

EXCERPT FROM CLEMENT MOORE’S “T’WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS”

Student Name _____ Hour _____

Part I: *Underline phrases in Moore’s poem that use **similes**. Write these phrases in the box provided.*

...Down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.
He was dressed all in fur, from his head to his foot,
And his clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot;
A bundle of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.
His eyes—how they twinkled! his dimples, how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow,
And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow;
The stump of a pipe he held tight in his teeth,
And the smoke, it encircled his head like a wreath;
He had a broad face and a little round belly
That shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.
He was chubby and plump, a right jolly old elf,
And I laughed when I saw him, in spite of myself;
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head
Soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread;
He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
And filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose;...

Write all similes you find.

He looked like a peddler

His cheeks were like roses

His nose like a cherry

Mouth drawn up like a bow

Beard as white as the snow

Smoke encircle his head like a wreath

Belly shook like a bowl full of jelly

Source: Moore, C. (1822). *A visit from St. Nicholas* (excerpted). Poetry Foundation. Retrieved from:
<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/43171/a-visit-from-st-nicholas>

Part II: *What did Clement Moore leave out when describing Santa Claus? His boots? His hair? His red Santa suit? His reindeer? His sleigh? With your partner, write three separate sentences using **metaphors** to describe three of Santa’s features that Moore left out.*