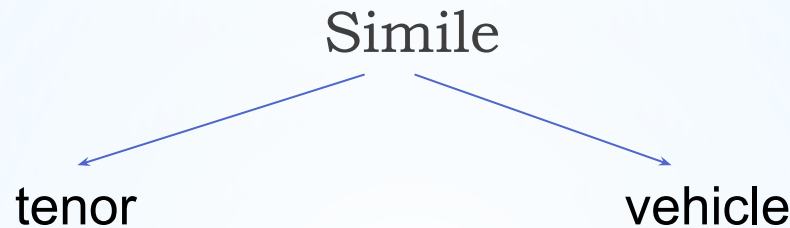


**Simile/comparison**

**['simɪlɪ]**

# What is a Simile?

**A simile** is a type of figurative language that expresses a comparison between two entities using comparison words.



Simile  $\neq$  logical comparison

**The *foundation of a simile*** is a feature when the unimportant properties of the compared objects are not taken into account, only the quality which is essential for the speaker is taken.

The tenor and the vehicle is expressed by notional verbs such as

■ **to resemble**

■ **to remind**

■ **to appear**



a **disguised** simile - the likeness between the objects seems less evident, and needs some effort to understand it.

*The ball appeared to the batter to be a slow spinning planet looming toward the earth. (B.M.)*

# Modern Examples of Similes

An example of this includes a line from Rihanna's song, "Diamonds:"

*"You and I, you and I,  
We're like diamonds in the sky"*

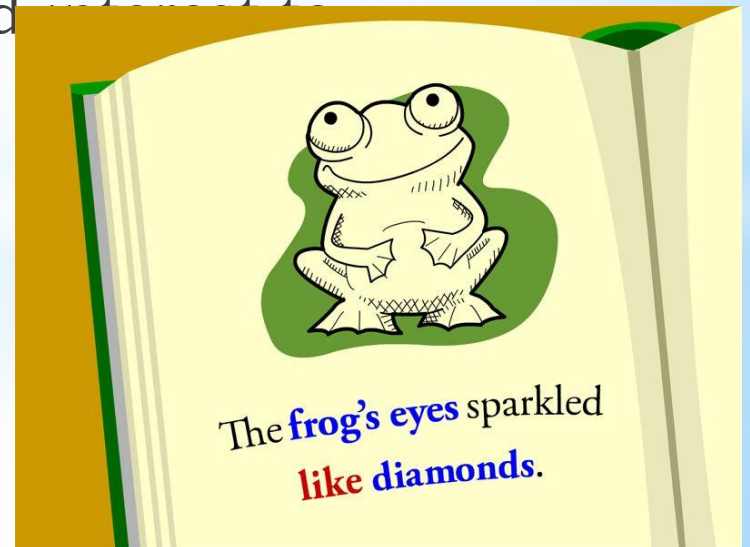
Here is an example of a simile being used in a popular American newspaper.

*Happy as a Clam*

This is a popular simile used in writing, and it describes someone who is extremely happy.

# The Function of Similes

- making writing more interesting
- making writing more concise
- expression of comparison
- giving greater significance to the text
- Similes add layered meaning and interest to writing



## **Example of Simile:**

- *Abe is like an old oak.*

Clearly, Abe is not *literally* an old oak. This simile states that Abe is *figuratively* like an old oak. The simile is figurative to compare Abe's qualities to the qualities of the old oak.

In this example, to say Abe is like an old oak might mean that he is experienced, strong, grounded. The exact meaning of a simile will always depend upon the context of its use.

## **Other examples:**

- Concrete box-style buildings are spreading like inkblots.
- The rabbit-hole went straight on like a tunnel.
- Personality is to a man what perfume is to a flower.  
(Charles Schwab)
- My friend is as good as gold.



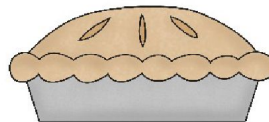
Two things are compared directly by using 'like'  
(A is like B.).

Other possibilities are for example:

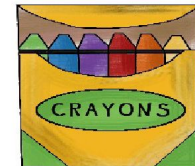
- A is (not) like B
- A is more/less than B
- A is as ... as B
- A is similar to B
- A is ..., so is B
- A does ..., so does B

# Simile

A simile is a comparison of two things using the words like or as.



as sweet as pie



colorful like crayons

To sum up:



**Thank you for your attention!**