

## *Literary Terms*

**Simile-** a figure of speech that compares two things using the words “like” or “as”.

Ex. The ice was as smooth as glass.

**Metaphor-** a figure of speech that compares two things **without** using the words “like” or “as”.

Ex. The cup of **tea was** the best **medicine** for my cold.

**Hyperbole-** an extreme exaggeration used for emphasis.

Ex. I could eat a horse!

**Allusion-** a reference to a well-known person, place, thing, or event.

Ex. He thought he was **Superman**.

**Alliteration-** the repeating of beginning consonant sounds.

Ex. The peanut butter was **crunchy** and **creamy**.

**Personification-** a figure of speech in which a nonhuman thing (an idea, object, or animal) is given human characteristics.

Ex. The stars **winked** in the night sky.

**Repetition-** the repeating of a word or phrase to focus on an idea.

Ex. “He squeezed, and squeezed, and squeezed.” *Freak the Mighty*

**Onomatopoeia-** the use of a word whose sound makes you think of its meaning.

Ex. boom, swish, crack, hiss, or zip.

**Irony-** using a word or phrase to mean the exact opposite.

Ex. I love cleaning my bedroom.

**Idiom-** words used in a special way that may be different way from their literal meaning.

Ex. It’s raining cats and dogs.

**Imagery-** using language to produce a picture in one’s mind (focusing on the five senses).

Ex. I felt the heat of the sun reflecting off the bright red convertible.