Teacher Notes

Metaphor and Simile in Song

Activity 1
Defining Metaphor and Simile

Activity at a Glance

- **Subject:** English
- **Subject Area:** English/Language Arts
- **Category:** Literary Devices
- **Topic:** Figures of Speech
- **Grade Level:** 6 - 8
- **Prerequisites:** None
- **Total Teaching Time:** 50 minutes

Materials

- TI-83 Plus
- TI External Keyboard
- NoteFolio™ app installed on each TI-83 Plus
- Overhead projector
- Student Work Sheet: **Defining Metaphor and Simile**
- Teacher Guide: **Metaphor and Simile Defined**

Activity Overview

Students will discuss the reasons for using metaphor and simile, the effectiveness of using metaphor and simile as literary tools, and gain a practical understanding of their uses.

Tip

After displaying the definition of metaphor and simile and giving students a clearer idea of how to distinguish the two, call on students to give general examples of metaphor and simile. Ask them to reference a quote, literary passage, or song that is dear to them for this activity.

Directions

Before the Activity Begins

Prepare a transparency of the Teacher Guide, **Metaphor and Simile Defined**, that is included at the end of this activity.

Students should have their devices and keyboards ready for typing.

During the Activity

Begin the activity by presenting the definitions of metaphor and simile to the class. Lead a discussion of these terms to increase student understanding. When you are comfortable that the students understand the difference between these two literary devices, have the students open a new NoteFolio™ file and record the following in it:

1. Ask students to type in the key words to look for when distinguishing metaphor and simile as points of reference.

2. Have students create five sentences that act as examples of how metaphors are used.

3. Have students create five sentences that act as examples of how similes are used.

When students are finished with this exercise, have each student share at least one sentence aloud with the class. Allow 15 - 25 minutes for this exercise.

Note: A paper-based version of this exercise is included at the end of this activity.

Accessing the NoteFolio™ Application on the TI-83 Plus

The following procedure enables you to access the NoteFolio™ Application. It assumes that the software is already installed on the device.

Note: NoteFolio™ App is most efficiently used on the TI-83 Plus with the TI Keyboard.

1. Turn on the device and press APPS to display the list of installed applications. Select the **NoteFlio** Application by using ▲ ▼ to scroll to it in the list.
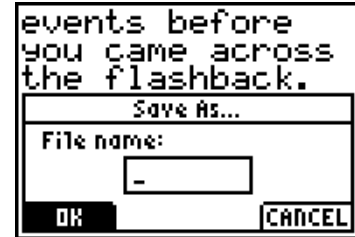
2. Press ENTER . Press any key to clear the NoteFolio™ App Introduction screen. A blank (new) NoteFolio™ App file is initially displayed.

3. Students complete the assignment in this new file.
    Note: If you are not using a TI Keyboard, remember to press the ALPHA key to type letters.

4. When the file is complete, press **MENU.** Students can save the file when the assignment is complete by selecting **Save As**. The students will need to enter a file name.

5. When the new file name is entered, press **OK** (the Y= key).

    To exit the application, press **MENU** and select **6: Exit**.

After the Activity

Now that the students have a firm grasp of the ways in which metaphor and simile are used, prepare the students for the next activity. Tell them to think of their favorite songs and determine whether or not metaphors and/or similes are used in the lyrics. For the next class period, they should bring a list containing the names of five or six of their favorite tunes that they think contain either metaphors or similes.

Student Work Sheet
Defining Metaphor and Simile

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Key words that indicate:

   Metaphor: _____

   Simile: _____

2. Create five sentences the demonstrate how metaphor is used:

3. Create five sentences that demonstrate how simile is used:

Teacher Guide
Metaphor and Simile Defined

Metaphor

A figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or concept it does not literally denote in order to suggest comparison with its basic meaning.

Simile

A phrase comparing two things using "like" or "as."