

metaphor[ˈmetəfə, ˈmetəfɔː] *n*

метафора

mixed metaphor - смешанная метафора

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

metaphor**meta·phor** [metaphor metaphors] *BrE* [ˈmetəfə(r)] ^ˈ *NAmE* [ˈmetəfər] ^ˈ *BrE*[ˈmetəfɔː] ^ˈ *NAmE* [ˈmetəfɔː] ^ˈ **noun** **countable, uncountable**

a word or phrase used to describe sb/sth else, in a way that is different from its normal use, in order to show that the two things have the same qualities and to make the description more powerful, for example She has a heart of stone; the use of such words and phrases

- a game of football used as a metaphor for the competitive struggle of life
- the writer's striking use of metaphor

compare ↑ **simile**Word Origin:late 15th cent.: from French **métaphore**, via Latin from Greek **metaphora**, from **metapherein** 'to transfer'.Thesaurus:**metaphor** **noun** **C, U**

- The writer uses the game of football as a metaphor for the competitive struggle of life.

image • • **imagery** • • **allegory** • **technical simile** • • **figure of speech** •(a) **striking** metaphor/image/imagery/simile(a/an) **powerful/vivid/poetic** metaphor/image/imagery**use** (a/an) metaphor/image/imagery/simile/figure of speech

Which word? **Metaphor**, **allegory** and **simile** are all types of **figure of speech**. These words all refer to the words, phrases, figures or ideas used to create an **image** in the mind of the reader.

Collocations:**Literature***Being a writer***write/publish** literature/poetry/fiction/a book/a story/a poem/a novel/a review/an autobiography**become** a writer/novelist/playwright**find/have** a publisher/an agent**have** a new book out**edit/revise/proofread** a book/text/manuscript**dedicate** a book/poem to...*Plot, character and atmosphere***construct/create/weave/weave sth into** a complex narrative**advance/drive** the plot**introduce/present** the protagonist/a character**describe/depict/portray** a character (as...)/(sb as) a hero/villain**create** an exciting/a tense atmosphere**build/heighten** the suspense/tension**evoke/capture** the pathos of the situation**convey** emotion/an idea/an impression/a sense of...**engage** the reader**seize/capture/grip** the (reader's) imagination**arouse/elicit** emotion/sympathy (in the reader)**lack** imagination/emotion/structure/rhythm*Language, style and imagery***use/employ** language/imagery/humour/(*especially US*) humor/an image/a symbol/a metaphor/a device**use/adopt/develop** a style/technique**be rich in/be full of** symbolism**evoke** images of.../a sense of.../a feeling of...**create/achieve** an effect**maintain/lighten** the tone**introduce/develop** an idea/a theme**inspire** a novel/a poet/sb's work/sb's imagination*Reading and criticism***read** an author/sb's work/fiction/poetry/a text/a poem/a novel/a chapter/a passage**review** a book/a novel/sb's work**give sth/get/have/receive** a good/bad review**be hailed (as)/be recognized as** a masterpiece**quote** a phrase/line/stanza/passage/author**provoke/spark** discussion/criticism**study/interpret/understand** a text/passage**translate** sb's work/a text/a passage/a novel/a poem

Example Bank:

- 'This vale of tears' is a metaphor for the human condition.
- He uses the metaphor of fire to represent hatred.
- The ladder metaphor works in several ways.
- an extended metaphor for human existence
- one of the central metaphors in the book
- the metaphor of life as a journey
- In the story, the game of football is used as a metaphor for the competitive struggle of life.
- The writer's use of metaphor is striking.

metaphor

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

metaphor /'metəfə, -fə/\$ -fə/ *BrE* " *AmE* " *noun* [uncountable and countable]

[Date: 1400-1500; Language: French; Origin: métaphore, from Latin, from Greek metaphora, from meta- (⇒ ↑meta-) + pherein 'to carry']

1. a way of describing something by referring to it as something different and suggesting that it has similar qualities to that thing ⇒

simile:

- " She uses some wonderful images and metaphors in her writing.
- " a very creative use of metaphor

2. **mixed metaphor** the use of two different metaphors at the same time to describe something, especially in a way that seems silly or funny

3. something that represents a general idea or quality

metaphor for

- " Their relationship is a metaphor for the failure of communication in the modern world.

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COLLOCATIONS (for Meanings 1 & 2)

verbs

- **use a metaphor** To use her own metaphor, she is a caged bird who wants to fly free.
- **extend a metaphor** (=to use other metaphors with a similar idea) The poem extends the metaphor of food still further.
- **borrow a metaphor from something** (=use a metaphor from another subject, book etc) To borrow an architectural metaphor, you cannot see the whole building if you focus on the individual bricks.

adjectives

- **a powerful metaphor** (=one that works very well) His election campaign used the powerful metaphor of 'building a bridge to the next century'.
- **a vivid metaphor** (=one that gives you a picture in your mind) The book is full of vivid metaphors and powerful images.
- **an appropriate / apt metaphor** (=a very suitable one) Building on sand is an apt metaphor for the challenge we face.
- **a central metaphor** (=one that a poem or book is based around) The poet as something carried by the ocean is a central metaphor in the book.
- **a mixed metaphor** (=the use of two different metaphors at the same time to describe something, especially in a way that seems silly or funny) In a mixed metaphor, she said 'he stepped up to the plate and took the bull by the horns.'
- **a religious/military/biological etc metaphor** He uses a military metaphor to describe these women as 'storming' the castle of male power.

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THESAURUS

techniques used in language

- **metaphor** a way of describing something by referring to it as something different and suggesting that it has similar qualities to that thing: The beehive is a metaphor for human society.
- **simile** an expression that describes something by comparing it with something else, using the words **as** or **like**, for example 'as white as snow': The poet uses the simile 'soft like clay'.
- **irony** the use of words that are the opposite of what you really mean, often in order to be amusing: 'I'm so happy to hear that,' he said, with more than a trace of irony in his voice.
- **bathos** a sudden change from a subject that is beautiful, moral, or serious to something that is ordinary, silly, or not important: The play is too sentimental and full of bathos.
- **hyperbole** a way of describing something by saying that it is much bigger, smaller, worse etc than it actually is – used especially to excite people's feelings: In his speeches, he used a lot of hyperbole. | journalistic hyperbole
- **alliteration** the use of several words together that all begin with the same sound, in order to make a special effect, especially in poetry: the alliteration of the 's' sound in 'sweet birds sang softly'
- **imagery** the use of words to describe ideas or actions in a way that makes the reader connect the ideas with pictures in their mind: the use of water imagery in Fitzgerald's novel 'The Great Gatsby' | She uses the imagery of a bird's song to represent eternal hope.
- **rhetorical question** a question that you ask as a way of making a statement, without expecting an answer: When he said 'how can these attitudes still exist in a civilized society?', he was asking a rhetorical question.

metaphor

Freakuency Pack

12500 **5357**^{MCW}

15000 **2747**^{COCA}

RANGE: **7k** METAPHOR ⁹⁸⁹⁵

metaphor ⁵⁴⁸⁸

metaphors ²²⁵⁷

metaphoric ⁴³⁹

metaphorical 1104

metaphorically 607

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

3088 **6568**⁵⁴⁸¹ *nn1*

7**317712**⁷ *nnu*
