

SIMILES

A

as **active** as quicksilver

as **afraid** as a grasshopper

as **ageless** as the sun

as **agile** as a cat / monkey

as **alert** as a bird in springtime

as **alike** as two peas

as **alone** as a leper / Crusoe

as **ambitious** as Lady Macbeth

as **ancient** as the stars / the sun

as **angry** as a wasp

as **arid** as the sands of Sahara

as **artificial** as clockwork

as **audacious** as the day

as **awful** as justice / thunder

as **awkward** as a cow on ice

B

as **bad** as the itch

as **bold** as a billiard ball / a coot / an egg

as **bare** as a stone / winter

as **barren** as winter rain

as **bashful** as a schoolgirl

as **beautiful** as the rainbow / the sunset

as **big** as an elephant / a whale

as **bitter** as death / hemlock / wormwood

as **black** as coal / ebony / ink / pitch / a raven / a starless night / soot

as **blameless** as the snow

as **blank** as an empty bottle

as **blind** as a bat / a beetle / a mole

as **blithe** as a butterfly / a lark

as **blue** as indigo / a forget-me-not

as **blunt** as a hammer / the back of a knife

as **boisterous** as stormy sea winds

as **bold** as brass / a lion

as **boundless** as an ocean

as **bounteous** as nature

as **brainless** as a chimpanzee

as **brave** as Achilles / a lion

as **brief** as a dream / time

as **bright** as daylight / a new penny / shilling / silver

as **brilliant** as a mirror / the stars

as **brisk** as a butterfly / a flea

as **brittle** as glass

as **broad** as Heaven's expanse

as **brown** as a berry / mahogany

as **buoyant** as wings

as **busy** as a bee / an ant

C

as **calm** as a cat / a summer sea / death

as **candid** as mirrors

as **careless** as the wind

as **cautious** as a fox

as **certain** as Christmas / the rising morning sun

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as **changeable** as the moon / the weather

