

Idioms with Erika and Greg



'to be as cool as a cucumber'



- To be calm and relaxed especially in a stressful situation

Example sentence:

Erika, how come, in moments of panic, you're always as cool as a cucumber!



Similes





We learn a language in order to communicate.

English uses “figures of speech” to create pictures in our mind when we speak or write.

We want our readers and listeners to have images in their minds which make our meanings clearer.





There are several figures of speech in English.

When a particular meaning cannot be translated word by word, we call it a figure of speech.

Idioms are figures of speech. For example; if we say that something is “a hot potato” we are not talking about a real potato but about the difficulty in doing something.

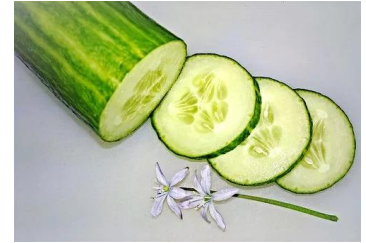


When we compare two things using
'as...as' or 'like' we use a figure of speech
called a simile /'sim-ə-li/.



An example with 'as ... as'

Have a look at this sentence:



Erika is as cool as a cucumber.



It doesn't mean that Erika is a cucumber
(literal meaning), but that she's very relaxed.



The structure with 'as ... as' is:

Subject + to be + as + adjective + as + noun

Erika is as cool as a cucumber



An example with 'like'



Have a look at this sentence:

Greg swims like a fish.



It doesn't mean that Greg is a fish (literal meaning),
but that Greg swims very well just like a fish.





This sentence is a simile as well, but this time we use the word 'like' to make a comparison.

The structure with 'like' is:

Subject + verb + like + noun

Greg swims like a fish



Let's have a look at more examples of similes



As busy as a bee

= very busy and active

As cold as ice

= extremely cold

As sweet as sugar

= very friendly.

Sleep like a log

= sleep very well

Fits like a glove

= to be the perfect size

Run like lightning

= extremely quickly





Thank you

