Literal and Nonliteral Language

Grade 3 Grammar Worksheet - Challenge Me

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer, or write your answer on the lines.

1. Read: “Mia's smile was sunshine on a rainy day. Her friends cheered up right away.” Why did the writer compare her smile to sunshine?

   to show her smile was hot

   to show it was raining

   to show her friends were sad

   to show her smile made people happy

2. Which phrase is nonliteral? “The baby slept like a log. In the morning, she drank her milk and played.”

   played slept like a log In the morning drank her milk

3. What does the metaphor mean? “When my brother loses a game, he is a bear for an hour.”

   He is very strong. He is grumpy. He is very funny. He is a real bear.

4. What does the simile mean? “The lake was as smooth as glass.”

   The lake was very deep.

   The lake was made of glass.

   The water was very calm.

   The water was very cold.

5. Read: “The stars were diamonds in the night sky. Nora counted them from her window.” What does the metaphor compare?

   Nora and the stars diamonds and Nora the window and the sky

   stars and diamonds

6. Which sentence uses a simile?

The kitten's fur was soft.

The kitten's fur was as soft as a cloud.

The kitten slept on a cloud pillow.

The kitten's fur was a cloud.

7. Read: “The hallway was an oven in July. We could not wait for the fans.” What does “an oven” tell about the hallway?

It smelled like bread. It had a stove in it. It was very crowded.

It was very hot.

8. Which sentence uses a metaphor?

The road was like a ribbon over the hills.

The road was a ribbon over the hills.

The road went over the hills.

A ribbon blew over the road.

9. What does the simile mean? “Theo was as quiet as a mouse while the baby slept.”

Theo was very small. Theo squeaked softly. Theo made almost no noise.

Theo looked like a mouse.

10. Rewrite the sentence with a simile using like or as. Then tell what it means. Draft: The kitten was very small.

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Grammar Worksheet - Challenge Me

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Example: The kitten was as small as a teacup. It means the kitten was tiny.