as **chaste** as Minerva

as **cheap** as dirt / lies

as **cheeky** as a young bantam cock

as **cheerful** as a lark / the birds

as **cheerless** as the grave

as **cheery** as a sunbeam

as **chill** as death

as **chilly** as a tomb

as **chubby** as a cherub

as **clammy** as death

as **clean** as a Dutch oven / a new pin

as **clear** as a bell / crystal / day / daylight

as **clever** as paint

as **clumsy** as a bear

as **coarse** as hemp

as **cold** as charity / a corpse / a dog's nose / a frog / ice / marble

as **comfortable** as coin

as **common** as dirt / pins / poverty

as **complacent** as a cat

as **confident** as Hercules / justice

as **conscientious** as a dog

as **consoling** as night

as **constant** as the sun

as **contagious** as a yawn

as **contrary** as black and white

as **convincing** as the multiplication table

as **cool** as a cucumber

as **cosy** as the nest of a bird

as **countless** as desert sand / the stars

as **cowardly** as a wild duck

as **crafty** as a fox

as **credulous** as a child

as **crisp** as a new bank note

as **crooked** as a corkscrew

as **cross** as two sticks

as **cruel** as media / winter

as **cunning** as a fox / a monkey

as **curious** as a fish

D

as **dangerous** as machine guns

as **dark** as a dungeon / a pitch / midnight

as **dead** as a doornail / the Roman Empire / wood

as **deaf** as a beetle / a poet

as **deceitful** as the devil

as **deceptive** as the mirage of the desert

as **deep** as a well / despair / hell / the sea

as **dejected** as a wet hen

as **delicious** as a dream / forbidden fruit

as **desolate** as a tomb

as **devoted** as a faithful dog / a mother

as **difficult** as a beginning / a Greek puzzle

as **dirty** as a hog / a pig

as **disappointing** as wet gunpowder

as **dismal** as a hearse

as **distant** as the horizon

as **dizzy** as a goose

as **docile** as a lamb

as **dreadful** as a gathering storm

as **dreary** as an Asian steppe /
an empty house

as **drunk** as a fiddler / a lord

as **dry** as a biscuit / a bone /
a mummy / a stick / dust

as **dull** as ditchwater / lead

as **dumb** as a mouse / a statue / a
stone / an oyster

E

as **eager** as a bridegroom

as **easy** as A, B, C / pie / winking

as **elastic** as a caterpillar

as **eloquent** as Cicero

as **elusive** as quicksilver

as **empty** as an idiot's mind / space

as **enticing** as a riddle

as **essential** as the dew

as **expensive** as glory

F

as **fabulous** as Aladdin's ring

as **fait** as the hum of distant bees

as **fair** as a rose / Eve in Paradise /
the morn / truth

as **faithful** as a dog / the sun

as **faithless** as fair weather

as **false** as dice

as **familiar** as a popular song / an oath

as **far** as the poles asunder

as **fast** as a deer / a hare / an eagle /
lightning

as **fat** as a pig / a porpoise / a quail /
butter

as **feeble** as a child

as **fickle** as the weather

as **fidgety** as an old man

as **fierce** as a lion / a tiger

as **firm** as a rock / adamant / faith /
rocky mountains / steel

as **fit** as a fiddle

as **fixed** as fate / the laws of the
Medes and the Persians

as **flabby** as a sponge

as **flat** as a board / a flounder /
a pancake / the fens of Holland

as **fleet** as a deer / a gazelle / a
greyhound / Diana / the wind

as **flimsy** as gauze

as **foolish** as a calf

as **foul** as slander

as **frail** as a lily / glass

as **free** as a breeze / a daisy / a fly /
the air / thought

as **fresh** as a rose / dew / paint /
sea breeze

as **friendless** as an alarm clock

as **friendly** as a puppy

as **frigid** as an iceberg

as **frightened** as Macbeth before the
ghost of Banquo

as **frisky** as a kitten / colts

as **frizzled** as a lawyer's wig

as **fruitful** as Egypt

as **full** as an egg

as **funny** as a balloon

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G

as **game** as a fighting cock

as **garrulous** as a magpie / an old maid

as **gaudy** as a butterfly / a peacock

as **gay** as a bullfinch / a lark / the spring

as **generous** as a dream / a lord

as **genial** as sunshine

as **gentle** as a fawn / a lamb / falling dew / sleep

as **glad** as a blooming tree / a fly

as **glib** as glass

as **gloomy** as night

as **glorious** as the sun

as **glossy** as a mole / the finest silk

as **glum** as an oyster / mud

as **gluttonous** as curiosity

as **good** as a play / gold

as **gorgeous** as a Sultan / the heavens

as **graceful** as a fawn / a swan

as **gracious** as a duchess / the morn

as **grand** as a Greek statue / a victory / the world

as **grasping** as a miser

as **grave** as a judge

as **great** as a lord

as **greedy** as a dog / a hog / a pig / a wolf

as **green** as grass

as **grey** as smoke / time

as **grim** as death / hell

as **gruff** as a bear

H

as **haggard** as spectres

as **hairless** as an egg

as **hairy** as a gorilla / a mastodon / a spider

as **handsome** as paint

as **happy** as a child / a king / a lark / a lord / the day is long

as **hard** as a nail / a stone / flint / granite / iron / steel

as **harmless** as a baby / a dove

as **harsh** as a grating wheel / the truth

as **hasty** as fire

as **hateful** as death / hell

as **haughty** as a devil

as **healthy** as a May morning

as **hearty** as an oak

as **heavy** as a bag of sand / an elephant / lead

as **helpless** as a baby

as **hideous** as the witch of Endor

as **high** as heaven / the stars

as **hoarse** as a crow / a raven

as **hollow** as a drum

as **honest** as a mirror

as **hopeful** as the break of day

as **horny** as a camel's knee

as **horrid** as a murderer's dream

as **hot** as a furnace / an oven / fire / hell / molten lead / pepper

as **hueless** as a ghost

as **huge** as high Olympus

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as **humble** as a worm / Uriah Heep

