

# Hatchet

## Chapter 9

### Figurative Language

Writers use figurative language to make their writing more interesting and effective. By using a simile, metaphor, personification, or hyperbole, the writer is able to paint a picture in the mind of the reader.

Simile – a comparison of two things using the words *like* or *as*

- *The moon is like a big flashlight in the sky.*

Metaphor – calls one thing another

- *Her hair is silk.*

Personification – gives a nonhuman object human traits

- *The lightning scribbled in the sky.*

Hyperbole – an extreme exaggeration

- *I ate a mile high ice cream cone.*

Idiom – a commonly used expression that means something totally different than what it says

- *The teacher knew about the surprise because Jayne let the cat out of the bag.*

Complete the blanks in the following chart to examine the figurative language that Gary Paulsen uses in this chapter.

Page #	Passage	Type of figurative language
88	<i>They were a beautiful white with bark like clean, slightly speckled paper.</i>	Simile
89		Personification
89	<i>At last he had a ball of fluff as big as a grapefruit.</i>	
90		Simile
91	<i>I would kill, he thought suddenly, for a book of matches.</i>	
92	<i>...moved the sparks themselves into the bark, moved and grew and became worms, glowing red worms that crawled up the bark hairs...</i>	