

CEDAR HOLLOW CASE FILES • LEVEL 1: SUPPORT

Case File: The Missing Bake Sale Bell (Support)

Someone borrowed the bake sale bell, and every clue uses figurative language. Ask: could this really be true? Use the Detective Clue Cards and the word bank to help you.

Part 1: Find the clue notes

- 1
- Six notes were found at the bake sale. Write each one under Literal (means exactly what it says) or Figurative (means something more).

ITEMS TO SORT

The library closes at 5 p.m.

The soup was as smooth as velvet.

Ravi rode his bike to school.

The flowers waved hello to the bees.

Snow fell on Tuesday night.

Nadia has a million friends.

Literal	Figurative

Part 2: Name it

- 2 A witness says, "The pancakes were **as fluffy as clouds**." What kind of figurative language is in bold?

Detective Clue Cards

SIMILE	Look for like or as .
METAPHOR	Says one thing is another.
PERSONIFICATION	A thing acts like a person.
HYPERBOLE	Too big to really be true.
IDIOM	A saying with a hidden meaning.

- A. Simile B. Hyperbole C. Idiom
- 3 A witness says, "Jamal told me he was going to **hit the hay** early." What kind is in bold?
- A. Simile B. Idiom C. Personification
- 4 A witness says, "**The moon peeked out** from behind the clouds." What kind is in bold?
- A. Personification B. Simile C. Idiom

Part 3: Decode the lead

- 5 A witness says the bell-taker told her, "My stomach is **as empty as a cave**." What does that really mean, and where should a detective look next?
- A. She was very hungry, so look at the cafe.
B. She wanted to explore a cave, so look at the hiking trail.
C. Her stomach hurt, so look at the pharmacy.
- 6 At the cafe, the bell-taker told the band, "**Break a leg!**" What did she really mean?
- A. Hurt yourself B. Good luck C. Play louder

- 7 Her last note says, "The hallway was a river of backpacks." It is a _____ because it says the hallway _____ a river.

WORD BANK

simile

metaphor

like

was

- 8 **It's raining cats and dogs** means it is raining very hard. Draw what the words literally say. Then write what the idiom really means.

Answer Key

Case File: The Missing Bake Sale Bell (Support)

Part 1: Find the clue notes

- 1 Six notes were found at the bake sale. Write each one under Literal (means exactly what it says) or Figurative (means something more).

Literal	Figurative
The library closes at 5 p.m.	The soup was as smooth as velvet.
Ravi rode his bike to school.	The flowers waved hello to the bees.
Snow fell on Tuesday night.	Nadia has a million friends.

The literal notes are plain facts. The figurative ones are a simile (as smooth as velvet), personification (flowers cannot wave), and hyperbole (a million friends).

Part 2: Name it

- 2 A witness says, "The pancakes were **as fluffy as clouds**." What kind of figurative language is in bold?

A. Simile

The word **as** compares the pancakes to clouds, two different kinds of things.

- 3 A witness says, "Jamal told me he was going to **hit the hay** early." What kind is in bold?

B. Idiom

Hit the hay is a common saying that means go to bed. Nobody is hitting any hay.

- 4 A witness says, "**The moon peeked out** from behind the clouds." What kind is in bold?

A. Personification

Peeking is something a person does. The moon cannot really peek.

Part 3: Decode the lead

- 5 A witness says the bell-taker told her, "My stomach is **as empty as a cave**." What does that really mean, and where should a detective look next?

A. She was very hungry, so look at the cafe.

A cave is hollow and empty. An empty stomach means she was hungry, so she went somewhere to eat.

- 6 At the cafe, the bell-taker told the band, "**Break a leg!**" What did she really mean?

B. Good luck

Break a leg is a common saying that means good luck, often said before a concert or a play.

- 7 Her last note says, "The hallway was a river of backpacks." It is a ____ because it says the hallway ____ a river. Her last note says, "The hallway was a river of backpacks." It is a metaphor because it says the hallway was a river.

- 8 **It's raining cats and dogs** means it is raining very hard. Draw what the words literally say. Then write what the idiom really means.

Look for: The picture shows cats and dogs falling from the sky (the literal words). The written meaning says it is raining very hard.