***AAPI Women Voices: Untold Stories Through Poetry (4th/5th Grade)***

Lesson 2: Similes & Metaphors

1. **Literal language and figurative language:**
   1. Literal language is used to mean exactly what is written:

* “It was raining a lot, so I rode the bus.”
* In this example of literal language, the writer means to explain exactly what is written: that he or she chose to ride the bus because of the heavy rain.
  1. Figurative language is used to mean something other than what is written; something symbolic, suggested, or implied:
* “It was raining cats and dogs, so I rode the bus.”
* In this example of figurative language, there were not actually cats and dogs falling from rain clouds, instead, the rain felt so heavy and large that it was almost as if small animals were falling from the sky.

1. **Simile and metaphor are figurative language:**

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|  | Simile | Metaphor |
|  | **using “like” or “as”** | **Not using “like” or “as”** |
| 1 | Life is like a journey. | Life is a journey. |
| 2 | You are like sunshine on a cloudy day. | You are my sunshine on a cloudy day. |
| 3 | You are like a hurricane: there's calm in your eye, but I'm getting blown away. | You are a hurricane. |

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|  | Simile |
| 4 | Her mind is as sharp as a razor. |
| 5 | For I knew his eyes like an old, old song. |
| 6 | Her long, blue skirt was like a river, flowing behind her in the breeze. |
| 7 | His hands were as cold as ice after walking home during the snow-storm. |
| 8 | My good intent has fallen short like an air ball. |

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|  | Metaphor |
| 9 | His answer to the problem was just a Band-Aid, not a solution. |
| 10 | The path of resentment is easier to travel than the road to forgiveness. |
| 11 | The teacher planted the seeds of wisdom. |
| 12 | The wheels of justice turn slowly. |

1. **Identify whether each example is a simile or a metaphor:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | Simile or Metaphor |
| 13 | He is as tall as a tree. |  |
| 14 | My book bag feels like a bag of rocks. |  |
| 15 | The snow is a white blanket. |  |
| 16 | She dances like she was trying to shake a spider off her leg. |  |
| 17 | He is the Michael Jordan of his basketball team. |  |

**Simile and Metaphor Practice— “Tell Them”:**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Phrases from the Poem: | Simile or Metaphor | What is being compared? | To what? | What is the author trying to say with this comparison? |
| black pearls glinting like an eye in a storm of tight spirals | simile | the black pearls | an eye | This is a description of the package of earrings she is preparing for her friends. |
| a proud people toasted dark brown as the carved ribs of a tree stump |  |  |  |  |
| our islands were dropped from a basket carried by a giant |  |  |  |  |
| the hallow hulls of canoes as fast as the wind |  |  |  |  |
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**“Tell Them” Discussion Questions:**

1. **Which similes and metaphors (pick two of each) were your favorites?**
2. **Pick one of your examples from Question 1 above and explain how this simile or metaphor is effective.**
3. **Write a simile using each of the following subjects as a point of comparison:**
   1. **lightning:**
   2. **a baby:**
   3. **velvet:**
   4. **a turtle:**