Onomatopoeia: Sound Words

Onomatopoeia is the use of a word or phrase that imitates the sound of something.

Example: sizzle. I heard the bacon sizzle in the pan.
Sizzle is a word that sounds like the bacon frying in the pan.

Each of the words in the word bank is an onomatopoeia. Complete each sentence by writing a word from the word bank in the blank. Use each word only once.

Word Bank

boom yowl hiss purr splash
hoot quack splat

1. The cat’s ____________________ told me it was happy.

2. Jake made a big ____________________ when he jumped into the swimming pool.

3. The duck will ____________________ if it is hungry.

4. I laid in bed and listened to the thunder ____________________.

5. Suddenly she heard the ____________________ of a snake.

6. The lonesome ____________________ of the coyotes echoed through the hills.

7. My ice cream cone went ____________________ onto the sidewalk.

8. The ____________________ of the owl told him someone was coming.

Name: ___________________________
Look for the Sounds

Underline each word that is an example of onomatopoeia. Using the context, explain how this word enhances the meaning of the text.

1. I decided to get a bowl of cereal for breakfast. Crunch! Crunch! Crunch!

   Explain how this word enhances the meaning of the text.

2. Gargle! Jennifer put her toothbrush away and turned off the water. She was ready to go to the dentist now.

   Explain how this word enhances the meaning of the text.

3. My little brother was skating and suddenly I heard a thud. “Boo hoo!” he wailed.

   Explain how this word enhances the meaning of the text.

4. We had finally reached the top of the long, winding trail. Gasp! At the muddy edge of the trail was a steep cliff.

   Explain how this word enhances the meaning of the text.

5. Argh! Sarah thought that she had saved my work on the computer, but the computer virus destroyed it.

   Explain how this word enhances the meaning of the text.