

Similes

A simile is a comparison that uses the words *like* or *as*. For example, if you say, “I’m as hungry as a bear,” you are using a simile. You are comparing your hunger to a bear’s hunger.

We use similes in our speech and in our writing all the time. Why? Because they make our language more interesting and more descriptive.

However, we also have a tendency to use common similes over and over again until they aren’t interesting and descriptive anymore. They become dull from overuse. For example, the first time someone said “quiet as a mouse,” that phrase was probably very effective. But now it has been used so much that no one hearing it ever stops to consider how quiet a mouse really is.

Directions

Complete each of the following similes in a new, fresh way. Don’t use the phrase that probably comes to your mind first. For example, in completing the phrase “quiet as a _____,” don’t say *mouse*. Instead try something new, like “quiet as a spider tiptoeing across its web.”

1. Gentle as a _____

2. Hungry as a _____

3. Skinny as a _____

4. Fat as a _____

5. Ugly as a _____

6. Mad as a _____

7. Happy as a _____

8. Pretty as a _____
