Figurative Language

Check out the entire series:

Understatement Definition and Examples

Sarcasm Definition and Examples

Irony Definition, Examples, and Lesson

Pun Definition and Examples

Oxymoron Definition, Examples, and Lesson

Malapropism Definition, Examples, and Lesson

Biblical, Literary, Historical, and Mythical Allusions

Proverbs and Adages

Teaching Humor Devices

Alliteration, Rhyme, and Onomatopoeia



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Google Slide Links

This handout provides definitions and examples of puns to help students understand this figurative language concept. Additionally, it includes links to access the video lesson and accompanying organizer. The blog post contains further activity suggestions that are not repeated here, so be sure to visit the post for more engaging and detailed exercises to enhance your lesson.

Click here to download the **free activities from Google Drive**.

- This is the **digital version** including the YouTube video lesson.
- Here you will find the **printable version**.
- Check out the blog post for activities not included in this handout.

Pun Definition and Examples



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Pun Definition

A pun is a joke exploiting the different possible meanings of a word or the fact that there are words that sound alike but have different meanings.

Here are a couple of examples:

A chicken farmer's favorite car is a coupe.
She had a photographic memory but never developed it.



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More Examples of Puns

I am a baker because I knead the dough.

Dough – a mixture used to make bread, cookies, etc. OR money

It's pointless to write with a broken pencil.

Pointless – needless OR without a point, as in broken

What do you call a sleeping bull? — A bulldozer.

Dozer – a person who sleeps OR a vehicle with a power shovel

I was struggling to figure out how lightning works when it struck me.

Struck – hit forcefully OR to occur to someone

What was the reporter doing at the ice cream shop? — Getting the scoop!

Scoop – the amount of something that is held in a scoop OR to report a news story before any other newspaper

What do you get from a pampered cow? — Spoiled milk.

Spoiled – to lose freshness OR to give someone everything that they want



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PRINTABLE VERSION -- Organizers

Three versions of most organizers are offered: one with blanks where students write definitions and create examples; one with the definitions provided but with blank spaces for students to write in keywords; and one with the answers provided. The third copy of the organizer may be used as an **answer key**, for differentiated instruction, for students who were absent during instruction, or if you wish for the students to have the organizers already completed.

1.**Edit the organizers.**

•The structure of the page and the clipart can't be changed. They are embedded into the background of the Google Slides.

•Textboxes are on top of the embedded background. This means all text can be altered.

•Look through the organizers. Change font size and style, spacing between lines, or text to fit the needs of your students. (Warning: The samples match the video.)

2. Print the organizers.

•Print the organizers after you make edits.

3. Using the Organizers:

•Have students watch the instructional video that goes with the organizer. Pause the video when instructed to do so. Have students complete the organizer. Next have students watch the remainder of the video to check their answers.

4. Fold the Organizer.

•This organizer requires no cutting or coloring. I recommend telling students that they can color the blackline drawings at home if they wish to, but it is not necessary.

•The organizer folds like a fan. Make sure the first fold is under, so the definitions are on top and will be visible when flipping through the interactive notebook.

5. Gluing the Organizer:

•Flip the organizer over with the text box with the definition faces down. Have students place a single line of white school glue down the back right-hand side of the organizer. Glue the organizers two to a page (four to an open notebook).

Pun

Fill in the blanks to complete the definition of pun.

A pun is a _____ misusing the different possible _____ of a word or the fact that there are words which _____ alike but have _____ meanings.

Example



A chicken farmer's favorite car is a coupe.



She had a photographic memory but never developed it.

Sarcasm

Sarcasm is a remark that people use to say the _____ of what's true with a purpose to _____ or _____ someone by making them feel _____.

For example: When you expected something to happen, especially after warning someone about it, someone says, "Well, what a _____."

Example



When someone says something that is very obvious:

Really, Sherlock? But You are clever.

Irony

Irony is a _____ or contrast between _____ and _____ in a circumstance. Irony is often only recognized well _____ an original statement or occurrence since it often takes _____ events to realize the previous remark was completely _____.

Example



Otto Lilienthal, creator of a flying glider, was killed by his own invention after declaring that it was one of the safest ways to travel.

Understatement

Fill in the blanks to complete the definition of understatement.

An understatement is a figure of speech when a speaker makes the situation seem less _____ or _____ than what it is. The statement a statement that makes something seem smaller. An understatement adds _____ to _____ situations. When verbal, the speaker delivers the statement without _____ for effect. Think of understatements as the opposite of hyperbole.

Example



A hurricane has hit your home at the beach. Most likely the home has serious damage. You say, "At least the plants will get watered."

Pun

Define pun.

_____

_____

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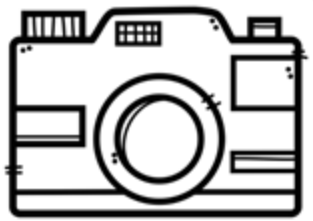
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Examples



A chicken farmer's favorite car is a coupe.



She had a photographic memory but never developed it.

