Describing People with Metaphors and Similes

A **simile** compares two different things using the words *like* or *as*. A **metaphor** compares two different things without using *like* or *as*, usually by saying that one thing is another, or that one thing has the qualities of another.

**EXAMPLE:**
Her hair was as shiny as gold. (simile)
Her hair was a golden sheath shimmering down her back. (metaphor)

**Directions:** Read each sentence below. Does it contain a simile (S) or a metaphor (M)? Write the correct answer on the line.

1. His legs were as skinny as toothpicks. **S**
2. Fiona trudged like the soles of her shoes were stuck to the floor. **M**
3. Mr. Donovan is a great, big barrel of a man. **M**
4. Miss Kitty’s fingers scampered up and down the keyboard. **S**
5. Elaine’s eyes sparkled like diamonds in the sun. **M**
6. Mr. Cooper’s voice affected me like fingernails on a chalkboard. **M**
7. She kept scratching her head like a dog with fleas. **M**
8. When she told a story it was like she was casting a spell. **M**
9. She’s a maestro in the kitchen. **M**
10. The toddler was a ray of sunshine in the room. **M**
11. The kids came through the house like a herd of buffalo. **M**
12. Mrs. Sullivan’s students were as quiet as mice. **M**
13. The kids were a troupe of monkeys on the playground. **M**