Figurative language describes something in a creative way. **Similes** are one kind of figurative language.

A simile uses the words *like* or *as* to compare two things.

The space between the fence boards was as wide as a wire.

The simile compares a **space** and a **wire**. Sometimes a comparison is the opposite of what you expect.

This simile means that the space is not very wide because wire is thin.

Read the sentence. Write the two things that the simile is comparing. Then explain what the simile means.

1. The dog shot through the fence boards like water out of a bottle.
   
   compares __________________ to __________________

2. The dog landed in a puddle that was as clear as mud.
   
   compares __________________ to __________________

3. After shaking off the water, his fur was as clean as a coal mine.
   
   compares __________________ to __________________

**CCLS 4.5a**

**Explain the Meaning of Similes**
Figurative language describes something in a creative way. **Metaphors** are one kind of figurative language.

A metaphor can **compare two things** by saying they are the same thing.

*The sun was a gleaming pearl* in the blue sky.

This metaphor compares the sun and a gleaming pearl. It means that the sun and the pearl have something in common.

Read the sentence. Underline each metaphor and circle the thing it describes.

1. The parade was a colorful river of floats.
2. Carpets of flowers moved down the street with ribbons of lights.
3. Applause exploded as the Boy Scouts carried flags.
4. Waves of riders on horseback gently trotted down the street.
5. The high school band, a sea of white and gold, proudly carried a wall of sound down the street.
6. Baton twirlers sent their shiny butterflies high in the air.
7. At the end, the audience’s clapping was a tunnel of thunder.

Read the sentence. Write the two things that the metaphor is comparing.

8. Later, the night sky was a canvas of painted light.
   compares ________________ to ________________

9. Fireworks were brilliant falling stars.
   compares ________________ to ________________

10. Skyrockets pop into a fountain of light.
    compares ________________ to ________________