

Time Flies like an Arrow

The meaning of the sentence "Time flies like an arrow" may seem obvious to us, but a computer sees a number of other possibilities. This is because:

time	can be:	noun, adjective, verb
flies	can be:	verb, noun
like	can be:	verb, "similar to", "in a similar way", "as if"

These are the possible interpretations that a computer found:

1) **Time moves in a way similar to an arrow - in a straight line.** (or: Time moves quickly)

Usual interpretation: time = noun, flies = verb (to fly), like = similar to
Similar example: Years pass like a train.

2) **Certain flying insects, "time flies," enjoy an arrow.**

Interpretation: time = adjective, flies = noun, like = verb
Similar example: Fruit flies like a banana.

3) **Measure the speed of flies quickly.**

Interpretation: time = verb (to measure), flies = noun, "like an arrow" = quickly
Similar example: Time horses quickly. (Measure the speed of horses quickly.)

4) **Measure the speed of flies as you would measure the speed of an arrow.**

Interpretation: time = verb, flies = noun, like = as
Similar example: Time horses like a runner.

5) **Measure the speed of flies as an arrow would measure them.**

Interpretation: time = verb (to measure), flies = noun, like = as
Similar example: Time horses like a stopwatch.

6) **Measure the speed of flies that are similar to an arrow.**

Interpretation: time = verb (to measure), flies = noun, like = similar to
Similar example: Time horses like a donkey.

7) **Measure the speed of flies as if you were an arrow.**

Interpretation: time = verb (to measure), flies = noun, like = as if
Similar example: Time horses like an idiot.