Figurative Language Notes

Figurative Language

8th Grade Language Arts
Study Daily to ensure understanding.

Essential Question:
Can you locate figurative language used in “The House of the Scorpion”
What is figurative language?

Whenever you describe something by comparing it with something else, you are using figurative language.
Types of Figurative Language

- Imagery
- Simile
- Metaphor
- Alliteration
- Personification
- Onomatopoeia
- Hyperbole
- Idioms
Imagery

Language that appeals to the senses. Descriptions of people or objects stated in terms of our senses.

- Sight
- Hearing
- Touch
- Taste
- Smell
Simile

- A figure of speech which involves a direct comparison between two unlike things, usually with the words like or as.

Example: The muscles on his brawny arms are strong as iron bands.
Metaphor

A figure of speech which involves an implied comparison between two relatively unlike things using a form of be. The comparison is not announced by like or as. Makes a statement.

Example: The road was a ribbon wrapped through the dessert.
Alliteration

Repeated consonant sounds occurring at the beginning of words or within words.

Example: She was wide-eyed and wondering while she waited for Walter to waken.
Personification

A figure of speech which gives the qualities of a person to an animal, an object, or an idea.

Example: “The wind yells while blowing.”
The wind cannot yell. Only a living thing can yell.
Onomatopoeia

The use of words that mimic sounds.

Example: The firecracker made a loud ka-boom!
Hyperbole

An exaggerated statement used to heighten effect. It is not used to mislead the reader, but to emphasize a point.

Example: She’s said so on several million occasions.
Idioms

An idiom or idiomatic expression refers to a construction or expression in one language that cannot be matched or directly translated word-for-word in another language.

Example: "She has a bee in her bonnet," meaning "she is obsessed," cannot be literally translated into another language word for word.