

Writing Exercise:

Simile Train

A simile is a comparison between two unlike things, using the words “like” or “as.” A simile is meant to suggest a connection between the two things compared. It also extends the line, to give the reader a new way of thinking about or imagining something.

A simile train is just that — a train of similes. One box car after another after another, one simile after another after another. The idea is to write a simile in every line of the poem or at least with every new noun you introduce. And like a train rolling down the tracks, your poem of similes will gain steam flowing down the page. There is no set length. The goal is to help you gain confidence and practice writing similes — making connections between two different universes. Read the examples below and then try your own poem.

#1

The moon hung
Like a lamp
Next to stars
That flickered
Like white sparks
In a sky wide open
Like a door
To the evening.
Please come in.

#2

Watermelons warm as a summer
breeze
Green as a gator skin
Sweet as sugar.

Refreshing as water in a barren
desert
With seeds like coals in a fire
Shaped like the teeth from a lion.

#3

My dog’s face is like a warm hug
His nose is like a black button
His eyes are like small brown marbles
His tongue is like a wet pink slide
His ears are like little furry caves
His bark is like a broken doorbell
His paws are like mittens.

#4

Feeling lonely like a cloud
Floating in the sky
Like the last leaf hanging
On a tree
Like an old man sitting
on a park bench
Like an empty field In November
Like a pencil without paper
Like a Saturday night
with nothing to do.