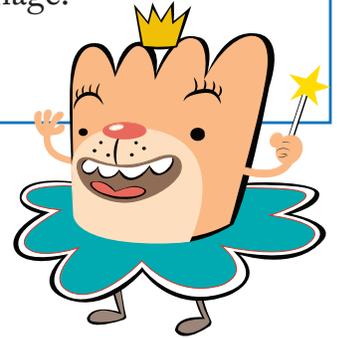


Having Fun with Hyperbole

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 'hyperbol' , meaning: excess, exaggeration, or throwing beyond?

Name: _____

Date: _____

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, _____

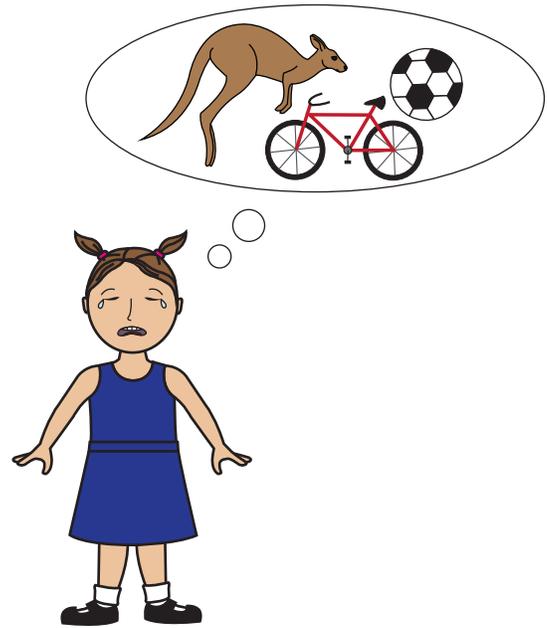
Hyperbole in Poetry

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?
