

Course: ELA	Grade Level: 7
Type: Informational/ Explanatory	Structure: Analysis
Teaching Task 21: How does figurative language enhance poetry and prose? After reading “All Summer in a Day” and a preselected poem, write an essay that addresses the question and analyzes the use of figurative language, providing examples to clarify your analysis. What conclusion or implications can you draw? A bibliography is not required.	
Performance Level: Advanced	

People do not usually realized the different types of language we use in our every day lives. Figurative Language is one of these. Authors use it to capture the essence of their pieces and works by adding phrases that grab the readers attention. Figurative language is like bait at the end of a fishing rod that was just spotted. The authors of the story “All Summer in a Day” and the poem “Autumn Song” enhance their writing by using figurative language.

In his story “All Summer in a Day,” Ray Bradbury, the author, includes figurative language to make his writing more appealing to readers. One way Mr. Bradbury does this is with the hyperbole, “A thousand forests had been crushed under the rain and grown up a thousand times to be crushed again.” In this quote from “All Summer in a Day,” Ray Bradbury not only elaborates on the intensity of the rain, but also makes the readers wonder what it must be like to live in a raining world. The authors simile, “The children pressed together like so many roses.” adds life to the story. When reading this sentence, peers can only imagine what the children are feeling and how excited they are to finally see the sun for the very first time. In addition to all other figurative language used, the metaphor “But then they always awoke to the tatting drum, the endless shaking down of clear bead necklaces upon the roof, the walk, the garden, the forests, and their dreams were gone.” engrosses the readers attention. With the details and flamboyant descriptions, the story is more enthralling and gives more emotion towards the children and their great loss of never seeing the sun but only endless rain. “All Summer in a Day” already has the basic structure but with the figurative language from Ray Bradbury, the story is taken to a whole new and extravagant level.

Hilda Conkling, author of the poem “Autumn Song,” also uses figurative language to make her piece more attractive. One of her many examples is this particular personification, “Inside the ring, the wind wore sandals not to make a noise of going. “By adding this sentence to her poem, Mrs. Conkling expresses the feeling of gentle and soothing winds. With this figurative language, Hilda Conkling increases the detail intensity and quality. In the poem “Autumn Song,” Mrs. Conkling adds the metaphor “I was a fairy queen all day.” to her writing. This quote enhances the poem by handing off the magical and whimsical experience of the character to the readers. Overall, the metaphor describes the picture of happiness and beauty. A last example of Hilda Conkling’s use of figurative language is the simile “The caterpillars, like little snowmen, had wound themselves into their winter coats.” This sentence tells of life going on. The author does this by sharing the message of the caterpillars going through its different stages of lie. When imagining the picture of this quote from the poem, readers may see the cold, but still see the peaceful atmosphere. With the help of figurative language, Mrs. Conkling is able to show the feeling of the poem and give a vivid image of the life in “Autumn Song.”

With figurative language, the authors of “All Summer in a Day” and the poem “Autumn Song” are able to enhance their writing. Ray Bradbury, the author of “All Summer in a Day,” enhances his writing with figurative language by taking his work to a new level. The use of Mr. Bradbury’s detail and elaboration makes the story that much more appealing to read. “Autumn Song” is enhanced also by figurative language. By cohering figurative language into her writing, the author, Hilda Conkling, expresses the magical and whimsical feeling of the setting. Readers are able to better understand a story if the author can make the details come alive, as did Mrs. Conkling. Figurative language makes reading more interesting and appealing to the readers because it gives life to the story that peers relate too.

Annotation		
Focus	4	This focused essay addresses all aspects of the prompt by clearly analyzing how figurative language enhances poetry and prose. The writer maintains this focus throughout the essay.
Reading/Research	4	The writer presents relevant content and effectively incorporates examples from “All Summer in a Day” and “Autumn Song” to demonstrate how figurative language enhances poetry and prose: <i>In the poem “Autumn Song,” Mrs. Conkling adds the metaphor “I was a fairy queen all day.” to her writing. This quote [relays to the reader] the magical and whimsical experience of the character....</i>
Controlling Idea	3	The writer establishes an appropriate thesis and addresses all aspects of the prompt through a series of statements: <i>Authors use it to capture the essence of their pieces and works by adding phrases that grab the readers attention. Figurative language is like bait at the end of a fishing rod that was just spotted. The authors of the story “All Summer in a Day” and the poem “Autumn Song” enhance their writing by using figurative language.</i> The writer includes research and explanations throughout the paper that distinctly connect back to the task.
Development	4	The writer presents thorough and detailed information to support the essay’s focus and controlling idea: <i>The authors simile, “The children pressed together like so many roses.” adds life to the story. When reading this sentence, peers can only imagine what the children are feeling and how excited they are to finally see the sun for the very first time.</i>
Organization	3.5	The writer uses an organizational structure that effectively presents and integrates the information required by the prompt. The body paragraphs abide by the order designated in the thesis.
Conventions	3	The writer demonstrates a solid command of standard English. There are minor errors, but these errors do not affect the readability of the essay. The writer does not use the apostrophe to demonstrate possession: <i>readers attention</i> and <i>authors simile</i> .
Content Understanding	4	The writer demonstrates an in-depth understanding of how figurative language enhances poetry and prose. The writer includes relevant examples and explanations to support the controlling idea.

This student would benefit from feedback, discussion, and/or instruction in the following areas:

- More precise word choice (e.g., *By cohering figurative language into her writing.*)
- Identifying the audience and using appropriate word choice to reflect a formal tone in the writing (e.g., *peers*)