

# Figurative Language in Romeo and Juliet

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: What type of figurative language is used in each underlined passage from the play? Some lines have more than one type of figurative language.

**METAPHOR:** a comparison of two unlike things which are connected by one similarity—  
Her eyes are jewels.; You are my sunshine.; “All the world’s a stage.”

**SIMILE:** a comparison of two unlike things using ‘like’ or ‘as’---  
She is like a rose.; “So are you to my thoughts as food to life.” “Death lies on her like an untimely frost.”

**PERSONIFICATION:** is a figure of speech that gives an inanimate object or abstract idea human traits and qualities, such as emotions, desires, sensations, physical gestures and speech—  
The flowers were suffering from the intense heat.; Death smiled.; The sun waved to the moon.; This computer really loves to crash.

**OXYMORON:** a figure of speech that combines two contradictory terms—  
Cruel love; deafening silence; pretty ugly; alone together

**HYPERBOLE:** deliberate exaggeration of a person, thing, quality, event to emphasize a point external to the object of exaggeration; intentional exaggeration for rhetorical effect.—  
These books weigh a ton.; I could sleep for a year.; I would rather die than eat that.

<u>Lines from R&amp;J</u>	<u>Figurative Language</u>
<p><b>Romeo:</b> Why then, O <u>brawling love</u>, O <u>loving hate</u>, O <u>anything of nothing</u> first create! O <u>heavy lightness</u>, <u>serious vanity</u>, <u>Misshapen chaos of well-seeming forms!</u> <u>Feather of lead</u>, <u>bright smoke</u>, <u>cold fire</u>, <u>sick health</u> (Act I, scene 1)</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of figurative language:</b> OXYMORON</p> <p><b>How So?</b> The oxymorons show contradictions in love: Romeo “loves” Rosaline but she does not feel the same.</p>
<p><b>Romeo:</b> <u>Love is a smoke made with the fume of sighs;</u> <u>Being purged, a fire sparkling in lover’s eyes;</u> <u>Being vexed, a sea nourished with lover’s tears.</u> . . (Act 1, scene 1)</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of figurative language:</b></p> <p><b>How So?</b></p>
<p><b>Romeo:</b> One fairer than my love! The <u>all seeing sun</u>/ Ne’er saw her match, since first the world begun (Act 1, scene 2)</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of figurative language:</b></p> <p><b>How So?</b></p>
<p><b>Romeo:</b> O, she doth teach the torches to burn bright./ It seems <u>she hangs upon the cheek of night</u>/ As a rich <u>jewel in an Ethiop’s ear</u>— (Act 1, scene 5)</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of figurative language:</b></p> <p><b>How So?</b></p>

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<p><b>Romeo:</b> But soft, what light through yonder window breaks?/ <u>It is the east and Juliet is the sun!</u> (Act 2, scene 2)</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of figurative language:</b></p> <p><b>How So?</b></p>
<p><b>Romeo:</b> Arise <u>fair sun and kill the envious moon/</u> <u>Who is already sick and pale with grief</u> (Act 2, scene 2)</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of figurative language:</b></p> <p><b>How So?</b></p>
<p><b>Friar Lawrence:</b> The gray-eyed morn smiles on the frowning night,/ Check'ring the eastern clouds with streaks of light (Act 2, scene 3)</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of figurative language:</b></p> <p><b>How So?</b></p>
<p><b>Romeo:</b> There is <u>no world without Verona walls/</u> <u>But purgatory, torture, hell itself; Hence 'banished'</u> <u>is banished from the world,/ And world's exile is</u> <u>death. . . Calling death 'banished'/ Thou cut'st my</u> <u>head off with a golden axe/ And smilest upon that</u> <u>stroke that murders me</u> (Act 3, scene 3)</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of figurative language:</b></p> <p><b>How So?</b></p>
<p><b>Capulet:</b> Evermore showering? In one little body/ Thou counterfeitst a bark, sea, a wind./ For still <u>thy</u> <u>eyes, which I may call the sea,/ Do ebb and flow</u> <u>with tears</u> (Act 3, scene 5)</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of figurative language:</b></p> <p><b>How So?</b></p>
<p><b>Juliet:</b> <u>O, bid me leap, rather than marry Paris,/</u> <u>From off the battlements of any tower,/ Or walk in</u> <u>thievish ways, or bid me lurk/ Were serpents are.</u> <u>Chain me with roaring bears,/ Or hide me in a</u> <u>chanel-house (mortuary)/ O'ercovered quite with</u> <u>dead men's rattling bones</u> (Act 4, scene 1).</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of figurative language:</b></p> <p><b>How So?</b></p>
<p><b>Capulet:</b> O son, the night before thy wedding day/ Hath <u>Death lain with thy wife.</u> There she lies,/ Flower as she was, <u>deflowered by him./ Death is my son-in-law, Death is my heir./ My daughter he hath wedded.</u> I will die,/ <u>And leave him all: life, living, all is Death's</u> (Act 4, scene 5)</p>	<p><b>Type(s) of figurative language:</b></p> <p><b>How So?</b></p>