

8th Grade English Summer Reading 2009

SIMILES AND METAPHORS

For this project you will be creating analogies to describe a main character of choice from your book, Eggs by Jerry Spinelli

A SIMILE is a comparison of two unlike things, typically marked by use of "like", "as", "than", or "resembles". Examples may include "the snow was as thick as a blanket", or "she was as smart as a crow", or the usage of emotions similes such as "madder than a bull", or "fast like a cheetah".

A METAPHOR is a direct comparison between two or more seemingly unrelated subjects. In the simplest case, this takes the form: "The [*first subject*] is a [*second subject*]." An example is: "Spencer Smith is a beast." More generally, a metaphor describes a first subject as *being* or *equal to* a second subject in some way. It is not being compared to, but IT IS the actual thing. Do NOT use like or as! Also, do NOT use adjectives. "John is tall." is not a metaphor.

You will need to create 5 similes and 5 metaphors for your character that describe their character. You must focus on internal characteristics. (The unseen and based more on their motivations and personality than visual characteristics)

YOU ALSO NEED TO EXPLAIN WHY THE SIMILE OR METAPHOR WOULD FIT THE CHARACTER...

Lastly, create a book to hold your similes and metaphors. Make sure to be creative and create a colorful and neat book cover.

PIZZA BOOK REPORT

Loser by Jerry Spinelli

1) Use a large paper plate (or, even better, a pizza tray) to trace and cut two large circles.

-One circle should be made of heavy paper for the base of your pizza.
(Thick construction or tag board works well.)

-One circle should be of plain white paper for written explanations.

2) With a pencil and ruler, divide the heavy paper circle into eight equal pieces.

ON THE FRONT OF EACH PIECE:

3) Draw or cut out pictures (or words) which represent parts of the book.
Glue these pieces on to fit in each of the eight pieces of pizza.

The topics of each piece are as follows:

- Piece one: Your favorite part of the book
- Piece two: Your least favorite part of the book
- Piece three: One character trait of the main character
- Piece four: A second character trait of the main character
- Piece five: A third character trait of the main character
- Piece six: A minor character
- Piece seven: The setting
- Piece eight: The theme (message or universal truth)

ON THE BACK OF EACH PIECE:

4) Use the large white paper circle for your explanations of what the slices represent and glue the “pizza” pieces back-to-back. The explanations should be in complete sentences utilizing good grammar.

This project will be graded on:

- 1) Evidence that you understand the book through “meaningful and thoughtful” representation/written work on the pizza and summary.
- 2) Neatness, creativity, color, thought, and effort.
(I will not grade artwork, but effort is always evident and will be considered greatly.)
- 3) Grammar, capitalization and punctuation in written areas.

Incoming 8th English

Loser by Jerry Spinelli

Eggs by Jerry Spinelli

Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli (needed the first full week of school)

Create a dialectical journal for Eggs by Jerry Spinelli.

You will need 15 entries that cover the entire book.

Dialectical Journal

The dialectical journal is a type of double-entry note-taking which students use while reading literature. In the two columns students write notes that dialogue with one another, thereby developing critical reading and reflective questioning.

Dialectical Journal

Quotation	Page	Why do I find this quotation interesting or important ?