*A Child Called It*: Figurative Language

Directions: Determine which figurative language device is portrayed in each sentence.

1. "Mr. Hansen barks he's had enough of this. I almost leap out of my skin with fear." \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. "In the years before I was abused, my family was the 'Brady Bunch' of the 1960s." \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. As she jerked violently to regain her stability I felt something pop, and felt an intense pain in my arm and shoulder. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. "I felt like an alligator in a swamp." \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. “SMACK! Mother hits me in the face.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. “My long-sleeve shirt has more holes than Swiss cheese.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
7. “Everyday seemed sprinkled with magic.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
8. “I was a robot, rarely revealing my emotions.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
9. “When I was given the luxury of food, I ate like a homeless dog.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
10. “Deep inside I could still feel the pressure building like a volcano, waiting to erupt from deep inside my soul.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
11. “You eat like a pig! Mother snarled.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
12. “One Friday afternoon in the winter of 1973, for no apparent reason, I stormed out of the classroom, screaming at everyone as I fled.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
13. “When they approached me, my heart became hard as stone, and I am sure they saw the hate etched in my face.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
14. “This bothered me a great deal because I knew that in an effort to avoid a beating, I was biting the hand that often fed me.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
15. “Whenever Mother struck me, it was as if she were taking her aggressions out on a rag doll.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
16. “At least I didn’t have to walk on eggshells anymore, wondering when the roof was going to cave in on me.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
17. “After school I had to run to the house and spill the contents of my stomach for Mother’s inspection.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
18. “Am I off the hook?” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
19. “My heart sank.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
20. “‘Two minutes!’ Mother barked.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
21. “Months crept by and Miss Moss became more persistent.” \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Word Bank**

**simile personification hyperbole idiom**

**metaphor onomatopoeia alliteration**