

Metaphors and Similes:

What is a metaphor?

A metaphor is a figure of speech that says one thing is the same as something else.

What is a simile?

A simile is a type of metaphor where two things are compared using the word "like" or "as".

*** Similes and Metaphors are often confused, but there is a difference. A metaphor says that a person, place, or thing is the same as another person, place, or thing. A simile uses a comparison to show a similarity without saying the two things are the same.

Let's compare!

Metaphor: Her beautiful voice is music to my ears.

Simile: Her beautiful voice is like music to my ears.

In this example, the metaphor defines her voice as music to my ears, while the simile only compares her voice to music.

Can you spot the simile in these examples?

Judy is a silly clown.

Judy is as silly as a clown.

Judy is defined as a silly clown in the first sentence, whereas she is compared to a silly clown in the second sentence.

The second sentence, which compares Judy to a silly clown, is the simile. The first sentence is a metaphor.