**K12ELA8: Unit 5**
**Subunit 5.5.2 Assessment**
**"Speaking, Listening, and Language"**
**Answer Key**

1. A word's denotation is its actual meaning, or "dictionary definition." Denotation differs from connotation in that connotation refers to a feeling or emotion brought on by the word. For example, the words "home" and "residence" have similar denotations. However, "home" makes one think of a cozy place, while "residence" has a more impersonal feel to it. Those feelings and thoughts associated with the word are connotations.

2. Figurative language refers to an assortment of devices that can be used to modify language by making it more interesting. Writers use figurative language to make their words more vivid and engaging for their readers. Examples will vary.

3. Both are used for comparison. However, a simile uses "like" or "as" as part of its comparison. For example, "He runs like the wind," or "She is as sweet as sugar." A metaphor is a direct comparison, as shown by this example: "A warm cup of tea is a comforting friend."

4. Imagery is writing that appeals to the reader's senses. For example, someone reading an imagery-heavy description of a Thanksgiving meal will almost smell and taste the food. Examples will vary.

*NOTE: Use the following rubric to evaluate your responses for questions 1–4.*

| Acceptable | Unacceptable |
|---|---|
| Responses are essentially correct. | Responses contain erroneous information. |
| Directions were followed; responses are two sentences or more in length. | Directions pertaining to length were not followed; responses are too brief or needlessly long. |
| Errors in grammar and mechanics are minimal or nonexistent. | There are several errors in grammar and mechanics. |

5. *NOTE: There may be some small variations when you compare your answers to the definitions below, but they should be essentially similar.*

Personification: the giving of human qualities to something nonhuman.
Onomatopoeia: the forming of a word based on its association with a sound.
Hyperbole: an exaggeration used to help writers make their writing more lively.