

Name _____

Date _____

Use Figurative Language

Figurative language refers to the tools writers use to make their writing more vivid and engaging. Among these tools, similes are one of the most interesting and effective techniques. A simile compares two different things by using the words **like** or **as**. This comparison helps create vivid imagery, making your writing more creative, unique, and memorable.

Read this poem and answer the questions.

Planting Roots

Long ago, a young boy named Ming left his home in China. He traveled across the ocean on a great ship, arriving in San Francisco. Ming grew up, got married, and started a new life in the city. He and his wife planted their roots deep in the soil of their new home. Soon, their family began to grow. Ming's children grew tall and strong, like the branches of a tree stretching toward the sky. As the years passed, the family expanded. Ming's grandchildren added more branches to the tree, and some of them moved to other parts of the country. Even as the branches spread far, the family's roots stayed firmly planted in San Francisco, where it all began.

1. What two things are being compared in the story?

2. How are the family and the tree alike? List one way.

3. Which figurative language device is used in the underlined sentence?

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Use Figurative Language – Answer Key

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1. What two things are being compared in the story?

The story "Planting Roots" compares a family to a growing tree.

2. How are the family and the tree alike? List one way.

They grow and expand over time.

3. Which figurative language device is used in the underlined sentence?

Simile.