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(26) Topic:  
Define "Simile" and  
"Metaphor".

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What is metaphor?

A metaphor is a figure of speech in which two dissimilar things are compared directly. By using metaphor the writer makes his words more interesting and real and makes the readers imagine and even feel a scene or character. For instance -

"All the world's a stage  
All the men and women merely players"

Here the 'world' and stage aren't literally related but they are figuratively related because they are both used in playing the various roles of human beings during their lifetime.

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Write a short note on "Simile"

A simile is a figure of speech in which two dissimilar things or ideas are compared with the help of 'like' or 'as'. The uses of similes are very often observed in day-to-day life ~~also~~ the time of common talk also. For instance 'Madhuri looks beautiful like a rose.' 'Your brother is as brave as a lion.'

Similes are important tools that make language more creative, descriptive and entertaining. Here is a short passage from George Orwell's novel 1984:

"He sat as still as a mouse, on the futile hope that

whoever it was might go away after a single attempt. ... His heart was thumping like a drum, but his face, from long habit, was probably expressionless."

This passage uses two similes "as still as a mouse" and "thumping like a drum." Comparing the fearful man to a mouse emphasizes both his stillness and his helplessness. Comparing a heartbeat to a drumbeat emphasizes its pounding due to fear. Similes create a much more evocative passage than literal alternatives such as "He was afraid" and "His heart was hard."