

Analyzing Figurative Language _____

Read the following short story. Look for any examples of figurative language (simile, metaphor, hyperbole, idiom, personification). Then identify the sentence or phrase of figurative language by highlighting the phrase or sentence using the following color code (simile=red, metaphor=blue, idiom=green, personification=orange, hyperbole=yellow)

My Big Brother, Donnie

I wish I was as fast as my big brother, Donnie. He is a cheetah on the basketball court. Before each game, he is so excited he is about to explode! The basketball court seems to be calling his name!

During the game, many exciting events happen. There are times when the ball is like a magnet attracted to his hands. Donnie is a protective mother cub when guarding the ball. The crowd is bouncing off the walls when he has the ball! The energy level in the room is like a power plant working overtime! Donnie kills me with his athleticism!

If the game becomes tied, the crowd becomes as quiet as a sleeping baby. Some fans are so into the game, you sense they could toss their cookies at any moment. They are worried their team is in a pickle. Occasionally, the singing of a cell phone is heard as a fan receives an urgent call. If you look at Donnie, he is a confident warrior. He knows the ball will be searching for him in the moments to come.

The crowd explodes as overtime play begins. Donnie searches the court like a hungry lion looking for food. His basketball skills are out of this world! He jumps as high as a kangaroo! The crowd is a roaring ocean! The basketball finds the net! The buzzer announces the end of the game. Donnie and his team flip their lids as they celebrate a victory!

When analyzing figurative language, I feel:

___ confident ___ unsure ___ I need help!

Answer Key:

Similes:

I wish I was as fast as my big brother, Donnie.

There are times when the ball is like a magnet attracted to his hands.

The energy level in the room is like a power plant working overtime.

If the game becomes tied, the crowd becomes as quiet as a sleeping baby.

Donnie searches the court like a hungry lion looking for food.

He jumps as high as a kangaroo.

Metaphors:

He is a cheetah on the basketball court.

Donnie is a protective mother cub when guarding the ball.

If you look at Donnie, he is a confident warrior.

The crowd is a roaring ocean!

Hyperbole:

Before each game, he is so excited he is about to explode!

Donnie kills me with his athleticism.

The crowd explodes as overtime play begins.

Personification:

The basketball court seems to be calling his name!

Occasionally, the singing of a cell phone is heard as a fan receives an urgent call.

He knows the ball will be searching for him in the moments to come.

The basketball finds the net.

The buzzer announces the end of the game.

Idioms:

The crowd is bouncing off the walls when he has the ball.

Some fans are so into the game, you sense they could toss their cookies at any moment!

They are worried their team is in a pickle.

His basketball skills are out of this world!

Donnie and his team flip their lids as they celebrate a victory!