



FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN

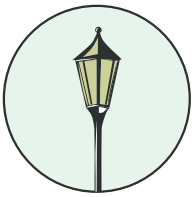


THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

Read the following excerpt from Chapter 10 of C. S. Lewis's novel. Then answer the questions that follow. In this excerpt, siblings Lucy, Peter, and Susan are following Mr. and Mrs. Beaver through Narnia. They are on their way to meet the lion Aslan, the rightful king of Narnia, while trying to avoid capture by the White Witch.

- The snow had stopped and the moon had come out when they began their journey. They went in single file—first Mr. Beaver, then Lucy, then Peter, then Susan, and Mrs. Beaver last of all. [...]
- Lucy enjoyed it at first. But as they went on walking and walking—and walking—and as the sack she was carrying felt heavier and heavier, she began to wonder how she was going to keep up at all. And she stopped looking at the dazzling brightness of the frozen river with all its waterfalls of ice and at the white masses of the treetops and the great glaring moon and the countless stars and could only watch the little short legs of Mr. Beaver going pad-pad-pad-pad through the snow in front of her as if they were never going to stop. [...]
- Lucy was so tired that she was almost asleep and walking at the same time when suddenly she found that Mr. Beaver had turned away from the river bank [...] vanishing into a little hole in the bank which had been almost hidden under the bushes. [...]
- Lucy immediately stooped down and crawled in after him. Then she heard noises of scrambling and puffing and panting behind her and in a moment all five of them were inside.
- "Wherever is this?" said Peter's voice, sounding tired and pale in the darkness. (I hope you know what I mean by a voice sounding pale.)
- "It's an old hiding place for beavers in bad times," said Mr. Beaver, "and a great secret. It's not much of a place but we must get a few hours' sleep." [...]
- It wasn't nearly such a nice cave as Mr. Tumnu's, Lucy thought—just a hole in the ground but dry and earthy. It was very small so that when they all lay down they were all a bundle of fur and clothes together, and what with that and being warmed up by their long walk they were really rather snug. [...] Everyone went straight to sleep.
- It seemed to Lucy only the next minute (though really it was hours and hours later) when she woke up feeling a little cold and dreadfully stiff and thinking how she would like a hot bath. Then she felt a set of long whiskers tickling her cheek and saw the cold daylight coming in through the mouth of the cave. But immediately after that she was very wide awake indeed, and so was everyone else. In fact they were all sitting up with their mouths and eyes wide open, listening to a sound which was the very sound they'd all been thinking of (and sometimes imagining they heard) during their walk last night. It was a sound of jingling bells.
- Mr. Beaver was out of the cave like a flash the moment he heard it [...] to see which way the Witch's sledge went. The others all sat in the cave waiting and wondering. They waited nearly five minutes. Then they heard something that frightened them very much. They heard voices. "Oh," thought Lucy, "he's been seen. She's caught him!"
- Great was their surprise when, a little later, they heard Mr. Beaver's voice calling to them from just outside the cave.
- "It's all right," he was shouting. "Come out, Mrs. Beaver. Come out, Sons and Daughters of Adam and Eve. It's all right! It isn't her!" This was bad grammar of course, but that is how beavers talk when they are excited; I mean, in Narnia—in our world they usually don't talk at all.





FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

Answer the questions about figurative language in the excerpt from
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.



1. In paragraph 2, the author uses imagery and figurative language to set the scene. Reread the excerpt below and answer the questions that follow.

And she stopped looking at the dazzling brightness of the frozen river with all its waterfalls of ice and at the white masses of the treetops and the great glaring moon and the countless stars and could only watch the little short legs of Mr. Beaver going pad-pad-pad through the snow. . .

PART A. What effect do the underlined phrases have on the tone of the passage?

- a. They give a feeling of peace and tranquility.
- b. They indicate an air of wonder and unease.
- c. They evoke an aura of innocence and whimsy.
- d. They suggest a sense of confusion and hostility.

PART B. Choose the best literal description of the scene as described in the above excerpt.

- a. The cover of night provided the travelers a measure of protection from the cold gaze of the evil Witch.
- b. The light of the winter night was so bright that the travelers were blinded and too easy to spot.
- c. The night was cold and clear, and the moon's light reflected off the ice and snow all around the travelers.
- d. The moon lit the hidden path for the travelers, helping them move more quickly through the night.

2. List three instances of **repetition** of words or sounds in paragraph 2. Briefly describe the effect of each.

REPETITION	EFFECT

3. Describe what is meant in paragraph 5 by Peter's "voice sounding pale." Use context clues to help you.

4. In paragraph 7, what does the metaphor "they were all a bundle of fur and clothes" show?

- a. The travelers did not fit well enough inside the cave for everyone to be comfortable.
- b. Everyone was very nervous that they would be found by the Witch while sleeping in the cave.
- c. Everyone wrapped themselves in warm clothes and fur coats that were stashed inside the cave.
- d. The children and the beavers were very close together, helping them stay warm and cozy.

5. In paragraph 11, Mr. Beaver addresses the children as "Sons and Daughters of Adam and Eve." What type of allusion is this, and what does it show about the children?
