

Explain the Personification

Personification is a figurative element that attributes human thoughts, actions, characteristics or emotions to something that is not human.

Example: The sad clouds were ready to spill their tears upon the funeral procession.
Clouds cannot be sad, nor do they have tears.

Part I. Simple Sentences

Identify and explain the meaning of the personification in the sentences below.

1) The feathers danced in the wind. _____

2) The clock chimed an anxious warning at a quarter to midnight, alerting the children that the deadline had almost arrived. _____

3) The flies buzzed with regret as the lion shook its head. _____

4) The night was sullen and angry; it became darker with each step Maria took. _____

Part II. In Literature

Read the following passage from "O! Pioneers" by Willa Cather. Write three examples of the use of personification.

"We hadn't any of us much to do with it, Carl. The land did it. It had its little joke. It pretended to be poor because nobody knew how to work it right; and then, all at once, it worked itself. It woke up out of its sleep and stretched itself, and it was so big, so rich, that we suddenly found we were rich, just from sitting still."

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

**Figurative
Language****Add the Hyperbole**

Hyperbole is an exaggeration that is meant to emphasize a point. For example, “I’m so hungry I could eat a horse” emphasizes how hungry the speaker is.

Below is a paragraph about going to the grocery store. Rewrite the paragraph, adding hyperbole to the underlined phrases.

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Kristin and her mother went to the grocery store on Saturday. As they arrived at the store, it began to rain very hard. When they entered the door, they were quite wet. Kristin selected a shopping cart, but its wheels were not straight. It wobbled as she pushed it down the aisle. Her mother quickly selected the groceries on the list. While they didn’t have very many items, it was still very expensive. They grabbed the bags of groceries, which were very heavy, and returned home.