as **humorous** as wind

as **hungry** as a bear / a church mouse /
a hawk / a hunter / a wolf

as **hushed** as midnight

I

as **idle** as a lazzarone / air

as **ignorant** as a child

as **illimitable** as the boundless sea

as **illusive** as a dream

as **imitative** as a monkey

as **immaculate** as an angel

as **immense** as the sea

as **immortal** as the stars

as **immutable** as the laws of the
Medes and the Persians

as **impatient** as a lover

as **imperishable** as eternity

as **impetuous** as a poet

as **inconstant** as the moon / the waves

as **indolent** as an old bachelor

as **industrious** as a beaver / an ant

as **inevitable** as death

as **inexhaustible** as the deep sea

as **inexorable** as a grave

as **inflexible** as a granite rock

as **innocent** as a baby / a dove / a lamb

as **invisible** as the air

J

as **jealous** as a cat / a Spaniard

as **jolly** as a sandboy / a shoe brush

as **joyful** as a fly

as **joyous** as the laughter of a child

as **jubilant** as old sleigh bells

K

as **keen** as a razor / hunger / mustard

as **killing** as a plague

as **kind** as consent

as **knowing** as the stars

L

as **large** as life

as **lasting** as the pyramids

as **lavish** as the moon

as **lawless** as the stormy wind

as **lax** as cut string

as **lazy** as a pig / a ship in the
doldrums / a toad

as **lean** as a skeleton / Sancho's ass

as **lenient** as soft opiates to the mind

as **level** as a pond

as **liberal** as the sun

as **lifeless** as the grave

as **light** as a butterfly / a cork /
a feather / air / thistle down

as **like** as two beans / two drops of
water / two herrings / two peas

as **lithe** as a panther / a tiger

as **little** as a squirrel / Tom Thumb

as **lively** as a cricket

as **loathsome** as a toad

as **lonely** as a deserted ship /
the Arctic Sea

as **loose** as a rope

as **loud** as a horn / thunder

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as **lovely** as the violet / Venus

as **low** as the grave

as **lowly** as a slave

as **loyal** as a dove / an apostle

M

as **mad** as a hatter / a March hare

as **magnanimous** as Agamemnon

as **malicious** as Satan

as **mean** as a miser

as **meek** as a dove / a lamb / a mouse

as **merciless** as ambition / Othello

as **merry** as a cricket / a lark / spring

as **mild** as a dove / moonlight

as **mischievous** as a kitten / a monkey

as **mobile** as humanity

as **modest** as a dove / a primrose

as **monotonous** as the sea

as **motionless** as a corpse

as **mournful** as a grave

as **muddy** as sheep dogs

as **mum** as an oyster

as **mute** as a fish / a grave / a tomb / mice

as **mysterious** as an echo / the Sphinx

N

as **naked** as a peeled apple / night

as **natural** as life

as **neat** as a nail / ninepins

as **needful** as the sun

as **nervous** as a mouse

as **new** as day

as **nice** as nine pence

as **nimble** as a bee / a squirrel

as **noiseless** as a shadow

as **noisy** as a menagerie

as **numerous** as the sand upon the ocean shore

O

as **obedient** as a puppet

as **obnoxious** as an alligator

as **obstinate** as a mule / a pig

as **old** as creation / the hills

as **opaque** as the sky

as **open** as a smile / day

as **opposite** as the poles

P

as **pale** as a ghost / death

as **passionate** as young love

as **patient** as an ox / the hours

as **peaceful** as sleep

as **persistent** as a mosquito

as **piercing** as light

as **placid** as a duck pond

as **plain** as a pikestaff

as **playful** as a butterfly / a kitten / a puppy / a rabbit / a squirrel

as **pleasant** as health

as **plentiful** as ants

as **plump** as a partridge / mastiffs

as **polite** as wax

as **poor** as a church mouse / Job / Lazarus

as **populous** as an anthill

as **positive** as a Scotsman

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as **powerful** as a lion
as **powerless** as an infant
as **pretty** as a picture
as **progressive** as time
as **prolific** as rabbits
as **proud** as a peacock / Lucifer
as **punctual** as springtime
as **pure** as a lily / winter snow
as **purple** as the heather

Q

as **quarrelsome** as the weasel
as **quick** as a flash / a lamplighter /
a thought / lightning
as **quiet** as a lamb / a mouse

R

as **ragged** as Lazarus
as **rapid** as lightning
as **rare** as a blue rose / a comet
as **ravenous** as a winter wolf
as **real** as the stars
as **rebellious** as the sea
as **red** as a cherry / a rose / crimson /
fire / scarlet / the blood
as **refractory** as a mule
as **regular** as sunrise / the clock
as **relentless** as fate
as **remote** as a dream
as **resistless** as the wind
as **restless** as the sea
as **rich** as a Jew
as **right** as nails / rain
as **ripe** as a cherry

as **rosy** as a bride
as **rotten** as dirt
as **rough** as a storm / hemp
as **round** as a ball / a barrel / a globe /
an orange / the O of Giotto
as **rude** as a bear
as **rugged** as a rhinoceros
as **ruthless** as the sea

S

as **sacred** as a shrine
as **sad** as doom / night
as **safe** as a tortoise under its shell /
houses
as **salt** as a herring
as **saucy** as the wave
as **scarce** as feathers on a fish / hen's
teeth
as **secret** as thought
as **secure** as the grave
as **seedy** as a raspberry
as **selfish** as a fox
as **senseless** as stones
as **sensitive** as a flower
as **serious** as a doctor / an owl
as **shallow** as a pan
as **shameless** as a nude statue / sin
as **shapeless** as an old shoe
as **sharp** as a lance / a needle / a razor
as **short** as any dream / the life of a
wave
as **shortsighted** as a mole
as **shy** as a fawn / a schoolgirl /
a squirrel

