

## Worksheet 3. Figurative Language in Their Eyes Were Watching God THE BEST OF THE HUMANITIES ON THE WEB

Name:	Date:
Teacher:	Grade:
Directions: Reread the following passages. l) Use the chart to record yo quotations from the text in your answers.  Chapter 2:  • The first paragraph beginning "Janie saw her life like a great tree.  • The two paragraphs that begin "it was a spring afternoon"	ee in leaf"
List in the first column below as many words and phrases that relate to touch, smell) as you can from these three paragraphs.	the senses (sight, sound, taste,
Word or phrase	Type of imagery
Now go back and identify the type of imagery for each word or phrase auditory (hearing); tactile (touch); gustatory (taste); olfactory (smell); of the type of imagery in the second column.	•
What kinds of imagery predominate?	

How effective are these images in giving the reader a sense of what is happening?				
Hurston's uses the word "monstropolous" to describe the lake. What is the impact of this word choice?				
How is this section an example of <i>personification</i> ?				
	g passages. What figures of speech do aguage on the passage as a whole?	you find in each one? What is the		
A. Chapter 1, paragraphs 4, 5 (Description of Eatonville town folk)				
Word or phrase	Figure of speech/literary technique	Impact on the passage		
The sun was gone but he had	S. T.	The state of the s		
left his footprints in the sky.				
It was the time for sitting on				
porches It was the time to				
hear things and talk				
These sitters had been				
tongueless, earless, eyeless				
They became lords of sounds				
and lesser things. They				
passed nations through their				
mouths.				
they chewed up the back				
parts of their minds and				
swallowed with relish.				
B. Chapter 9, the long paragraph that begins "Most of the day she was at the store" (Janie's analysis of her feelings about Nanny and her own status)				
Word or phrase	Figure of speech/literary technique	Impact on the passage		
[the house] creaked and cried	•			
She had been whipped like a				
cur dog.				

2. While nature has its idyllic side, it can also be frightening. Go to Chapter 18, which depicts the

coming of the hurricane. Locate the paragraph toward the middle of the chapter that begins, "They stepped out in water almost to their buttocks ..." which describes the dike around the lake breaking

down. Read the paragraph as far as "on a cosmic scale," and list the sensory images you find.

[Nanny] pinched [the	
horizon] in to such a little	
bit of a thing that she could	
tie it about her	
granddaughter's neck tight	
enough to choke her.	
She had found a jewel down	
inside herself.	
Like all the other tumbling	
mudballs, Janie had tried to	
show her shine.	

C. Chapter 16: The paragraph beginning "Mrs. Turner, like all other believers ..." (The description of Mrs. Turner's "worship" of whiteness)

This is an extended metaphor. What words and phrases contribute to this extended metaphor?

What is the impact of this passage on the reader?