Figurative Language Practice

Choose one answer per question. Circle A, B, C, or D.

1. A story says, ‘The folded tent lay like a wrinkled map.’ Which device compares the tent to the map?
   A. Simile
   B. Personification
   C. Hyperbole
   D. Onomatopoeia

2. A student writes, ‘The crowded hallway was a river between classes.’ Which device turns the hallway into a comparison with flowing water?
   A. Alliteration
   B. Simile
   C. Metaphor
   D. Hyperbole

3. What device is used in the sentence ‘The hallway clock scolded me with each tick’?
   A. Simile
   B. Personification
   C. Onomatopoeia
   D. Oxymoron

4. A character says, ‘I drew a million little sketches while I waited,’ after a single afternoon. Which device makes the wait sound especially long?
   A. Onomatopoeia
   B. Simile
   C. Situational irony
   D. Hyperbole

5. In ‘Bright banners bobbed beside the bridge,’ which repeated initial sound produces the alliteration?
   A. The r sound
   B. The b sound
   C. The d sound
   D. The g sound

6. The sentence ‘The paper bag opened with a pop’ uses which word as an example of onomatopoeia?

A. Pop
B. Paper
C. Bag
D. Opened

7. A coach writes, ‘Saturday’s practice time is still up in the air.’ What should players understand?

A. The players must arrive by plane.
B. Practice will take place outdoors.
C. The team has moved practice to Saturday morning.
D. The time has not been decided.

8. Which phrase uses an oxymoron to describe a room that has suddenly fallen silent?

A. Complete quiet
B. Unusually quiet
C. Deafening quiet
D. A quiet room

9. A club opens a lost-and-found desk. The volunteers soon misplace their own logbook for tracking lost objects. What makes this situation ironic?

A. The volunteers misplace the tool meant to help them track missing items.
B. The volunteers give a human voice to an object.
C. Two nearby words start with the same sound.
D. A narrator compares a logbook to a desk using like.

10. A teacher tells the class, ‘Today’s ideas are seeds for next week’s project.’ What does seeds suggest about the ideas?

A. The class needs to buy actual seeds for the project.
B. Students should discard them before the project begins.
C. They are already complete solutions to the project.
D. They are starting points that the class can develop.

11. Which use of frozen describes a literal physical change?

A. The prices were frozen until spring.
B. The dancer was frozen with surprise.
C. The shallow puddle was frozen after a night below zero.
D. The debate was frozen in place by a disagreement.

12. A costume designer says, ‘We need more hands at the repair table.’ What do hands stand for in this example of synecdoche?

A. A box of gloves
B. People who can help
C. The handles on the table
D. Tools for cutting fabric

13. Which revision turns ‘The roof sounded like a drum in the rain’ into a metaphor while keeping the drum comparison?

A. The rain sounded louder than the music inside.
B. The roof sounded like a drum as soon as it rained.
C. The roof had a sharp sound whenever it rained.
D. The roof was a drum when the rain came.

14. Read these sentences. ‘The streetlights yawned awake. In the slow traffic, buses moved like turtles.’ Which two devices appear in order?

A. Personification, then simile
B. Simile, then personification
C. Hyperbole, then onomatopoeia
D. Alliteration, then metaphor

15. A writer starts a passage with ‘My first draft is a rocky trail.’ Which next sentence continues that metaphor and shows what revision does?

A. The trail climbed higher after the rain.
B. Revision turns every sentence into a bright lantern.
C. Revision clears the stones that make readers stumble.
D. I printed the revised draft on a blue sheet.