

Book Club Focus Assessment and Rubric

Name: _____ **Wishtree**
Book Club Focus Assessment

Figurative Language

Directions: Use what you know about figurative language with *Wishtree* to answer each of the following questions.

The text says, "A soft wind tickled my branches. Spring, that old rascal, was teasing us with the promise of warmer days." (pg. 39)
What is being personified?

(A) A rascal is being personified. (C) A tree branch is being personified.
(B) Spring is being personified. (D) A warm day is being personified.

The following quotation from *Wishtree* contains two examples of what type of figurative language?
"A little screwdriver with a yellow handle. Thin as a twig, bright as a meadowlark." (pg. 45)

(A) Similes (C) Metaphors
(B) Idioms (D) Personification

Red describes trees as, "...impartial observers. We are the strong silent type." (pg. 56) What two things is the author, Katherine Applegate, comparing with this metaphor?
How is the use of this metaphor helpful to you as a reader?

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Focus Assessment for Figurative Language



Answer Key **Wishtree**
Book Club Focus Assessment

Figurative Language

Directions: Use what you know about figurative language with *Wishtree* to answer each of the following questions.

Red states that he could fill a book with all of the things that he has worried over that have not happened. He then goes on to joke that, "In fact, I could be a book..." (pg. 68) What are both the literal and figurative meanings of Red's statement?

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: Literally, Red could be a book because books are made of paper and paper comes from trees. Figuratively, Red could be a book because he has been around for over 200 years and has seen a lot of things.

In the following simile from the text, "He walked over to me, saw the eggshells scattered like puzzle pieces, and scowled" (pg. 159), how does knowing about puzzle pieces help you understand the meaning of the text?

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: Knowing that puzzle pieces usually are scattered around while someone is putting a puzzle together helps me to visualize what the eggshells looked like at the bottom of the tree.

How does author Katherine Applegate's use of figurative language impact the reader's understanding of *Wishtree*?

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: Katherine Applegate's use of figurative language in *Wishtree* helps the reader understand the emotions, thoughts, and actions of the characters. By using personification, similes, and metaphors that compare the animals to humans, the reader is better able to understand the animals.

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Answer Key



Focus Assessment Rubric

Student: _____ Date: _____

CSS Reading Literature Standard 5.4
Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.

Levels	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Secure
Correct Answers	0 - 1 Correct	2 - 3 Correct	4 - 5 Correct	6 Correct
Specific Skill: Figurative Language	Was not able or is beginning to determine the meaning of figurative language in a text.	Is able to determine the meaning of figurative language in a text some of the time.	Is able to determine the meaning of figurative language in a text most of the time.	Is able to determine the meaning of figurative language in a text all of the time.

If student is less than secure, he or she needs to work on the following:

- Identify examples of figurative language (personification, similes, metaphors, and idioms).
- Interpret the literal and figurative meaning of words and phrases.
- Understand how two objects are related when compared using a simile or metaphor.
- Recognize how the use of figurative language impacts the text.

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CCSS:ELA-LITERACY.RL.5.4 Wishtree Book Club | @BookPagez.com

Rubric with Optional Common Core Alignment

