

Personification

Writing

Personification = a figure of speech giving human qualities to an object or animal.

- The subject acts like a human (groans, hums, winks, begs...)
- It is not a comparison like a simile or metaphor.

Examples:

- The squirrels danced among the trees. (The squirrels were active.)
- The wind howled through the village. (What's personified?)
- The car complained when it started. (What's the meaning?)

- Explain the personification. What does the sentence mean? (**1 sentence each**)

1. Lou heard the last cookie calling his name.
2. The alarm clock screams at me every morning.
3. The hurricane devoured everything in its path.
4. Traffic crawled along the freeway.

- In general, personification involves verbs or adjectives. They can be emotions or feelings that belong only to humans. Use to make writing more interesting.

Poor: *The door was heavy.*

Better: *The door fought back as it opened.*

5. Personification can also be images. Sometimes Uncle Sam is used to personify the American government. How does the government act like a person? (**8-10 sentences**)

6. Create a personification. (**1 sentence each**)

- My flowers ...
- The thunder ...
- Our refrigerator ...
- As the parade ...

7. Fables, fictional books, and television shows also use personification. (**3-6 sentences**)

- How did Melvin and the Chipmunks make a birthday cake?



Remember: you can't have **personification** without a *person*!

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Examples:

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- Explain the personification. What does the sentence mean? (**1 sentence each**)

1. Lou heard the last cookie calling his name.
Lou wanted to eat the last cookie.
2. The alarm clock screams at me every morning.
The alarm clock is loud and unpleasant.
3. The hurricane devoured everything in its path.
The hurricane was powerful and destructive.
4. Traffic crawled along the freeway.
Traffic was extremely slow.

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5. Personification can also be images. Sometimes Uncle Sam is used to personify the American government. How does the government act like a person? (**8-10 sentences**)

6. Create a personification. (**1 sentence each**)

- My flowers ... **cried for water and sunlight.**
- The thunder ... **grumbled throughout the night.**
- Our refrigerator ... **hums happily in the kitchen.**
- As the parade ... **approached, it painted our eyes with color.**

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- How did Melvin and the Chipmunks make a birthday cake?

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