Figurative Language Practice

“The Most Dangerous Game”

English I Honors

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After reading the Figurative Language Study Guide and watching the video instructions (click [here](https://youtu.be/Fg-P01lnv58) or scan the QR code), complete the practice from “The Most Dangerous Game” below.

**Example:**

**Quote:** “The lights of the yacht became faint and ever-vanishing fireflies; then they were

blotted out entirely by the night” (Connell 63).

**Type of figurative language:** metaphor

**Commentary:** While struggling to stay afloat in the water, the waves block his view of the light from time to time, making it seem as though the lights on the ship are flashing like the lights of fireflies, which are reminiscent of comfort on peaceful summer nights. Connell uses the metaphor of the fireflies to represent this same comfort that the ship brings to Rainsford as it abandons him. Within minutes, he’s alone in the dark water, without the safety of the ship and is forced to swim to Ship-Trap Island where danger awaits.

***Read the quotes, identify the type of figurative language, and write commentary that connects the figurative language to meaning. Think of the “so what?” - So what that it’s a simile. What does that simile suggest?***

Your job is not to justify WHY it’s that particular figurative language, but rather to connect to meaning. **DO NOT** write the following as analysis**:**

* He’s not literally a mouse. (Of course he’s not a mouse. It’s *figurative* language.)
* It helps the reader see…
* It paints a picture for us to see.
* This is a metaphor because….(ex. lights on a ship are not fireflies.)
* This is personification because…(ex. flowers can’t dance.)
* This is hyperbole because …(ex. you can’t really / literary have a million things to do)

Instead -

* What does it suggest about the flowers if they’re dancing? They’re happy, full of joy, life, etc.
* What does it suggest when you use exaggeration to say you have a million things to do? Someone is overwhelmed, stressed, drowning in work, etc.

1. Quote: “He struggled up to the surface [of the water] and tried to cry out, but the wash from the speeding yacht slapped him in the face, and the salt water in his open mouth made him gag and strangle” (Connell 63).

a. type of figurative language: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

b. commentary: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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2. Quote: “The general was playing with him! The general was saving him for another day’s sport! The Cossack was the cat; he was the mouse” (Connell 76).

a. type of figurative language: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

b. commentary: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3. Quote: While being hunted, Rainsford finds out that there’s quicksand when “his foot sank into the ooze. He tried to wrench it back, but the muck sucked viciously at his foot as if it were a giant leech” (Connell 77).

a. type of figurative language: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

b. commentary: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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4. Quote: Rainsford sets traps for Zaroff so that he might win the man-hunt. As he hides in the jungle and watches to see if quickly approaching Zaroff will fall victim to his pit with his limited view, Rainsford “lived a year in a minute” (Connell 78).

a. type of figurative language: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

b. commentary: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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