Find the word or phrase in each sentence that makes it a pun. Under the sentence, write this word and then explain its two meanings



I am a baker because I knead the dough.

_____

_____

_____

_____



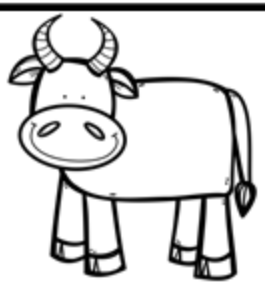
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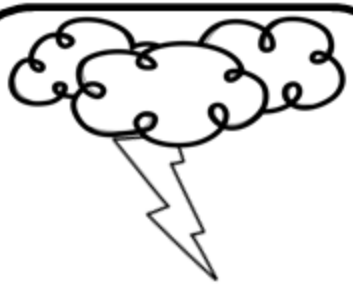
What do you call a sleeping bull?
---- A bulldozer.

_____

_____

_____

_____



I was struggling to figure out how lightning works when it struck me.

_____

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_____

_____

_____



What was the reporter doing at the ice cream shop?
----- Getting the scoop!

_____

_____

_____

_____



What do you get from a pampered cow?
----- Spoiled milk.

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

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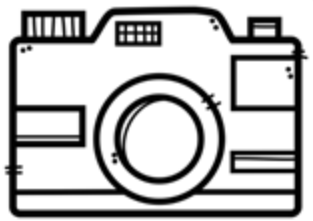
Pun

A pun is a _____ misusing the different possible _____ of a word or the fact that there are words which _____ alike but have _____ meanings.

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A chicken farmer's favorite car is a coupe.



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Find the word or phrase in each sentence that makes it a pun. Under the sentence, write this word and then explain its two meanings



I am a baker because I knead the **dough**.

Dough - _____

_____

OR _____

_____



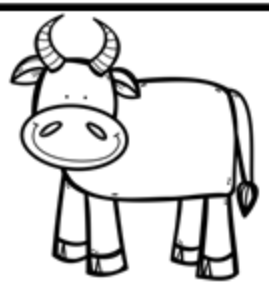
It's **pointless** to write with a broken pencil.

Pointless- _____

_____

OR _____

_____



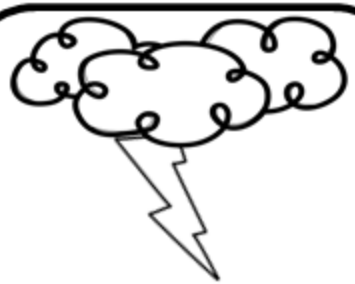
What do you call a sleeping bull?
---- A bull**dozer**.

Dozer - _____

_____

OR _____

_____



I was struggling to figure out how lightning works when it **struck** me.

Struck - _____

_____

OR _____

_____



What was the reporter doing at the ice cream shop?
---- Getting the **scoop**!

Scoop - _____

_____

OR _____

_____



What do you get from a pampered cow?
---- **Spoiled** milk.

Spoiled - _____

_____

OR _____

_____

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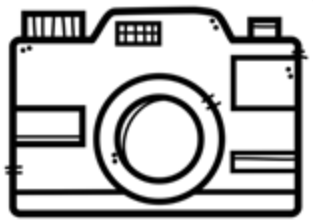
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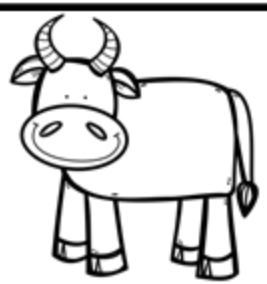
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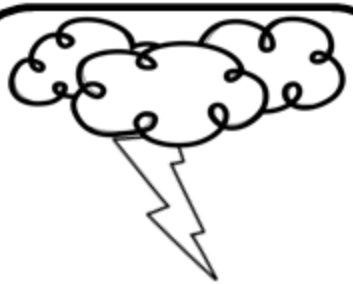
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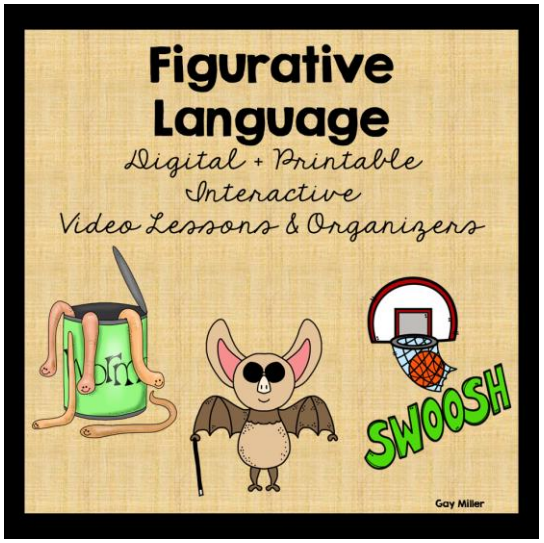
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Figurative Language

Be sure to get all the parts of this activity.

Blog Post
Pun Definition, Examples, and Lesson

Get the full unit on
Teachers Pay Teachers.





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