
SIMILE

What Is a Simile? – Meaning and Definition

A simile is a figure of speech that is mainly used to compare two or more things that possess a similar quality. It uses words such as 'like' or 'as' to make the comparison.

According to the Oxford Learner's Dictionary, a simile is defined as "a word or phrase that compares something to something else, using the words *like* or *as*." The Cambridge Dictionary defines a simile as "an expression comparing one thing with another, always including the words *as* or *like*". "A simile is an expression which describes a person or thing as being similar to someone or something else", according to the Collins Dictionary. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines a simile as "a figure of speech comparing two unlike things that is often introduced by *like* or *as*."

How to Use a Simile in a Sentence?

A simile is generally used in a sentence to make comparisons between two or more nouns and this is done with the use of words such as 'like' or 'as'. The general idea of using a simile with the word 'as' is by using a noun that is known for a particular quality. For example: as proud as a peacock, as busy as a bee and so on. A simile is a direct comparison of two like or unlike things. A simile helps your reader or listener visualise, understand and have a better conception of the quality of the nouns being compared. It makes it a lot more vivid and descriptive. In other words, it can be said that similes can be used to provide a mental image to your reader or listener.

Pattern

- 'as' + adjective + 'as'
- 'like'

Examples of Similes for Everyday Use

Here is a list of similes to help you understand how similes are formed and how they can be used in sentences.

Similes using 'as'

As slow as a sloth	As fast as a cheetah	As white as a ghost
As busy as a bee	As blind as a bat	As tall as a giraffe
As innocent as a lamb	As old as the hills	As sweet as sugar
As proud as a peacock	As cold as ice	As strong as an ox



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Similes using 'like'

Jumps like a frog	Have eyes like a hawk	Sleeps like a baby	Slept like a log
Sings like a cuckoo	Runs like a horse	Fighting like cats and dogs	Chatters like a monkey
Runs like the wind	Swim like a fish	Fall like teardrops	Move like a snail
Nocturnal like an owl	Climbs like a monkey	Like a box of chocolates	Fit like a glove