



## A Readers' Theater: Perpetrators of Hyperbole

- All: Cowboys.
- Voice 1: Rougher than granite.
- Voice 2: Tougher than nails.
- Voice 3: More determined than a locomotive.
- Voice 4: More dependable than sunrise.
- All: Cowboys.
- Voice 1: Perpetrators of hyperbole.
- All: WHAT?
- Voice 1: Perpetrators of hyperbole.
- Voice 2: What's this HI-per-belly thing?
- Voice 3: Is it a crime? Cowboys don't commit crimes, you know.
- Voice 4: Is it something to eat? I hope so. I'm tired of chewing on old boots that Cookie calls steak.
- Voice 1: No, y'all. A hyperbole is a funny exaggeration.
- Voice 2: Oh.
- Voice 3: Uh-huh.
- Voice 4: Check that.
- Voice 1: I've got just the book that will help you enjoy reading **hyperboles**.
- Voice 2: Is it about us cowboys?
- Voice 3: Does it have horses in it?
- Voice 4: Are there cows in it?
- Voice 2: Western tales are the only kind of book I will read.
- Voice 3: I'd sooner eat a branding iron than read about...uh...love and such.
- Voice 4: Does this hyper-belly thing make the story more interesting?
- Voice 1: You bet it does! Hyperbole takes a little thing and stretches it to sound like something enormous. That can be funny!
- Voice 2: Ain't dental floss a *little* thing?
- Voice 3: Cowboys wouldn't lower themselves to use dental floss.
- Voice 4: Shoot, we use barbed wire to clean between our teeth.
- Voice 1: Exactly! John Frank, the author of **The Toughest Cowboy**, used a hyperbole when he said that we floss our teeth with barbed wire.
- Voice 2: So's people would know how tough we are, right?
- Voice 1: Right. Of course, he exaggerated to make his point. He uses hyperbole.
- Voice 3: You mean like when you said you were madder than a bee-stung bear?
- Voice 1: Yep. That was a hyperbole. Nobody could really be **that** mad.
- Voice 4: All this talk is making me hungry enough to eat a whole horse.
- All: Hyperbole!
- Voice 2: Say, this is more fun than chasing fleas on a jackrabbit.
- All: Hyperbole!
- Voice 3: I'd rather read *hyperbellies* than eat!
- All: Hyperbole!
- Voice 4: **We're Perpetrators of Hyperbole!**