

Use Figurative Language

Figurative language is when you use words to create images and stir feelings in your readers. Figurative language often goes beyond the literal meaning of the words on the page.

Read the passage and answer the questions.

Today was not my day. First, the cranky old toaster oven sent smoke all over the kitchen, so I was forced to eat sludgy oatmeal instead. With raisins! They looked like wrinkled little bugs swimming in my cereal. Then Mom said, “Don’t forget that you have your appointment with the dentist today!”

“Oh, this day just keeps getting better.” I groaned sadly. “Dr. Stouffer is mean. He is always going on and on about how I shouldn’t eat so many sweets and desserts.”

“Dr. Stouffer wouldn’t hurt a fly. Perhaps, if you brushed more often, you wouldn’t get so many lectures,” Mom said.

1. How does the writer feel about oatmeal with raisins?

How do you know? _____

2. Does the mom think that Dr. Stouffer is a kind man or a mean man? How do you know? _____

3. What statement in the passage is exactly opposite of what the writer really means? _____