Up-Stage Your Descriptive Writing (LKS2)

Whenever you describe something by comparing it with something else, you are using **figurative language**.

Personification: describing non-human things as though they were human		
The wind howled	The breeze sighed	The rain danced
The waves roared	The trees waved	The sun smiled on me

Alliteration: when two or more words are close together and begin with the same letter		
down in the dumps	as fit as a fiddle	turn the tables
brown bread	baked beans	custard creams

Simile: describing something by comparing it to something else using 'as' or 'like'		
as fat as a pig	as skinny as a rake	as big as a bus
working like a dog	singing like a bird	crying like a baby

Metaphor: describing something as if it were something else without using 'as' or 'like'		
It's raining cats and dogs	The storm was a savage beast	The snow was a white blanket
He is a tower of strength	She is green with envy	He is a goal machine

Hyperbole: extreme exaggeration to make a point, for emphasis or for comic effect		
I've told you a million times	If I don't get that hat I'll die	I'll kill you if you spill that milk
These shoes are killing me	The best film ever made	She never stops talking

Onomatopoeia: a word that tries to sound like the thing it describes				
quack	cluck	moo	bark	meow
bang	crash	splat	thud	smash

Idioms: expressions with meanings that are only known through common use.		
He's kicked the bucket (died)	He has a chip on his shoulder (bares a grudge)	It's a piece of cake (easy)
Turn a blind eye (pretend not to see wrongdoing)	Turn a deaf ear (pretend not to hear wrongdoing)	Bite your tongue (stay silent, stop yourself talking)

sense	Sensory Description/Imagery			
see	beautiful white sand	deep blue ocean	flash of fireworks	breathtakingly
	peeling wallpaper	cracked ceiling tiles	dirty fingernails	bushy eyebrows
hear	rushing water	crashing waves	the crunch of snow	rustling leaves
	a terrified scream	creaking stairs	dripping tap	hacking cough
feel	a cool breeze	goose bumps	stinging my ears	numbing my toes
	a leathery hand	a chill down the spine	sand between toes	sun on shoulders
taste	thick hot chocolate	disgusting	salty as sea water	hot and spicy
	like warm treacle	sour	sweet as sugar	bitter as lemon
smell	freshly baked bread	newly cut grass	aroma of coffee	the scent of pine
	the stench of death	rotten eggs	cheap perfume	the smell of bacon