

New Activity

A few days ago, I gave you some sentences to punctuate – how did you go? Let's have a look at them now:

- **As I ate my dog Sam watched.**

Maybe the person wanted to tell us that they were eating their dog while Sam watched. But perhaps they meant: **As I ate, my dog, Sam, watched.**

- **I respect my parents, Mother Teresa and Einstein.**

This sentence read like Mother Teresa and Einstein were parents together, which they were not. I think this person meant to list three categories of people they respected: 1) their parents, 2) Mother Teresa 3) Einstein. So, it needs another comma: **I respect my parents, Mother Teresa, and Einstein.**

This comma has a fancy name which is the Oxford comma and it goes just before the 'and' in a list so that it separates the last two items.

- **I think I know.**

Maybe this person wanted to say that they think they know something. Perhaps they wanted to say: **I think, I know.** As in "I think therefore I know". Whichever one they meant you can see how a comma changes the meaning.

- **A woman without her man is nothing.**

Look at how the meaning of this sentence changes from being about a woman who is nothing without a man to something quite different with commas in certain places (and I am going to take the liberty of including a colon to bring even greater clarity). **A woman: without her, man is nothing.**

How did you go finding the similes in this writing? I have marked them in bold:

*As the weather warmed and calendula flowers **shone like little golden suns**, good news came to the ears of Class 7 students. "School is back!" was the message that came, **clear as crystal**. Lunches were hastily made, and school bags were packed. Old squishy bananas and mouldy oranges found in the bottom of said bags were no deterrent at all - they were simply **thrown out like yesterday's news**.*

*The excitement was palpable as students arrived on a fresh spring morning. The foosball table, lying dormant for so many months, was **like abandoned hard rubbish at the side of the road**. But in a jiffy, the students had it **sparkling like a diamond**, and played together joyfully. The smack of the hard ball against the little plastic soccer players **was like music to the students' teacher's ears**.*

*Chatting enthusiastically, some students wandered off, and sat on the hay bales **like frogs on a lily pad**. Others flocked to the classroom, and, **proud as peacocks**, handed in all their remote learning schoolwork. Then the bell rang, and school officially started again!*

Creative Writing Main Lesson

Week 6, Thursday 27th August

Now we are going to look at a similar speaking and writing tool – metaphor. Where a simile says two things are similar, a metaphor says one thing IS the other thing. You might think this sounds like a fancy thing to use just in writing or poetry, but we actually use them all the time in our daily lives. Here are some examples.

The book was a breeze.

Her voice is music to my ears.

She is an early bird.

Life is a highway.

I am a shark!

Here are some examples from books and plays:

“The parents looked upon Matilda in particular as nothing more than a scab. A scab is something you have until the time when you can pick it off and flick it away.” *Matilda*, Roald Dahl

“The sun was a toddler insistently refusing to go to bed: It was past eight thirty and still light.” *Fault in Our Stars*, John Green

“The sun in the west was a drop of burning gold that slid near and nearer the sill of the world.” *Lord of the Flies*, William Golding

“But soft, what light through yonder window breaks? It is the east and Juliet the sun!” *Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare.

And here are two quotes that are metaphors:

Conscience is a man's compass. Vincent van Gogh (painter)

Books are mirrors of the soul. Virginia Woolf (writer)

Great! Now you are ready for today's writing task:

Today we are going to do some draft writing about the past. A whole year in the past, in fact.

Can you think that far back?! Remember we were in Class 6 and we came up to the open space near the labyrinth... and if you weren't at this festival, think of another one you attended last year. If you did not attend a festival, you could write about a Spring Fair Day that you did attend.

So, you are to remember as much as you can about this event and write it down, paying attention to telling your reader what the experience was like from your point of view. What did you notice that others may not have? What did you experience in terms of sights, smells, sounds and so on?

Do this in your draft book. You might find opportunities to experiment with metaphor. Don't worry too much about this. We will work with our writing more tomorrow.

Great job! See you tomorrow. Love Larissa