Poetry Study

Day 6
September 4th

• Describe the American flag using metaphors or similes.

• Agenda:
  – Daily description
  – Poetry I Love
  – Flour Power
  – Figurative Language
    • Personification and Apostrophe
    • Check Point
    • Using Figurative Language
Today’s Objectives

• I will know different types of figurative language.

• I will be able to identify figurative language in poems and be able to use figurative language to write my own descriptions.
Omaha Film Festival
48 Hour Film Film Challenge

• https://www.facebook.com/events/487192671706969/
Poetry I Love
Flour Power

- Making stress balls
- Jenga
- Group poem using story dice
Personification and Apostrophe

- Personification – giving human attributes to an animal, object, or concept

- Apostrophe – addressing someone absent or dead or something nonhuman as if that person or thing were present and alive
“The Author to Her Book” by Anne Bradstreet

• How does the author feel about her book?
• In what ways is the book like a child?
• How is this an example of both personification and apostrophe?
Figurative or Literal?

• “O tenderly the haughty day/Fills his blue urn with fire.”
• “It is with words as with sunbeams – the more they are condensed, the deeper they burn.”
• “Dorothy’s eyes, with their long brown lashes, looked very much like her mother’s.”
• “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we may die.”
Poems of Self

• Write a poem that helps the reader know you better. Use imagery, similes, metaphors, personification, and/or apostrophe.

• Trade poems with a partner. Identify moments in the poems that you really like. Also identify the use of figurative language.

• Are there places where figurative language could be used more effectively?

• Revise to be turned in next time.
Symbol

• Something that means more than what it is.
“The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost

• Who is the speaker?
• What is the situation?
• Identify the symbolism.
• Why does the speaker say he will “sigh”? Did he make a mistake?
• Why will the choice between two roads that seem very much alike make such a big difference many years later?
Image, Metaphor, and Symbol

• Image – means what it is
• Metaphor – means something other than what it is
• Symbol – means what it is and something more, too
Image, Metaphor, or Symbol?

• “You can’t teach an old dog new tricks.”
• “Some dirty dog stole my wallet yesterday.”
• “A shaggy brown dog was rubbing its back against a white picket fence.”
“A Noiseless Patient Spider” by Walt Whitman

- Personification
- Imagery
- Apostrophe

- How does this poem go beyond metaphor and to symbolism?
- Compare to “Harlem.” Why is the dream as a bomb a metaphor and Whitman’s description of a striving human soul as a spider a symbol?
“The Sick Rose”
By William Blake

• On a literal level, what is going on in this poem?
• For what might the rose be a symbol?
• The worm?
A warning!

• Symbols might be open to our interpretation, but whatever our interpretation, it must be firmly tied to the facts of the poem.
Allegory

• A narrative or description that has a second meaning beneath the surface.

• The surface story or description might be interesting on its own, but the author’s main interest is the ulterior meaning.

• Meanings are typically more definite than with symbols.
“Peace”
by George Herbert

- Identify the following:
  - Prince
  - Flock and fold
  - Twelve stalks of wheat
  - Grain
  - Bread
  - Secret cave
  - Rainbow
  - Garden
“The Writer”
by Richard Wilbur

• What comparison is being made in lines 1-15?
• Why would this “easy figure” be rejected?
• What comparison is being made in lines 16-30?
• Which is the stronger, more meaningful comparison?
“Because I could not stop for Death”
By Emily Dickenson

• Who is the speaker?
• What is the setting?
• To what is “Death” being compared?
• What might some symbols be in this poem?
• How could this be an allegory?