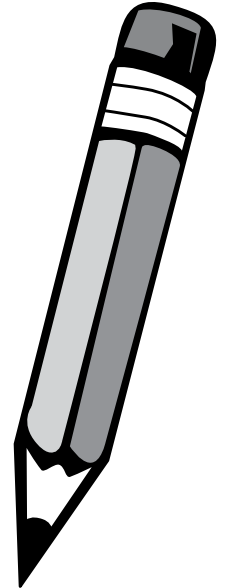**Name:** _____

Identifying Figurative and Literal Language

When we use language, sometimes we want the words to mean exactly what they say. This is called literal language. At other times, we want words to create an image or suggest an idea. This is called figurative language.

For example:

Literal: I can't find my keys and I keep forgetting appointments.

Figurative: My mind is oatmeal.

Decide if the sentences below use literal or figurative language. Then, place an "L" or an "F" before each one.

_____ **1.** Eric thinks doing schoolwork is one big video game.

_____ **2.** Lauren has made up her mind to volunteer every Tuesday after school.

_____ **3.** Thinking about summer camp makes me feel like a bundle of joy and sunshine.

_____ **4.** As I delivered my speech, my voice sounded as if I'd swallowed rocks and sand.

_____ **5.** Emma may seem clumsy, but onstage she dances like a gazelle.

_____ **6.** Jacob expresses many feelings through his photography.

_____ **7.** My teammate is a snail and a turtle combined!

_____ **8.** Before the soccer match, both teams attended a sportsmanship program.

_____ **9.** I have a ton of paperwork to do before I can enjoy the sun this summer.

_____ **10.** Sometimes I have to be my little brother's brain.