

Writing Tips for Parents

Language Features – Year 2



Syllabus Links

- **EN1-9B:** A student uses basic grammatical features, punctuation conventions and vocabulary appropriate to the type of text when responding to and composing texts.
- **Content:**
- - begins to understand that choice of vocabulary adds to the effectiveness of the text.
- - understands how texts are made cohesive through resources, for example word associations, synonyms, and antonyms.
- - recognises, discusses and uses creative word play, eg alliteration and onomatopoeia.

Advice for Parents

Children need to be provided with the right tools, in order to become successful writers. Good writing will feature many traits but how these traits are displayed will differ according to the text type used and the intended purpose and audience. When writing imaginative texts, there are many language features writers can use to ensure their work achieves the intended purpose. Some of these include: alliteration, onomatopoeia, simile and metaphor.

Activities for Home

All About Alliteration

Definition

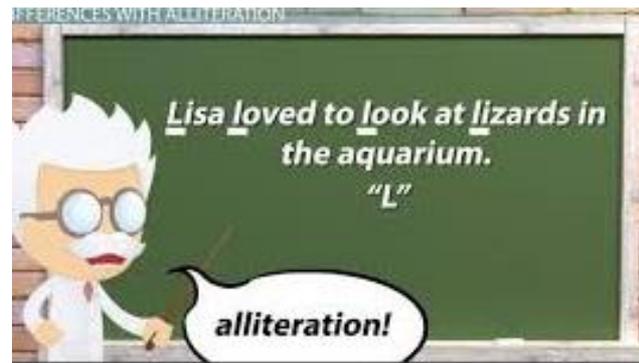
Alliteration is the repeated use of the same initial letter or sound of each word in a group of words. It focuses the reader's attention on a particular section of text. Alliterative sounds create rhythm and mood.

E.g. The fish was **s**till **s**wimming **s**teadily out to **s**ea.

Task Description

Have your child make up their own sentences in which all (or most) of the words begin with the same letter. They can simply say these out loud, you can join in with examples as well. This is a fun, easy activity that can be done anywhere. Children may also choose to write their sentences.

Example



Creating Onomatopoeia

Definition: Onomatopoeia is a formation of a word by imitating a sound associated with the subject. They make stories more interesting and are most effective when they are read out loud. E.g. crash, bang, hiss, fizz

Task Description

Look for onomatopoeia in books your child is reading and/or give your child scenarios then have them create the sound they can imagine.

EXAMPLES

Parent: *a baby chick.*

Child: *cheep, cheep went the chick.*

Parent: *sneezing.*

Child: *Achoo! The man sneezed as he ate his burger.*

Similes

Definition

A simile is a figure of speech that likens one thing to another. Similes provide vivid word pictures of people and things. They often exaggerate the truth and add colour and interest to our language, both spoken and written.

Task Description

Practise using the words 'as' or 'like' to create similes with your child and look for similes when reading different books.

<p>The car tire was <u>as black as coal</u>.</p> <p>What two things does the sentence compare?</p>  <p>WordNerd@speechTeach</p>	<p>Joe's throat was <u>as dry as the dessert</u>.</p> <p>What two things does the sentence compare?</p>  <p>WordNerd@speechTeach</p>	<p>Tody spoke <u>as fast as a racecar</u>.</p> <p>What two things does the sentence compare?</p>  <p>WordNerd@speechTeach</p>
<p>The pillow was <u>as flat as a pancake</u>.</p> <p>What two things does the sentence compare?</p>  <p>WordNerd@speechTeach</p>	<p>The cat was <u>as gentle as a lamb</u>.</p> <p>What two things does the sentence compare?</p>  <p>WordNerd@speechTeach</p>	<p>Lori is <u>as free as a bird</u>.</p> <p>What two things does the sentence compare?</p>  <p>WordNerd@speechTeach</p>

SIMILES

- Her heart is like gold.
- The world is like a stage.
- He eats like a pig.
- You are like a rock.
- Your eyes are like sunshine.
- Poor as dirt.

Metaphors

Definition

Metaphors are used to make writing more descriptive and colourful. We form metaphors by saying something is something else.

E.g. The lawn was a carpet of green.

E.g. I have the heart of a lion.

Task Description

Use the metaphor examples below to create some of your own about different family members.

<small>Crazy Speech World</small>  Life is a roller coaster.	<small>Crazy Speech World</small>  My memory is cloudy.	<small>Crazy Speech World</small>  The room is a dark cave.	<small>Crazy Speech World</small>  Her eyes are a deep blue ocean.
<small>Crazy Speech World</small>  Stars are diamonds in the sky.	<small>Crazy Speech World</small>  The tree is an umbrella for us.	<small>Crazy Speech World</small>  Her hands were ice cubes.	<small>Crazy Speech World</small>  The loaf of bread was a rock.

METAPHORS

- Her heart is gold.
- The world is a stage.
- He is a pig.
- You are a rock.
- You are my sunshine.
- Sea of sand.