



Metaphors We Live By

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EXPLORE

- **Video:** *Metaphorically speaking*
- **Song:** 'One', U2

Franklin has a heart of gold!

You are my sunshine.

Mary's voice is music to my ears.

The world's a stage.

He's a walking encyclopedia.



What is a metaphor?

A figure of speech in which an expression literally describes a person or an object using a different word or phrase to suggest a likeness or an analogy between them.

Example: *It's raining cats and dogs!*

WARM UP

1 Watch the video *Metaphorically speaking* to 2:32 and fill in the blanks.

VIDEO <http://tiny.cc/pid8tz>

- 1 According to James Geary, metaphorical thinking is essential for understanding and others and how we,, and
- 2 Metaphor is a way of before it is a way with words.
- 3 What is the classic definition of a metaphor? The process of giving a the name of something that belongs to something else.
- 4 But when we do this, we also give it a of analogies.

2 Watch the video *Metaphorically speaking* from 2:33 to 5:33 and answer the questions.

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|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 What is the first step in understanding metaphors?
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..... 2 What is coloured hearing?
.....
..... 3 What is the Bouba / Kiki test?
.....
..... | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4 What are the normal results?
.....
..... 5 What is the third step?
.....
..... |
|---|---|

■ READ THE TEXT

“ Everything in life is a metaphor. ”

Metaphor is for most people a device of the poetic imagination and the rhetorical flourish – a matter of extraordinary rather than ordinary language. Moreover, metaphor is typically viewed as characteristic of language alone, a matter of words rather than thought or action. For this reason, most people think they

5 can get along perfectly well without metaphor. We have found, on the contrary, that metaphor is pervasive in everyday life, not just in language but in thought and action. Our ordinary conceptual system, in terms of which we both think and act, is fundamentally metaphorical in nature. The concepts that govern our thought are not just matters of the intellect. They also govern our everyday

10 functioning, down to the most mundane details. Our concepts structure what we perceive, how we get around in the world, and how we relate to other people. Our conceptual system thus plays a central role in defining our everyday realities. If we are right in suggesting that our conceptual system is largely metaphorical, then the way we think, what we experience, and what we do

15 every day is very much a matter of metaphor. But our conceptual system is not something we are normally aware of. In most of the little things we do every day, we simply think and act more or less automatically along certain lines. Just what these lines are is by no means obvious. One way to find out is by looking at language. Since communication is based on the same conceptual system that we

20 use in thinking and acting, language is an important source of evidence for what that system is like.



■ LET'S WORK ON IT

3 Read the text and answer the questions.

- 1 Where do most people expect to find metaphors?
- 2 Is metaphor thought to be present only in language?
- 3 What do our concepts structure?
- 4 What do we do in most of the little things in our lives?
- 5 How does language help us understand why we work along certain lines?



■ BEYOND THE WORDS

4 Listen and complete the missing words in the song One by U2.

5 Highlight the metaphors in the song.

SONG

<http://tiny.cc/ojd8tz>

One

U2

Is it getting better, or do you feel the same?

Will it make it **(1)** on you, now you got someone to **(2)** ?

You say one love, one life, when it's one **(3)** in the night.

One love, we get to share it

Leaves you baby if you don't care for it.

Did I disappoint you or leave a **(4)** in your mouth?

You act like you never had love and you want me to go **(5)**

Well, it's too late tonight to **(6)** out into the light.

We're one, but we're not the same.

We get to carry each other, carry each other... one

Have you come here for **(7)**

Have you come to raise the dead

Have you come here to play Jesus to the lepers in your **(8)**

Did I ask too much, more than a lot

You gave me nothing, now it's all I got.

We're one, but we're not the **(9)**

Well, we **(10)** each other, then we do it again.

You say love is a **(11)**, love a **(12)** law

Love is a temple, love the higher law.

You ask me to enter, but then you make me **(13)**

And I can't be holding on to what you got, when all you got is hurt.

One love, **(14)**, one life, you got to do what you should.

One life with each other: sisters, brothers.

One life, but we're not the same.

We get to carry each other, carry each other.

One, one.

