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# Hyperbole

**Objective:** The students will use hyperbole to create emphasis in descriptive writing.

## Procedure

1. Write a definition of hyperbole on the chalkboard: *Hyperbole is the use of exaggeration to describe something by stretching the truth in a colorful way.*
2. Read “Example of a Description of Character” (page 11) and have the students identify the hyperbole in the writing. Ask the students to identify other places in the text where hyperbole might be effective.
3. Have the students brainstorm topics for their descriptive writing and write rough drafts. Instruct the students to go through their rough drafts and highlight places where they think that hyperbole would be particularly effective.
4. Have the students complete “Using Hyperbole” (page 67) and add at least one hyperbole to their drafts.
5. Divide the students into partners and have the students share the hyperbole that they have added with their partner. Direct them to discuss the following questions: Does the use of hyperbole enhance the descriptive writing? Explain. What needs to be added, changed, or deleted to improve the writer’s use of hyperbole?
6. Allow students time to revise their drafts based on their peer’s feedback.

**Portfolio Piece:** Have the students write a reflection in which they identify how their writing is enhanced by hyperbole.

**Publishing:** Post the students’ writing on a bulletin board with their use of hyperbole highlighted. Read some tall tales to the students and then sprinkle the bulletin board with quotations.

**Technology Connection:** Have the students use a word-processing program to revise their descriptive writing.

**Home-School Connection:** Have the students compose a family tall tale and highlight the hyperbole.

## Assessment:

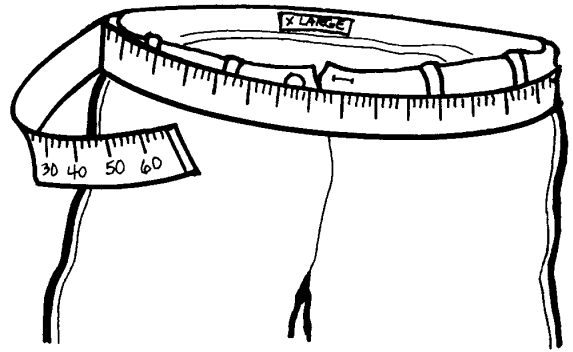
1. Assess the students’ ability to complete the reproducible entitled “Using Hyperbole.”
2. Evaluate students’ descriptive writing for the effective use of hyperbole.

# Using Hyperbole

**Directions:** Read the following information and complete each of the activities. Remember that hyperbole is the use of exaggeration to describe something by stretching the truth in a colorful way.

**Examples:** The man was wearing pants that were 67 sizes too big.

My mouth was on fire after eating the salsa.



## Writer's Practice:

Read each of the sentences below and generate a hyperbole that expresses the intent of the sentence.

1. The wind blew very hard. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. It took a long time for us to reach our destination. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The girl was very funny. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. The sun was very hot. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. The house was very big. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Adding to Your Draft:

Find three places in your draft where you have a statement that could easily be turned into hyperbole. Generate a hyperbole for each statement; then select your favorite hyperbole.

Old Sentence	New Sentence with Hyperbole	Check (✓) if adding a hyperbole.