

## Metaphor

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## Literary (novel, original)

- Time is a flowing river. Happy those who allow themselves to be carried, unresisting, with the current. (Christopher Morley, *Where the Blue Begins*)
- Time is the school in which we learn, Time is the fire in which we burn. (Delmore Schwartz, "Calmly We Walk Through This April's Day")
- Initially, I was unaware that time, so boundless at first blush, was a prison. (Vladimir Nabokov, *Speak, Memory*)
- Time is a great teacher, but unfortunately it kills all its pupils. (Hector Berlioz)

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## Conventional metaphors

- Time flies.
- I have to finish this paper; I'm racing against time.
- Spend your time wisely.
- You're wasting my time

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## Personification

- Life has cheated me.
- The collapse of the economy is our biggest enemy right now.
- I put in new spark plugs and my car is really happy now.
- Starbucks has been drinking up all the competition.

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## Metonymy

### One entity refers to another

- She owns a Picasso.
- San Diego beat Oakland last season.
- She's really into ballet.

### Part for the whole

- Do you have wheels? [a car]
- We need some new blood in this organization. [new people]
- Get your ass over here! [all of you]

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## Conceptual vs. Linguistic Metaphors

### TIME IS MONEY (conceptual metaphor)

You're *wasting* my time.  
This gadget will *save* you hours of work.  
(linguistic metaphors)

### ARGUMENT IS WAR (conceptual metaphor)

She *attacked* every point of my argument.  
I've never *won* an argument with her.  
(linguistic metaphors)

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## Live vs. Dead metaphors

- He broke his mother's expensive vase. (literal)
- You're breaking my soul and my spirit. (live metaphor)
- Don't try breaking that contract or you'll be sued. (dead metaphor)
  
- My son wants a pet mouse. (literal)
- Are you a man or a mouse? (live metaphor)
- I need a new mouse for my computer. (dead metaphor)

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