

Name: _____ Date: _____

Figuring Out Figurative Language

In the story "There Were Giants," author Roland Smith uses similes and metaphors to describe the characters and setting. Similes and metaphors both compare one thing to a different thing:

Similes use the words *as*, *as if*, or *like* to show how one thing is similar to another.

Example: Her face was as bright as the sun.

Metaphors say that one thing is another thing.

Example: My little brother is a whirling tornado.

Directions: Read each line from the story below. Check the box for either simile or metaphor to show which kind of comparison it uses. Then answer the questions that follow.

1. "I am an ice queen unjustly imprisoned on a snowy lake, with no idea as to what my crime was or why I am here." (p. 12)

This comparison is a: simile metaphor

What does this comparison tell you about how Marie feels about living in the cabin?

2. "The lake ice shifts and groans like a winter ghost haunting the powdered forest surrounding it." (p. 12)

This comparison is a: simile metaphor

What does this comparison tell you about the lake ice? Why do you think the author chose a ghost as a comparison?

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3. "I step into my boots, drape a blanket around my shoulders, and clomp into the great room like a ruffled queen." (p. 12)

This comparison is a: simile metaphor

In plain words, describe how Marie looks.

4. "He is as still as the wood he has spilled." (p. 12)

This comparison is a: simile metaphor

What does this comparison show you about the state Gramps is in?

5. "Instead, Henry Benson on his snowmobile zooms from the mist like a superhero on ice." (p. 14)

This comparison is a: simile metaphor

What does this comparison tell you about how Marie feels when she sees Henry?
