LITERAL AND FIGURATIVE MEANING

Literal Meaning: when a word is used with its normal meaning, it is being used in its strict dictionary meaning, in a situation (or context) that "makes sense" from a purely logical point of view.

Examples: The robber struck me on the arm with a piece of wood.
Be careful! That knife is very sharp.

Figurative Meaning: when a word is used with a special, non-literal meaning, we say that it is used in a figurative sense (or with a figurative meaning).

Examples: As I was walking pass I was struck with an idea.
He has a very sharp tongue.

Read the sentences. Pay attention to the word in **bold type**. Write "L" for literal and "F" for figurative in the spaces.

EXERCISE A	
1. The **weight** of a diamond is expressed in carats.	
2. The teacher told the student to stop **dancing** around the question and answer it!	
3. Janice was feeling **under the weather**.	
4. I saw when the bird **flew** into the classroom.	
5. Jack was sent home from school early because he was **burning up**.	
6. **Dancing** is a good form of exercise.	
7. Antonio is a **sweet** young child.	
8. If you borrow money from a loan **shark**, you can get into trouble.	
9. At the sight of the changing room, Mr. Cartwright **flew** into a rage.	
10. It was so hot there was no **air** moving.	
11. This tea is too **sweet**.	
12. The toddler **brushed** his teeth very well.	

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