



## Analyzing Word Choices in Literature

### Today's Standard

8.RL.4 - Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.

### Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyzing the use of metaphors in poetry; Understanding character dialogue in novels; Examining word choice in persuasive essays; Identifying allusions in historical texts; Interpreting symbolic language in plays

### Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to figure out what words and phrases mean in stories, especially when they are used in special ways like metaphors or comparisons. We also looked at how the words an author chooses can change the feeling or meaning of a story.

### Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think that all words mean exactly what they say, but in stories, words can have special meanings. Another tricky part is understanding how changing one word can change the whole feeling of a story.

### Quiz Me

- What is a metaphor?
- How can a word make a story feel different?
- What does 'connotative' mean?
- Can you find an example of an allusion?
- Why do authors choose specific words?

### Help Me

When we read stories, sometimes words mean more than just what they say. For example, 'time is a thief' doesn't mean time steals things, but it makes us think about how time can take away moments. Understanding these special meanings helps us enjoy and understand stories better.

