



The Grammar Dog Guide to Figurative Language in Twain

**All quizzes use sentences from six novels.
Includes 150 multiple choice questions.**

About Gramwardog

Gramwardog was founded in 2001 by Mary Jane McKinney, a high school English teacher and dedicated grammarian. She and other experienced English teachers in both high school and college regard grammar and style as the key to unlocking the essence of an author.

Their philosophy, that grammar and literature are best understood when learned together, led to the formation of Gramwardog.com, a means of sharing knowledge about the structure and patterns of language unique to specific authors. These patterns are what make a great book *a great book*. The arduous task of analyzing works for grammar and style has yielded a unique product, guaranteed to enlighten the reader of literary classics.

Gramwardog's strategy is to put the author's words under the microscope. The result yields an increased appreciation of the art of writing and awareness of the importance and power of language.



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SAMPLE EXERCISES - FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE in Mark Twain

A CONNECTICUT YANKEE IN KING ARTHUR'S COURT

EXERCISE 1 STYLE: FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Identify the figurative language in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

p = personification m = metaphor s = simile o = onomatopoeia h = hyperbole

- ___ 1. At the end of an hour we saw a far-away town sleeping in a valley by a winding river; and beyond it on a hill, a vast grey fortress, with towers and turrets, the first I had ever seen out of a picture.

- ___ 2. It was a soft, reposeful, summer landscape, as lovely as a dream, and as lonesome as Sunday.

- ___ 3. I looked at the boy in sorrow; and as I looked I saw the cloud of a deep despondency settle upon his countenance.

- ___ 4. In half a minute I was as naked as a pair of tongs!

THE INNOCENTS ABROAD

EXERCISE 3 STYLE: FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Identify the figurative language in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:

p = personification s = simile m = metaphor o = onomatopoeia h = hyperbole

- ___ 1. Groups of excursionists, arrayed in unattractive traveling costumes, were moping about in a drizzling rain and looking as droopy and woebegone as so many molting chickens.

- ___ 2. The flag made an effort to wave, and failed.

- ___ 3. . . . the irrepressible muleteers scampered at our heels through the main street, goading the donkeys, shouting the everlasting "Sekki-yah," and singing "John Brown's Body" in ruinous English.

- ___ 4. We sailed along the shore of the island of Pico, under a stately green pyramid that rose up with one unbroken sweep from our very feet . . . and thrust its summit above the white clouds like an island adrift in a fog!

THE PRINCE AND THE PAUPER

EXERCISE 5 STYLE: FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Identify the figurative language in the following sentences. Label the underlined words:
p = personification s = simile m = metaphor o = onomatopoeia h = hyperbole

- ___1. The houses were of wood, with the second story projecting over the first, and the third sticking its elbows out beyond the second.

- ___2. He and his tribe were swallowed up in that swarming hive of humanity, and hopelessly separated from each other in an instant.

- ___3. “Shake off this gruesome dream. Call back thy poor wandering memory.”

- ___4. He wasted no time, but dived among the forest of legs about him and disappeared.

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