Vocabulary Strategy

Figurative Language in Context

Figurative language is language that expresses ideas in an imaginative ways. Often, one idea or thing is compared to another. The comparison provides context clues to help you interpret the meaning of an unknown word.

A. Directions: Explain the comparison being made in each sentence. Then write a definition for each boldfaced word.

1. Playing chess with Olivia is like trying to outsmart a computer.

2. The children were as boisterous as a group of playful puppies.

3. Keely was as nonchalant about the applause as a movie star would have been.

4. The tornado was a whirlwind of destruction demolishing many homes.

B. Directions: Use each word in a sentence that makes a comparison. Be sure the comparison expresses the meaning of the word. Use a dictionary if necessary.

5. enthusiastic __________________________________________________________

6. antagonistic __________________________________________________________

7. elegant ______________________________________________________________

8. ruddy ________________________________________________________________