

Name _____

Date _____ Hour _____

Similes and Metaphors: Describing the Unthinkable

A metaphor is a figure of speech used to compare two different things as though they were the same. An example would be, "My heart was a shattered mirror." A simile is also a figure of speech used to compare two things, but similes use "like" or "as." For example, "My love is like a red, red rose."

Directions: Use the examples below from *Night*, and decide if each is a simile or metaphor. Next, write what the vivid description means.

Example	Metaphor or Simile	Meaning
"We can't go like beasts to the slaughter."		_____ is like _____
"It was a nightmare."		_____ is being compared to _____
"Never shall I forget the little faces of the children whose bodies I saw turn to wreaths of smoke."		_____ became _____
"It seemed like an eternity to me."		_____ is like _____
"Our senses were blunted; everything was blurred as in a fog."		_____ was as a _____

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Conflict

Without conflict in a story, the plot can seem boring. There are two types of conflict: internal and external conflict. Internal conflict is a struggle that a character has within himself. It may be a struggle to make a decision or to believe or not believe something. External conflict is when a character finds himself in a struggle with another character, society, an animal or even nature itself. We call these conflicts Man v. himself; Man v. Man; Man v. Society; Man v. Machine; Man v. Animal; and Man v. Nature. (“v.” stands for “versus”)

Directions: Using the chart below, decide whether the example given is an internal or external conflict. Next, determine what type of conflict it is; then, decide whether or not the conflict is resolved.

Example	Internal or External	Kind of Conflict	Conflict Resolved?
“Behind me, an old man fell to the ground. Near him was an SS man, putting his revolver back in its holster.”		Man vs.	
“We’ve got to do something. We can’t let ourselves be killed.”		Man vs.	
“You must never lose faith, even when the sword hangs over your head.”		Man vs.	
“Poor devils, you’re going to the crematory.”		Man vs.	