



Part 1: Similes

A figure of speech in which two things are likened to each other, for explanation or artistic effect. They are introduced by the words *like* or *as*. Similes can add power and interest to writing. The two things being compared are generally quite different from each other, but have at least one common feature.

- As strong as an ox
- like a yellow silken scarf thick fog hangs along the quay

Exercise A: Write 5 sentences which include similes. (Can't think? *What could you compare to lead, birds, clouds, fire, ice, lightning, spider web.*)

Part 2: Metaphors

Where one thing is said to *be* rather than just *like* something else.

- The moon is a ghostly galleon.

Exercise B: Write a metaphor for:

- the sun
- Melbourne
- Year 7 students on their first day
- Year 12 students on their last day

(Hint: think what they are *like*, then remove the word *like*.)

Part 3: Comparison and contrast

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to heaven, we were all going direct the other way...

the opening to Charles Dickens *A Tale of Two Cities*

Exercise C: Write a paragraph based on comparisons and contrasts of the modern age. Begin with a table like the one below, then write a paragraph. (Each student to produce own paragraph.)

Positive	Negative
1. Improved knowledge of health issues	Drug usage
2. Increased prosperity	Poverty
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	
8.	
9.	
10.	