

Name: _____

Hyperbole

A hyperbole is an exaggerated statement that is not meant to be taken literally.

example: **Keith has a ton of homework tonight.**

Of course, if Keith put his homework on a scale and weighed it, it wouldn't really weigh a ton (2,000 pounds). This sentence is an exaggeration that shows he has lots of homework.



Tell whether each sentence uses hyperbole.

Write hyperbole or not hyperbole on each line.

1. _____ I have a million things to do today.
2. _____ Harold ate a large sandwich for lunch.
3. _____ Mary will be back in just a second.
4. _____ Ken will be back in about an hour.
5. _____ When Jamie told us the joke, we nearly died laughing.
6. _____ My grandmother will turn 67 years old tomorrow.
7. _____ My mother is always working.
8. _____ Notre Dame has a terrific football team this year.

Rewrite each sentence. Add hyperbole to your new sentence.

9. Uncle Larry is very smart.

10. My friend is a fast runner.

ANSWER KEY

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1. **hyperbole** I have a million things to do today.
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6. **not hyperbole** My grandmother will turn 67 years old tomorrow.
7. **hyperbole** My mother is always working.
8. **not hyperbole** Notre Dame has a terrific football team this year.

Rewrite each sentence. Add hyperbole to your new sentence.

9. Uncle Larry is very smart. **Answers will vary.**

Two possible answers: Uncle Larry is a genius.
Uncle Larry is the smartest man in the world.

10. My friend is a fast runner. **Answers will vary.**

Two possible answers: My friend runs as fast as lightning.
My friend runs so fast that all I see is a blur when she goes by.