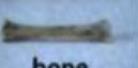
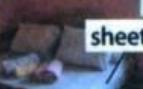


We form most similes with: **(as) + adjective + as + noun** and a smaller number with: **verb OR noun + like + noun**  
 Similes with **as** emphasize the meaning of the adjective, so they are often easy to understand. They are more common in spoken English, and the first **as** is usually omitted.

(Main) noun	Simile	(Main) noun	Simile
 gold	<i>The children were as good as gold today. (= well behaved)</i>	 beetroot	<i>Sian went as red as a beetroot. (= very embarrassed)</i>
 feather	<i>I picked up the little girl – she was as light as a feather. (= very light)</i>	 bone	<i>The ground is as dry as a bone at the moment. (= very dry)</i>
 bat	<i>I'm afraid I'm blind as a bat. (= used humorously)</i>	 cake	<i>The new model is selling like hot cakes. (= selling very quickly or in large numbers)</i>
 post	<i>My father is deaf as a post. (= used humorously)</i>	 log	<i>I slept like a log last night. (= slept very well)</i>
 rake	<i>My sister's as thin as a rake. (= very thin)</i>	 dream	<i>The plan worked like a dream. (= was very successful)</i>
 sheet	<i>Sammy went as white as a sheet. (= white with fear or from illness)</i>	 sieve	<i>Sometimes I've got a memory/mind like a sieve. (= a bad memory)</i>

**1 Complete the similes.**

- 1 My poor uncle is deaf as a ..... .
- 2 This computer game will sell like hot ..... .
- 3 The sheets are dry as a ..... after hanging in the hot sun.
- 4 Surprisingly, the suitcase was light as a ..... .
- 5 My father sleeps like a ..... .
- 6 Honestly, she's got a mind like a ..... .
- 7 He realized his mistake and went red as a ..... .
- 8 The printer is working like a ..... now.
- 9 James is blind as a ..... without his glasses.
- 10 She heard someone downstairs and went white as a ..... .

**2 Choose a suitable simile to describe these people and things.**

- 1 My grandfather can't hear a thing. ....
- 2 My grandmother can't see a thing. ....
- 3 My girlfriend needs to put on weight. ....
- 4 The plan was very successful. ....
- 5 She looked really ill. ....
- 6 The children behaved very well. ....
- 7 She was very embarrassed. ....
- 8 He often forgets things. ....
- 9 The little girl weighed almost nothing. ....
- 10 Everyone is buying the new phone. ....

**3 ABOUT YOUR LANGUAGE** Do you have similes in your language. Can you find equivalent expressions for the similes above?

