A **hyperbole** (hy-PER-buh-lee) is an exaggeration so dramatic that it is obviously not true. It is used as a figure of speech in writing to make a point or create a vivid image.

Example: I’m so hungry I could eat a horse!

★ **Connect the phrase on the left with its corresponding hyperbole.**

1. The dirty dishes __________________ you could see it from a mile away.
2. My suitcase weighs __________________ an eternity.
3. The students put in __________________ mountain of homework he had to complete.
4. Josh had a __________________ were stacked a hundred feet high.
5. Shanelle had a smile so big that __________________ a ton.
6. I haven’t seen my Aunt Jana __________________ in ages.
7. The teacher talked for __________________ 110% of their effort during the final exam.

★ **Replace the words in parentheses with a hyperbole. Write the hyperbole on the answer line.**

8. The drive home (took a long time) __________________________.
9. The building is (tall) __________________________.
10. My bedroom is (dirty) __________________________.

★ **Think About the Definition**

Why does the word, **hyperbole**, come from the Greek word ‘hyperbolα’, meaning: excess, exaggeration, or throwing beyond?

_______________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________

Name: _______________________________                                  Date:  ______________________

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Write Your Own Hyperboles

A **hyperbole** (hy-PER-buh-lee) is an exaggeration so dramatic that it is obviously not true. It is used as a figure of speech in writing to make a point or create a vivid image. In this exercise you'll try writing your own hyperboles, so it’s time to get creative!

**Example**: She was so startled, she jumped ten feet high.

**Directions**: Replace the word in the parentheses with a hyperbole that exaggerates the intended meaning. Write the hyperbole on the answer line.

1. My room is (messy)
2. My teacher is (nice)
3. The sun is (bright)
4. The bus is (slow)
5. The classroom is (hot)
6. My lunch is (gross)

**Directions**: Add an exaggerated phrase to complete each sentence and turn these ordinary statements into hyperbole.

1. I’m so tired, ________________________________
2. My backpack is so heavy, ________________________________
3. When I’m scared, ________________________________
4. This car ride is so long, ________________________________
5. My parents are going to be so mad, ________________________________
6. My homework is so hard, ________________________________
7. I am so hungry, ________________________________
8. When I am sad, ________________________________
Hyperbole in Poetry

A hyperbole (hy-PER-buh-lee) is an exaggeration so dramatic that it is obviously not true. It is used as a figure of speech in writing to make a point or create a vivid image.

Example: I’m so tired I could sleep for a year!

Read the poem and answer the questions that follow.

Lil’ Peggy Sue, oh Lil’ Peggy Sue,
She always wanted something new.
She fell on her knees, crying, “boo hoo!”
Demanding new toys since she was just two.
She screamed at her parents for a kazoo,
a ball, a bike, a doll dressed in blue,
a train, a hat, a pet kangaroo.
Finally her parents said, “It’s through!
No more toys for you, Peggy Sue.”
She wailed and screamed for a week or two,
saying, “Oh please, I need just a few,
I’ll die without a new kangaroo.”
Her parents didn’t know what to do,
so they left lil’ Sue and moved to Timbuktu.

1. Underline an example of hyperbole in the poem.

2. What is the author or speaker literally saying?

3. What does the author or speaker actually mean?