What Does It Mean?

A symbol is a thing that represents or stands for something else, especially a material object that represents something abstract. Symbolism is a type of figurative language. Like a metaphor, a symbol is identified with something that is very different but shares some of the same qualities. When trying to determine whether or not something is a symbol, ask yourself: “Does this character, object, or event stand for something?”

DIRECTIONS: Consider each of the objects below. What could they symbolize? Explain.

1. a dove

2. a red rose

3. the color black

4. a ladder

5. a broken mirror