

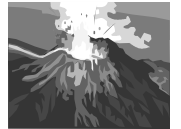
Metaphors Compare Things

Name: _____

Figurative language includes special forms that writers use to help readers make a strong connection to their words. A **metaphor** is one kind of figurative language. It makes a direct comparison of two unlike things. You can tell the difference between a metaphor and a simile because a simile uses the words "like" or "as", and a metaphor does not. Metaphors often use a form of the verb "to be". The verb can be in the past tense (was, were), the present tense (am, is, are), or future tense (will be).

Read each sentence below. Underline the metaphor. Circle the people or objects that the metaphor is being used to compare.

- 1) The calm lake was a mirror, reflecting the mountains in the distance.
- 2) When my dad makes up his mind he is a rock, not budging an inch.
- 3) The lava was a blanket of fire that scorched all the plants in its path.
- 4) Spinning contentedly, the spider was an artist preparing a masterpiece.
- 5) During the holiday traffic the highway was one long parking lot.
- 6) The ice cream bar was a snowstorm in her mouth in the heat of the day.
- 7) His job hunt was a puzzle that was missing the final piece.
- 8) The lawyers were sharks in the ocean of the courtroom.
- 9) On Christmas Eve, the shopping mall was a jungle of people.
- 10) The spaghetti was a tangled ball of yarn on his plate.



Metaphors Compare Things

Name: Key

Figurative language includes special forms that writers use to help readers make a strong connection to their words. A **metaphor** is one kind of figurative language. It makes a direct comparison of two unlike things. You can tell the difference between a metaphor and a simile because a simile uses the words "like" or "as", and a metaphor does not. Metaphors often use a form of the verb "to be". The verb can be in the past tense (was, were), the present tense (am, is, are), or future tense (will be).

Read each sentence below. Underline the metaphor. Circle the people or objects that the metaphor is being used to compare.

- 1) The calm lake was a mirror, reflecting the mountains in the distance.
- 2) When my dad makes up his mind he is a rock, not budging an inch.
- 3) The lava was a blanket of fire that scorched all the plants in its path.
- 4) Spinning contentedly, the spider was an artist preparing a masterpiece.
- 5) During the holiday traffic the highway was one long parking lot.
- 6) The ice cream bar was a snowstorm in her mouth in the heat of the day.
- 7) His job hunt was a puzzle that was missing the final piece.
- 8) The lawyers were sharks in the ocean of the courtroom.
- 9) On Christmas Eve, the shopping mall was a jungle of people.
- 10) The spaghetti was a tangled ball of yarn on his plate.

