# Year 3 and Year 4

Language Exercise: Similes and Metaphors

**A metaphor** is a word or a phrase used to describe something as if it were something else:

For example, "A wave of anger washed over him." The anger isn't actually a wave, but a wave is a good way of describing the feeling.

"Polonius is a snake." Polonius is not a snake, but it's a way to explain his personality; he’s sneaky and crafty.

**A simile** describes something by **comparing it to something else**, using like or as: The snake moved **like a** ripple on a pond.

It was **as slippery as** an eel. Polonius is **as sneaky as a snake**

**TASK:** Read each sentence. Circle whether it is a simile or a metaphor

1. Quick as lightning, Polonius found Claudius and Gertrude

Simile

Metaphor

1. Ophelia’s heart turned to stone.

Simile

Metaphor

1. Gertrude tossed and turned like a stormy sea.

Simile

Metaphor

1. Polonius is a cunning fox.

Simile

Metaphor

1. Hamlet hardly slept a wink.

Simile

Metaphor

1. Horatio’s knock at Hamlet’s door was as loud as a drum.

Simile

Metaphor

1. Hamlet felt as cold as ice .

Simile

Metaphor

1. Her eyes shone as brightly as the moon.

Simile

Metaphor

# ANSWERS

Year 3 and Year 4

# Language Exercise: Similes and Metaphors

**A metaphor** is a word or a phrase used to describe something as if it were something else:

For example, "A wave of love washed over her." The love isn't actually a wave, but a wave is a good way of describing the feeling.

"Ophelia is a flower." She's not a flower, but it's a way to explain how sweet Hamlet thinks she is.

**A simile** describes something by **comparing it to something else**, using like or as: The snake moved **like a** ripple on a pond.

It was **as slippery as** an eel. Polonius is **as sneaky as a snake**

**TASK:** Read each sentence. Circle whether it is a simile or a metaphor

1. Quick as lightning, Polonius found Claudius and Gertrude

Simile

Metaphor

1. Ophelia’s heart turned to stone.

Simile

Metaphor

1. Gertrude tossed and turned like a stormy sea.

Simile

Metaphor

1. Polonius is a cunning fox.

Simile

Metaphor

1. Hamlet hardly slept a wink.

Simile

Metaphor

1. Horatio’s knock at Hamlet’s door was as loud as a drum.

Simile

Metaphor

1. Hamlet felt as cold as ice .

Simile

Metaphor

1. Her eyes shone as brightly as the moon.

Simile

Metaphor