On frosty days, have you ever referred to winter as “harsh,” “kind,” or even “fickle”? Today, you will get to enjoy a winter writing activity as you learn to personify winter.

**Personification** ascribes human qualities such as thought, will, and emotion to non-human creatures and inanimate objects.

**Metaphor**: comparison between two unlike things **without** using “like” or “as.”

**Simile:** comparison between two unlike things using “like” or “as.”

**Step 1: Brainstorming:** Use a separate sheet of lined paper to brainstorm your ideas.

* Imagine **Winter as a person** knocking at the front door.
* **What does she say?** *(She calls me outside to play. / She warns me to stay inside.)*
* **What does she do?** *(Winter shows me a world of white, cold trees. / Winter* *builds sharp, dangerous icicles.)*
* **What does she want?** *(She asks me to feed the birds who didn’t fly south. / She wants me to forget sunshine and summer.)*

**Step 2: Writing:** Below your brainstorm ideas, organize your personified winter into a poem.

\_\_\_ Add **sensory details**. Write interesting sentence starters, use strong **verbs** and **nouns**, and incorporate vivid **adjectives** and **adverbs**. Think about the questions below to help you.

\_\_\_ You may break your poem up into multiple stanzas or just use one stanza.

\_\_\_ You must have at least 10 lines in your poem.

\_\_\_ You must incorporate personification and at least ONE simile or metaphor.

* **How does Winter “look” human?** *(Her snowy gown trails behind her as she waltzes through the woods. / Winter wears a white fur coat and a crown of ice crystals.)*
* **How does she talk?** *(With gentle whispers, she calls me outside to dance in the snow. / Howling from the rooftop eaves, she sends sharp warnings to stay inside.)*
* **How does she act?** *(Winter pushes me playfully down the sparkling street. / Winter rules from a fortress of icicles and frost.)*
* **How does she reveal her character or personality?** *(Together, we spread banquets for rosy cardinal birds. / I see her stern face, and she sends chills down my spine.)*