

Exercise walk-through

The function of a metaphor ■ 5.5

eXercise

You must be able to

- state what metaphorical comparisons focus on
- state the two things comparisons communicate
- define an extended metaphor and how it is expanded
- explain why context governs the transfer

Method — The focus

Metaphorical comparisons do not focus solely on the objects being compared; they focus on the particular traits, qualities, or characteristics of the things being compared. The trait is the point.

Method — Two communications

Comparisons not only communicate literal meaning but may also convey figurative meaning or transmit a perspective.

Method — Extended metaphor

Created when the comparison of a main subject and comparison subject persists through parts of or an entire text, and when the comparison is expanded through additional details, similes, and images.

Method — Context

Interpretation of an extended metaphor may depend on the context of its use; what is happening in a text may determine what is transferred. As an extended metaphor develops, the trait transferred can change.

Practice 2.1 ■ 2 marks

State what metaphorical comparisons focus on.

Solution 2.1

Method: The focus

Worked steps

not solely the objects being compared **B1** but the particular traits, qualities or characteristics of the things compared **B1**.

Practice 2.2 ■ 2 marks

Define an extended metaphor.

Solution 2.2

Worked steps

the comparison of a main and comparison subject persisting through parts of or an entire text **B1**, expanded through additional details, similes and images **B1**.

Practice 2.3 ■ 2 marks

Context governs the transfer.

- (a) State the CED's claim.
- (b) State how an extended metaphor is expanded.

Solution 2.3

Worked steps

(a) interpretation may depend on the context of its use, since what is happening in a text may determine what is transferred **B2**. (b) through additional details, similes and images **B1**.

Exam-style 3.1 ■ 1 mark

Metaphorical comparisons focus on

- A** the objects alone
- B** the traits, qualities or characteristics compared
- C** the poem's date
- D** the rhyme

Solution 3.1

Method: The focus

- A the objects alone
- B the traits, qualities or characteristics compared** 
- C the poem's date
- D the rhyme

Worked steps

- B. the traits.**

Exam-style 3.2 ■ 1 mark

An extended metaphor is expanded through additional details, similes and

- A** images
- B** footnotes
- C** titles
- D** stanzas only

Solution 3.2

Method: Extended metaphor

A images



B footnotes

C titles

D stanzas only

Worked steps

A. images.

Exam-style 3.3 ■ 1 mark

A metaphor of a voyage runs through a whole poem and its meaning shifts near the end.

- (a) State what the CED says about this.
- (b) Explain how an analysis handles the shift.

Solution 3.3

Method: Extended metaphor

Worked steps

(a) that what is transferred may depend on the context of use **B1**. (b) trace what trait is transferred at each stage **B1** and explain what the change of trait does to the poem's argument **B1**.