Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Grade: ____

English Literature

Topic: Literal and Figurative Meaning Activity Sheet

Literal language: **is used to mean exactly what is written. It is when a language or particularly words are used in its original sense or else in its direct meaning**. This is easier to comprehend because the writer or speaker directly communicates his/her message without trying to mask it. This is straightforward and very obvious.

For example observe the following sentences.
Tom rode on a donkey while at the fair.
The world is surrounded by many species of mammals.
The ceiling has a spectacular light in the middle.
There were many cows on the field.

Figurative Language**: is used to mean something other than what is written, something symbolic, suggested, or implied.** It is the usage of figures of speech such as similes, metaphors, comparisons, references, personification, hyperbole, etc. to bring out the meaning.

For example observe the following sentences.
Even when he was told everything, he was acting like a donkey.
This world is a sea of anonymous faces.
She broke the figurative ceiling that was holding her back.
I could figuratively eat an entire cow right now.

Instructions: Read each statement carefully. Look at the word that is in bold print then identify whether the statement is either literal or figurative. Place the letter "L" or "F" in the space provided.

1. _____ Suddenly a clever idea **struck** me in the head.

2. _____ Sarah **wrapped** her fine china in bubble wrapping to protect it from breaking during her apartment move.

3. _____ Be careful! That knife is **sharp**.

4. _____ Mom was upset because Toya had **spilled the beans** about Mrs. Watson surprise birthday party.

5. _____ My brother **sailed** through his driving test easily.

6. ____ It was **raining** a lot, so I rode the bus.

7. ____ The **dawn crept** across the sky in pink clothing

8. ____ I stayed up late last night now, I am so **tired!**

9. ____ The **darkness surrounded** them a cold embrace

10. ____ He was **late** to dinner.