

**To Kill a Mockingbird
Literary Analysis**

Figures of Speech

Authors often use figures of speech in their writing, such as:

similes	direct comparisons using the words <i>like</i> or <i>as</i> Example: My little sister is as sweet as sugar.	personification	giving human characteristics to non-human objects Example: The sun smiled at the children playing in the park.
metaphors	implied or suggested comparisons Example: The headache was a pounding hammer inside my head.	irony	saying one thing but meaning another Example: His voice was very quiet, about as quiet as a jackhammer hitting pavement.
hyperbole	an exaggeration used for effect Example: My grandmother is at least seven hundred years old.		

Each of the sentences below contains one of the above figures of speech. In the space provided identify the figure of speech used in each sentence.

1. From the day Mr. Radley took Arthur home, people say the house died. _____
 2. She looked and smelled like a peppermint drop. _____
 3. . . . but Jem was a poor example: no tutorial system devised by man could have stopped him from getting at books. _____
 4. Jem looked at me furiously, could not decline, ran down the sidewalk, treaded water at the gate, then dashed in and retrieved the tire. _____
 5. Miss Rachel went off like the town fire siren: "Do-o-o . . ." _____
 6. Two geological ages later, we heard the soles of Atticus's shoes scrape the front step. _____
 7. She was bullet-headed with strange almond-shaped eyes, . . . and an Indian-bow mouth. _____
 8. "For a while" in Maycomb meant anything from three days to thirty years. _____
 9. Lightning rods guarding some graves denoted dead who rested uneasily; stumps of burned-out candles stood at the heads of infant graves. It was a happy cemetery. _____
 10. Zeebo cleared his throat and read in a voice like the rumble of distant artillery. _____
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