

Metaphors

Writers use **metaphors** to compare two unlike things. A metaphor states that one thing *is* the other. Writers use metaphors to help readers better understand what is being described.

Read the following metaphor:

Frank's excited little sister was a spinning top.

What do you think of when you picture a spinning top? Most likely, you picture something that is constantly in motion. If Frank's sister is a spinning top, it means that she is showing her excitement by moving around a lot.



Below are more examples of metaphors. Think about how each metaphor triggers you to use a particular sense. By using your senses, you can better understand what the writer wants you to feel about what is being described.

1. The dancers at the festival are a rainbow of colors.

This metaphor helps me to see the dancers.

2. The baby's laughter was the sweet song of birds.

This metaphor helps me to hear the baby's laughter.

3. The clean house is springtime fresh.

This metaphor helps me to smell the clean house.

4. The wool scarf was sandpaper against my neck.

This metaphor helps me to feel the scarf.

5. The loss of the baseball game is sour milk in my mouth.

This metaphor helps me to taste the loss.



On the lines below, write sentences that use metaphors. Use the examples in the organizer for guidance. Think of how an example could help someone understand what you are trying to describe.



Sense	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3	Example 4	Example 5
Sight	a garden in bloom	a quilt	a burned building	a traffic jam	clouds
Hearing	a thunderclap	water running	a fast-moving train	a machine humming	popcorn popping
Taste	your favorite food	bitter medicine	hot sauce	honey	sweet juice
Smell	a rotten fruit	a rose	bread baking	soap	vinegar
Touch	a soft blanket	warm sunshine	a snake's skin	ice	silk

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

