

Metaphor Meanings

Name: _____

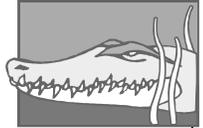


Figurative language includes special forms that writers use to help readers make a strong connection to their words. A **metaphor** is one kind of figurative language. It makes a direct comparison of two unlike things. You can tell the difference between a metaphor and a simile because a simile uses the words "like" or "as", and a metaphor does not. Metaphors often use a form of the verb "to be". The verb can be in the past tense (was, were), the present tense (am, is, are), or future tense (will be).



All of the sentences below use metaphors. Explain what each one means.

1. The teeth of the crocodile are little white knives.



_____ The crocodile's teeth are very sharp. _____.

2. My life is a dream come true!

_____.

3. The bird fired a white missile, which exploded on my windshield.

_____.

4. The crab was a dancing pair of scissors, clicking across the sand.

_____.

5. Her long hair is an ocean of waves.

_____.

6. The music of her laughter filled the room.

_____.

7. A book is a key that unlocks imagination in your mind.

_____.

8. Her diary was her best friend, guarding her secrets quietly.

_____.

Metaphor Meanings

Name: Key



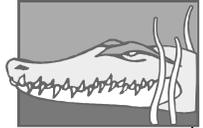
Figurative language includes special forms that writers use to help readers make a strong connection to their words. A **metaphor** is one kind of figurative language. It makes a direct comparison of two unlike things. You can tell the difference between a metaphor and a simile because a simile uses the words "like" or "as", and a metaphor does not. Metaphors often use a form of the verb "to be". The verb can be in the past tense (was, were), the present tense (am, is, are), or future tense (will be).



All of the sentences below use metaphors. Explain what each one means.

Student answers will vary. Sample answers are given.

1. The teeth of the crocodile are little white knives.



The crocodile's teeth are very sharp.

2. My life is a dream come true!

My life is going very well. I'm getting everything I've always wanted.

3. The bird fired a white missile, which exploded on my windshield.

The bird pooped on my windshield and it spread all over.

4. The crab was a dancing pair of scissors, clicking across the sand.

The crab was opening and closing its claws as it walked over the sand.

5. Her long hair is an ocean of waves.

She had lots of waves, or curls, in her hair.

6. The music of her laughter filled the room.

Her laughter was a pleasant sound in the room.

7. A book is a key that unlocks imagination in your mind.

Reading books improves your ability to imagine things and be creative.

8. Her diary was her best friend, guarding her secrets quietly.

Her secrets were safe because they were written in her diary, which could not talk.