



The Outsiders

Literary Skills

Chapters 5-6 *Simile & Metaphor*

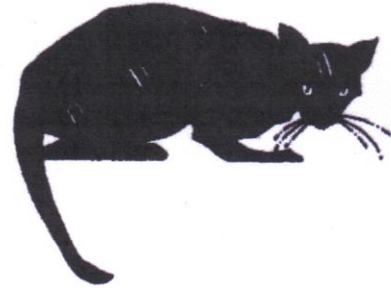
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• Figure Stating

One characteristic of Pony's writing style is the inclusion of many figures of speech, especially similes and *metaphors* when he is making comparisons.

A simile uses the words "as" or "like" to compare things. "The cat was as black as the dark side of the moon" is an example of a simile. Here the blackness of the cat is compared to the color of the dark side of the moon.

A comparison also may be merely suggested through *metaphor*. A metaphor does not use the words "as" or "like." "Chris covered his plate with a mountain of mashed potatoes" is an example of metaphor. Here the heap of potatoes is compared to a mountain.



Directions

Decide whether each of the following examples from chapters 5 and 6 is a simile or metaphor. Circle the appropriate letter.

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| 1. Dally grinned wolfishly | S | M |
| 2. the cinders and embers sting and smart like ants | S | M |
| 3. Pony sees a ribbon of highway | S | M |
| 4. the water is like liquid ice | S | M |
| 5. explosions from the fire sound like gunfire | S | M |
| 6. living with his haircut is like living in a Halloween costume Pony can't get out of | S | M |
| 7. Pony fears he'll drown in the smoke | S | M |
| 8. Dally's word is law | S | M |
| 9. the horizon was a thin golden line | S | M |
| 10. being in a burning ember is like being in a red hell | S | M |
| 11. as in waves, memories rushed over Pony | S | M |
| 12. the silent moment at dawn when everything holds its breath | S | M |