

September

In Figurative Language



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Featured Figures of Speech

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Simile

A comparison of two unlike things using the words “like” or “as.”

Penelope’s over-baked apple pie was as black and crusty as the dark side of the moon.

Metaphor

A comparison of two unlike things implying that something is a dissimilar object or thing.

The words “like” or “as” are not used

The kitchen is a disaster area. Caleb has been cooking again!

Personification

The figure of speech that gives human characteristics or actions to non-living things.

The sun smiled down at me from the cloudless summer sky.

Hyperbole

An exaggeration that cannot possibly be true.

Every ant on planet Earth seemed to be congregating at our picnic table.

Idiom

A group of two or more words that mean something quite different from their individual, literal (real) definitions.

Marion was jumping for joy when the judges pinned the blue ribbon on her chocolate pie.
(Marion was really happy.)



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Part One

Mixed in with the transition from summer to autumn, September is also a family-oriented month. The first Monday is Labor Day, a federal holiday that honors the hard-working people who provide for their families. National Grandparent's Day is the very next Sunday. And what do families do when they get together? They eat!

It's appropriate that all of September is All American Breakfast Month and that a select group of foods are spotlighted throughout its 30 days. Then on September 13th, kids are given permission to take over the kitchen. Parents are encouraged to eat dinner with their offspring on the 24th.

Even the family pet gets its share of attention during the last week.

Don't forget to mark the 19th, when you have permission to talk like a pirate, but watch your punctuation on the 24th!

All of the following sentences are connected to one of the September events listed below. Each one also contains a **simile**, a **metaphor**, an example of **personification**, a **hyperbole**, or an **idiom**. Read the sentence and its accompanying question. Write the **letter** of the correct answer in the blank to the left.



September Events

All American Breakfast Month

National Piano Month

Peas and Radish Month

National Mushroom Month

National Waffle Week (first week)

National Dog Week (last week)

Labor Day (first Monday)

*National Grandparent's Day (first Sunday after
Labor Day)*

International Chocolate Day (September 13)

Kids Take Over the Kitchen Day (September 13)

Talk Like a Pirate Day (September 19)

*Family Day: A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Kids
(September 24th)*

National Punctuation Day (September 24)

Last Day of Summer (Northern Hemisphere)

First Day of Autumn (Northern Hemisphere)

- _____ 1. *Dad's dough mix hit the waffle iron and bubbled up like goo in a witch's cauldron.*
The two things being compared in this sentence's *simile* are
(A) Dad and a witch,
(B) the waffle iron and a bubble,
(C) the dough mix and a bubble,
(D) the dough mix and witch's goo.
- _____ 2. *Randy threatened to bite my head off if I snickered during his piano recital.*
What figure of speech is illustrated in the sentence?
(A) a simile
(B) a metaphor
(C) an idiom
(D) a hyperbole
- _____ 3. *Wanda's raised eyebrow was a question mark demanding an answer.*
The phrase *was a question mark* is an example of
(A) a simile,
(B) a metaphor,
(C) personification,
(D) an idiom.

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Part Two

All of the following sentences are connected to one of the September events listed below. Each one also contains a **simile**, a **metaphor**, an example of **personification**, a **hyperbole**, or an **idiom**. Read the sentence and its accompanying question. Write the **letter** of the correct answer in the blank to the left.

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Last Day of Summer (Northern Hemisphere)

First Day of Autumn (Northern Hemisphere)

- _____ 1. *Our dog Dasher is a tornado with the power to shred a couch pillow and a newspaper in two seconds flat.*

The two figures of speech in this sentence are

- (A) a simile and a metaphor,
- (B) a metaphor and a hyperbole,
- (C) a simile and personification,
- (D) a hyperbole and personification.



- _____ 2. *Some of the base notes on Aunt Miranda's piano send out sonic booms like jets breaking the sound barrier.*

In addition to a *simile*, the base-note sounds from Aunt Miranda's piano are also described by

- (A) a metaphor,
- (B) personification,
- (C) an idiom,
- (D) a hyperbole.

- _____ 3. *Trying to give our cat a bath is like dunking for apples in a tsunami.*

The simile in this sentence suggests that giving this particular cat a bath

- (A) is difficult, but necessary,
- (B) is impossible,
- (C) could be dangerous,
- (D) should be approached with caution.

- _____ 4. *Summer is waiting for autumn to come by and start the redecorating.*

What two things are being *personified* in this sentence?

- (A) summer and autumn
- (B) summer and waiting
- (C) autumn and starting
- (D) autumn and redecorating

- _____ 5. *This waffle is as tasty as a moth-chewed sock.*

The figure of speech in this sentence is

- (A) a simile,
- (B) a metaphor,
- (C) a hyperbole,
- (D) an idiom.