper, meaning they are rough.
5. **A. Simile**
   It is a simile. It compares cheeks to apples using the word "as."
6. **C. The hallway and a river, because the students flowed along like water**
   The crowd of students moving together is compared to a flowing river.
7. **D. He made almost no noise**
   Mice are known for being quiet, so the simile means Kenji made almost no sound.
8. **True**
   A warm summer afternoon feels pleasant, so the simile means her laugh was friendly and comforting.
9. **C. The snow fell like feathers from the sky.**
   "Fell like feathers" uses "like" to compare snow to feathers, so it is a simile. "A soft white blanket" is a metaphor.
10. **D. The test was very hard and Sofia was not prepared**
    A mountain is a huge challenge, and forgetting the gear means she was not ready for it.
11. **B. The puppy chewed my sneaker.**
    A puppy really can chew a sneaker. The others compare or describe things in a non-literal way.
12. **A. To make the car seem like a sick, tired person**
    Giving the car human actions makes it feel old and worn out, like a sick person.