

As Big as a Bus

An activity of "Clearing space debris"

In "**Clearing space debris**" (page 12–13, *What's Up* March 2018), the author uses similes to show the sizes of some space debris. A simile is a type of expression that compares one thing to another. It uses the structure:

as _____ as _____ (adjective) (noun)

An example from this story is: "The satellite, **as big as a bus** and weighing about 6 tonnes...". Comparing the satellite to the bus tells you how big it is.

There are three other similes in the article. Can you find them? Write them in the spaces below.

- 1) Astronauts have to wear spacesuits with a protective layer **as** _____ **as** _____.
- 2) If a broken satellite **as** _____ **as** _____ and travelling **as** _____ **as** _____ collides with another similar satellite, the crash would be catastrophic.

Now, can you come up with your own creative similes? Write them in the spaces below.

- 3) I'm **as hungry as** _____.
- 4) The bag is **as heavy as** _____.
- 5) I promise to be **as quiet as** _____.
- 6) He is **as funny as** _____.
- 7) The room **is as cold as** _____.
- 8) When she saw the snake, she turned **as white as** _____.

