FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Quotations I and V are similes, which are extended or developed into paragraphs. Quotations II, III, and IV are metaphors. Quotations III, IV, and V are taken from student essays.

I.

The story of Doctor Reefy and his courtship of the tall dark girl who became his wife and left her money to him is a very curious story. It is delicious, like the twisted little apples that grow in the orchards of Winesburg. In the fall one walks in the orchards and the ground is hard with frost underfoot. The apples have been taken from the trees by the pickers. They have been put in barrels and shipped to the cities where they will be eaten in apartments that are filled with books, magazines, furniture, and people. On the trees are only a few gnarled apples that the pickers have rejected. They look like the knuckles of Doctor Reefy's hands. One nibles at them and they are delicious. In a little round place at the side of the apple has been gathered all of its sweetness. One runs from tree to tree over the frosted ground picking the gnarled, twisted apples and filling his pockets with them. Only the few know the sweetness of the twisted apples.

The girl and Doctor Reefy began their courtship on a summer afternoon.

Sherwood Anderson, *Winesburg, Ohio*

II.

In the community of living tissues, the uncontrolled mob of misfits that is cancer behaves like a gang of perpetually wilding adolescents. They are the juvenile delinquents of cellular society.

Dr. Sherwin B. Nuland, *How We Die*

III.

Thoreau says that time is a stream we go fishing in, but there is not much hope that we are going to catch any fish.

IV.

Every man has a duty to carve a life out of himself, as if it was a work of art with details worthy of contemplation.

V.

*The following excerpt describes how the writer feels when his older sister offers him and his friends a joint and his friend John accepts it:*

I felt as if I was in a battle. We had just lost one of our men, so now there were only Vinny and I against the enemy. The enemy was everything that my parents had ever told me not to do. Don't drink. Don't smoke. Don't curse. Don't take drugs. I knew that if I smoked that joint, I would be the enemy, even as John now was.