Personification

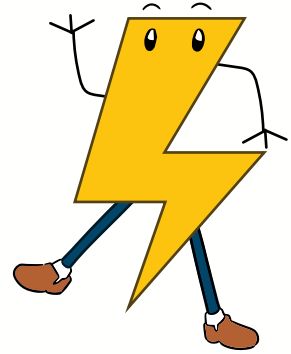Personification is a type of **figurative language**.

It is when an **animal, plant** or **non-living object** is given **human characteristics**.

These might include **emotions, sensations, physical movements or speech**.

example

Lightning danced across the sky.

Lightning can't really dance but this helps to create the impression that the lightning is **moving quickly and rhythmically.**

1. Match the boxes to complete the sentences.

The gentle waves	hit our vulnerable skin.
The twisting vines	screamed a warning to us.
The Sun's fierce beams	stroked the shoreline.
The fire alarm	peeked over the clouds.
The moon	suffocated the crumbling house.

2. In each of these examples, underline the example of personification and explain why you have chosen it.

(Take care as there might be more than one example in each sentence).

a) The warm ocean beckoned me closer.

_____

b) The wind shrieked menacingly as it raced through the abandoned woods.

_____

c) The fire choked the forest with its colossal flames.

_____

3. Personification is often used in poetry to create an image or picture in the readers' minds. Read this poem by Langston Hughes. Underline all the examples of personification in it.

April Rain Song

Let the rain kiss you

Let the rain beat upon your head with silver liquid drops

Let the rain sing you a lullaby

The rain makes still pools on the sidewalk

The rain makes running pools in the gutter

The rain plays a little sleep song on our roof at night

And I love the rain.

4. Think of all the other things that rain might do that a human can do. Use the word bank to create sentences describing the rain using personification.

Think carefully about the different types of rain and how your verb choice might differ depending on this.

shout	sob	jump	soothe	hammer
protest	slide	race	attack	knock

e.g. The relentless rain knocked on my window throughout the night, preventing me from finding sleep.

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