

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# METAPHOR



A **metaphor** is when you replace one thing (or idea) with another thing (or idea), to more clearly describe what you're talking about.

## WHY use metaphor?

A metaphor puts a picture in people's minds. It paints your writing with color.

That sentence uses metaphors! Paint and painting are metaphors for writing colorful, interesting sentences.



What it **IS** ✓

...and what it

**ISN'T** ✗

You look at a fast car and say:

### Metaphor

✓ That car is a rocket with tires!

### NOT a metaphor

✗ That car is really, really fast!

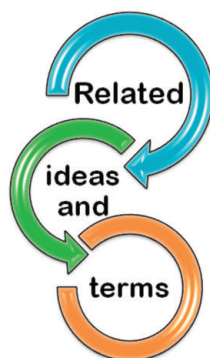
You finally pay off your credit card after two long years. You write:

### Metaphors

- ✓ I broke the chains of debt!
- ✓ I escaped from the prison of my credit card payment!

### NOT metaphors

- ✗ I paid off my credit card!
- ✗ I don't owe any more money!



### simile

compares two things using *like* or *as*

### personification

puts living characteristics onto nonliving things

### figurative language

when you write about something without using the literal meaning of the words you use. A metaphor is figurative language.

Turn over for visual examples



# Visual Learning: METAPHOR

Look at this sentence:



✗ It's so incredibly hot in my apartment.

That sentence **does not contain a metaphor**, because it doesn't replace what you're talking about with something different.

Look at this sentence:



✓ It's an **oven** up in my apartment.

apartment =

That sentence contains a metaphor, because you're replacing your apartment with an **oven**. Now, that's a hot apartment!



knife=something that hurts you  
(Her angry words hurt me.)

## PRACTICE:

Do you see the metaphors in these two sentences?

My daughter's angry words knifed into me.

But, the next day, my heart ached to see her again.



heart=emotions and feelings  
(But, the next day, I really wanted to see her again.)

Why  
NOT?

None of these sentences contain metaphors. Do you know why not?

- ✗ Every time I go to the mall, I buy a delicious ice cream cone.
- ✗ The silver plane flew straight across the sky, and we watched it from the ground. It was faster than any other plane in the air show.

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**SHOW THAT YOU KNOW**

Complete all ten tasks and show that you can recognize, identify, and create metaphors.

**10 tasks**

**Circle Yes/No: Do these sentences contain metaphors?**

- 1      Yes      No      A tidal wave of people ran toward the concert stage.      1
- 2      Yes      No      A huge number of people ran screaming toward the exit.      1
- 3      Yes      No      They say that your eyes are windows into your soul.      1

**Underline the four metaphors in this paragraph.**

- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7

As the team captain shot the winning goal into the net, the stadium shook with a thunder of cheers. That last goal was a wrecking ball that smashed the wall of the team's losing streak.

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**Write three sentences that contain metaphors.**

*Hint: for the first one, try comparing a difficult experience with a rocky path.*

8      →      1

9      →      1

10      →      1