

# **AVOID overused, unoriginal similes! BAD Examples:**

1. as red as a rose
2. as black as ebony
3. as bright as the sun
4. as delicate as china
5. as quiet as a mouse
6. as smelly as a sock
7. as good as gold
8. as sweet as sugar
9. as old as an oak tree
10. as wrinkly as a prune
11. cuts like a knife
12. runs like a cheetah
13. beats like a drum
14. as cold as ice
15. as soft as a baby's bottom
16. as slow as a snail or as molasses
17. blind as a bat
18. as cold as ice
19. as flat as a pancake
20. as gentle as a lamb
21. soar like an eagle
22. as strong as a bull
23. like a lion attacking its prey
24. like a volcano about to explode
25. like a kid on Christmas OR like a kid in a candy store

Similes are often found (and they sometimes originate) in poetry and other literature. Here are a few examples:

- Dawn breaks open like a wound that bleeds afresh - Wilfred Owen
- Jubilant as a flag unfurled - Dorothy Parker
- Yellow butterflies flickered along the shade like flecks of sun - William Faulkner

Popular songs, too, make use of simile:

- Cheaper than a hot dog with no mustard - Beastie Boys
- My heart is like an open highway - Jon Bon Jovi

- These are the seasons of emotion and like the winds they rise and fall - Led Zeppelin

#### STUDENT SAMPLE

The puff rice balls taste like newly packed snowballs melting in my mouth.

- The presents laid silently waiting to be opened as a delicate flower waits to open its petals.
- The sound of my bones shattering under the cold steel hammer sounded like slush crunching under a car's tires on an icy morning
- The thick clouds moved in the gentle breeze changing shape like ice cream melting in the summer sun.

#### **TRY to CREATE your own FRESH SIMILES USING THREE of the starters below**

as exciting as \_\_\_\_\_  
 as funny as \_\_\_\_\_  
 as fat as \_\_\_\_\_  
 as cross as \_\_\_\_\_  
 as thin as \_\_\_\_\_  
 as mean as \_\_\_\_\_  
 as hot as \_\_\_\_\_  
 as boring as \_\_\_\_\_  
 as sick as \_\_\_\_\_  
 startled me like \_\_\_\_\_  
 crackled like \_\_\_\_\_  
 was as soothing as \_\_\_\_\_  
 the throbbing felt like \_\_\_\_\_  
 my teeth clenched like \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Some GOOD SAMPLES using the starters listed above:**

- **as exciting as free falling from the sky not knowing how fast you're going and hearing nothing but the wind swishing past your ears & in your face**
- **as exciting as the ascension to the peak of a roller coaster, awaiting and anticipating, the rush of the inevitable feeling of weightlessness as gravity sucked me down the steep slope.**

- **As boring as my brother plucking away on the same string of the guitar, never moving to another note.**
- **As hot as the tension between two teenage girls that are both involved with the same boy.**
- **As fat as an inflated hot air balloon getting ready to ascend into the summer sky.**
- **Her life was as messy as the tragic moment when you get that tickle in your nose and sneeze while holding the mascara wand to your eyeball.**
- **Was as soothing as the ripple of a raindrop on an old tin roof, under the weightless and descending clouds.**
- **It startled me like a phone call in a silent room with a number I've never seen before.**
- **It startled me like the pop of opening a tube of cinnamon rolls.**

REMINDERS:

Be UNIQUE and DEVELOP!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

