

Key for Figurative Language Quiz

**Part 1. Matching**

Directions: Match each word on the left with its definition on the right.

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|---------------------------|---|
| 1. <u>  D  </u> simile    | a. an overstatement or exaggeration   |
| 2. <u>  C  </u> metaphor  | b. the words or phrases a writer uses to create a certain picture in the reader's mind        |
| 3. <u>  A  </u> hyperbole | c. a comparison of two unlike things in which no word of comparison ("like" or "as") is used. |
| 4. <u>  B  </u> imagery   | d. a comparison of two unlike things in which a word of comparison ("like" or "as") is used.  |

**Part II: Identification**

Directions: Read each of the following quotations from *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. In the space provided, write whether it is an example of a simile or metaphor, or hyperbole or imagery.

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|----------------------|---|
| 5. <u>metaphor</u>   | “Mother was a blithe chick nuzzling around the large dark hen. The sounds they made had a rich inner harmony. Momma’s deep, slow voice lay under my mother’s rapid peeps and chirps.”                       |
| 6. <u>hyperbole</u>  | “The cold wind had frozen my feet and my spine, and Mr. Taylor’s impersonation had chilled my blood.”   |
| 7. <u>simile</u>     | “For nearly a year, I sopped around the house, the store, the school, and the church, like an old biscuit, dirty and inedible.”   |
| 8. <u>imagery</u>    | “My class was wearing butter-yellow pique dresses . . .”  |
| 9. <u>metaphor</u>   | “His voice rose on tides of promise and fell on waves of warnings.”   |
| 10. <u>simile</u>    | My mother was “...like a pretty kite that floated just above my head.”  |
| 11. <u>hyperbole</u> | “The trip to the kitchen and back could not have taken more than two minutes, yet in that time I tramped through swampy cemeteries, climbed over dusty gravestones and eluded litters of night-black cats.” |

12. simile "When he pitched his already high voice to what he considered a feminine level . . . it streaked across the room, zigzagging like lightening."
13. hyperbole/simile "The man in the living room was tall as the sky."
14. imagery ". . . he was lauded for his velvet-black skin."
15. metaphor "If growing up is painful for the Southern Black girl, being aware of her displacement is the rust on the razor that threatens the throat."