

# Hyperbole

Hyperbole is the deliberate use of exaggeration to emphasise an idea or opinion.

I've told you **a thousand times** to put your clothes away.

Hyperbole is used to suggest something is more important, worse or better than it actually is. Hyperbole creates dramatic effects through the use of dramatic imagery, but is less effective if overused.

## Exercise 3.1.17

Write three examples of hyperbole from everyday life. One has been provided to start you off.

1 Will you stop talking at a thousand kilometres an hour?

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_

## Idiom

An idiom is a special way that a group of people say or write something, especially an expression that has a meaning other than its literal meaning.

The groom got cold feet.

She screamed blue murder.

Australian English is rich with idioms that other English speakers find baffling.

He has kangaroos loose in his top paddock.

## Exercise 3.1.18

Explain what each of these idiomatic expressions actually means. The first one is done for you.

1 no room to swing a cat: extremely small

2 to have a chip on your shoulder \_\_\_\_\_

3 to break the ice \_\_\_\_\_

4 to be down for the count \_\_\_\_\_

5 to lose your marbles \_\_\_\_\_

6 to come up for air \_\_\_\_\_

7 to make up your mind \_\_\_\_\_

8 in a nutshell \_\_\_\_\_