as **sick** as a dog

as **silent** as a grave / a stone /
the dead / the stars / thought

as **silly** as a goat / a goose / a sheep /
calves

as **simple** as A, B, C / a child

as **sincere** as sunlight

as **sleek** as a mouse

as **sleepless** as an owl

as **slender** as a thread / gossamer

as **slippery** as a serpent / an eel / ice

as **slow** as a snail / a tortoise

as **sly** as a fox

as **small** as a sixpence / atoms / paint

as **smooth** as butter / glass / ice / oil

as **sober** as a judge

as **soft** as butter / fur / putty / silk /
velvet / wax / wool

as **solid** as bricks

as **solitary** as a tomb

as **soothing** as the breath of spring

as **sound** as a bell

as **sour** as lime / vinegar

as **spacious** as the element

as **speechless** as a stone

as **spineless** as a jellyfish

as **spiteful** as a monkey

as **spotless** as snow

as **spruce** as an onion

as **stale** as old beer

as **stately** as an oak

as **steadfast** as a queen

as **steady** as the sun

as **stealthy** as a cat

as **stern** as a judge

as **stiff** as a poker / death

as **still** as a log / a post / a statue /
the grave

as **stink** as a polecat

as **stolid** as a cow

as **straight** as a candle / an arrow

as **strange** as a vision

as **strong** as a horse / a lion / an ox /
brandy / Hercules

as **stubborn** as a mule

as **stupid** as a donkey / a log / a post /
a sloth / an ass / an oak

as **sturdy** as an oak

as **subtle** as a serpent

as **sudden** as a snap / lightning

as **sulky** as a bear

as **superfluous** as a fifth wheel

as **superstitious** as sailors

as **supple** as a snake

as **sure** as a gun / death / fate / sunrise

as **surly** as a bear

as **suspicious** as a cat

as **sweet** as a nut / a rose / honey

as **swift** as a deer / a flash / a hawk /
an arrow / an eagle / lightning / the
wind / thought

T

as **talkative** as a magpie

as **tall** as a giant / a steeple / maypole /
poplar

as **tame** as a hare / a house cat / a sheep

as **taut** as a fiddle string

as **tedious** as a guilty conscience

as **tenacious** as a bulldog

as **tender** as a bud / a chicken / a shepherd / tears

as **terrible** as hell / Jove

as **thick** as ants / blackberries / hailstones

as **thin** as a lath / a rake / a wafer

as **thirsty** as a sponge / Tantalus

as **thoughtless** as a lark

as **tidy** as a candy shop

as **tight** as a drum head / teeth / wax

as **timid** as a fawn / a mouse / a rabbit

as **tired** as tombstones

as **tough** as leather / nails

as **trackless** as the desert / the sea

as **tranquil** as the summer sea

as **transient** as lightning

as **transparent** as glass

as **treacherous** as the memory

as **tricky** as a monkey / an ape

as **true** as steel / the gospel

as **truthful** as a knight of old

as **tuneless** as a bag of wool

U

as **ugly** as a bear / a scarecrow / a toad / an ape / sin

as **unapproachable** as a star

as **unattractive** as a gargoyle

as **uncertain** as the weather

as **unchangeable** as the past

as **unclean** as sin

as **uncomplaining** as a lamb

as **uncompromising** as justice

as **unconquerable** as chewing gum

as **unhappy** as King Lear

as **universal** as light / seasickness

as **unmerciful** as the billows

as **unprofitable** as smoke

as **unreal** as a dream

as **unstable** as the wind / water

as **unsteady** as the ocean

as **unusual** as a sailor on horseback

as **upright** as a tower

as **useful** as a cow

V

as **vague** as a shadow

as **vain** as a peacock

as **variable** as the weather

as **vast** as eternity

as **venomous** as a snake

as **vigilant** as the stars

as **vigorous** as fire

as **violent** as steam

as **virtuous** as holy truth

as **voiceless** as the tomb

as **vulgar** as money

W

as **warlike** as the wolf

as **warm** as sunbeams / wool

as **wary** as a fox

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as **wasteful** as a hen

as **watchful** as a hawk / a sentinel

as **wavering** as Hamlet

as **weak** as a baby / a child / a kitten

as **weather-beaten** as a fisherman's oar

as **welcome** as a rainstorm in hell / a star

as **wet** as a drowned rat / a fish

as **white** as a ghost / a lily / a sheet / ivory / porcelain / snow / wool

as **wide** as hope

as **wilful** as a mule

as **wily** as a fox

as **wise** as a serpent / an owl / Solomon

Y

as **yellow** as a crow's foot / a guinea / jaundice / sulphur

as **yielding** as wax

as **young** as dawn / morn

as **youthful** as the month of May

Z

as **zigzag** as lightning

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