

Figurative Language Quiz

Part 1. Matching

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

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| 1. _____ simile | a. an overstatement or exaggeration |
| 2. _____ metaphor | b. the words or phrases a writer uses to create a certain picture in the reader's mind |
| 3. _____ hyperbole | c. a comparison of two unlike things in which no word of comparison ("like" or "as") is used. |
| 4. _____ 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. _____ | "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. _____ | "The cold wind had frozen my feet and my spine, and Mr. Taylor's impersonation had chilled my blood." |
| 7. _____ | "For nearly a year, I sopped around the house, the store, the school, and the church, like an old dirty biscuit, dirty and indelible." |
| 8. _____ | "My class was wearing butter-yellow pique dresses . . ." |
| 9. _____ | "His voice rose on tides of promise and fell on waves of warnings." |
| 10. _____ | My mother was "Like a pretty kite that floated just above my head." |
| 11. _____ | "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. _____ “When he pitched his already high voice to what he considered a feminine level . . . it streaked across the room, zigzagging like lightening.
13. _____ “The man in the living room was tall as the sky.”
14. _____ “. . . he was lauded for his velvet-black skin.”
15. _____ “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.”