

12. Look back over the work we have been completing on the Alchemist's letter. What adjectives have been used to describe the machine? Can you choose one of these ideas and extend it? E.g. Golden, like the sun? Which device are we using?

"The machine was the alchemist's baby: a project he had nurtured and raised himself." Can you identify and explain the metaphor? Why are comparisons like this used in writing?

Similes and Metaphors are called figurative language.

Look at how these ideas have been extended with figurative language.

- The large machine had many levers and buttons. The rather large machine had numerous levers and buttons, like the technical cockpit of an aeroplane.
- It used my own memories to power the device. To power the device, I fed it my own memories.
- The feeling of greed overwhelmed me but I could not stop. The feeling of greed ate away at my conscience, like a persistent hungry monster.

Use similes and metaphors to extend these

When I successfully produced that first piece of gold, I felt so happy.

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Verideon, my boy, would one day be rich too.

.....

My life changed and I became a selfish person.

.....

- Highlight the similes and metaphors in the extract below.

The Alchemist's Regret This metallic beast is a dream turned into a nightmare. A child I nurtured for far too long, neglecting my own real flesh and blood. Its mechanical sounds and manoeuvres were once so satisfying, like the sound of rain on a hazy summer's evening, though it is no longer so sweet, nor so pleasurable. I was blinded by the precious metal it produced. It made me greedy and hungry for more. Slowly, guilt began to wash over me with every new golden creation, like the waves from a toxic ocean. Yet still, I continued to work like a dog to fuel my selfish desires, until quite abruptly, my world was suddenly taken. A tough lesson to learn. I became lost at sea and mourning for the life I once lived: a broken soul- a shadow of the man I once was.

CHALLENGE:

Can you write as the Alchemist, describing how he felt as he changed from a respectable man into the creature he describes in the film? You must use similes and metaphors to convey thoughts, feelings and emotion.