Warm-Up

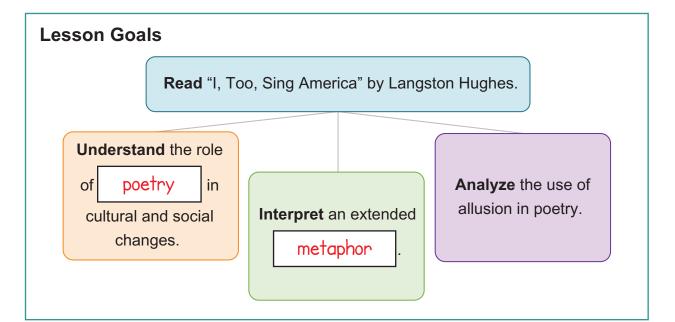
Allusion and Metaphor in "I, Too, Sing America"



Lesson Question

How does an extended metaphor help the reader understand the poem's message?







Words to Know

Fill in this table as you work through the lesson. You may also use the glossary to help you.

equal	when two things are given the same value
allusion	a reference in a text to another well-known text, person, event, or thing
extended metaphor	a comparison between unlike things that is developed throughout a text
free verse	a form of poetry written without a regular rhythmic pattern

Warm-Up

Allusion and Metaphor in "I, Too, Sing America"



All the Things America Means

Think about what the word America means to you.

- A dream available to anyone
- · A dream only available to some
- A place haunted by racial segregation
- A land full of conflicts between people
- A land full of hardworking citizens

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Slide 2

The Harlem Renaissance cultural Was a "rebirth" of African American heritage artists writers Was a time when African American and expressed themselves and their work Was also known as the "New Negro Movement" Great Migration " (1916–1970) · Resulted from the " Depression Lasted through the 1920s and ended with the Great

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Langston Hughes (1902–1967) American Was an poet, social activist, and writer Wanted to show that African American people were equal and uniquely beautiful middle Portrayed African American -class life as full of struggle, happiness, and music nationalism Promoted a cultural for African Americans so that they could heritage appreciate themselves and their

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Free Verse Poetry Free verse is a type of poetic form or structure that some poets use. Free verse poems: rhythmic do not have a set pattern, or meter. do not have a set rhyme scheme. structure do not have any set lengths do not have set line freedom for the poet to construct phrases and sentences. allow

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Examining Free Verse and Formal Poetry

Free Verse

The fog comes
on little cat feet.
It sits looking
over harbor and city
on silent haunches
and then moves on.

-"Fog "

–"Fog," Carl Sandburg

Not Free Verse

Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?
Thou art more lovely and more temperate:
Rough winds do shake the darling buds of
May,

And summer's lease hath all too short a date.

-"Sonnet 18," William Shakespeare

The poem "Fog," by Carl Sandburg, does not have a set rhyme or have a set meter scheme. The lines are of similar length, but this poem doesn't seem to follow any set of rules.

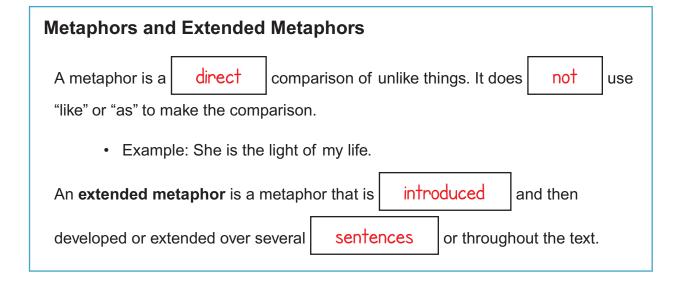
The excerpt from William Shakespeare's "Sonnet 18" is not in free verse. It has definite set meter and set rhyme.

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Extended Metaphor in a Poem

In this excerpt from her poem "Hope," Emily Dickinson uses an extended metaphor.

- She compares hope to a bird.
- She uses the metaphor across several lines.

Underline the details that extend the metaphors in the poem.

Hope is the thing with feathers
That perches in the soul,
And sings the tune—without the words,
And never stops at all.
And sweetest in the gale is heard.

-"Hope," Emily Dickinson

Instruction Part 2

Allusion and Metaphor in "I, Too, Sing America"

Slide

Allusion

reference An allusion is a in a text to another well-known text, thing event, or person

Allusion

John didn't like spending money. He was no Scrooge, but he never bought anything he didn't need.

Not an Allusion

John didn't like spending money. He didn't hoard his money, but he never bought anything he didn't need.

"I Hear America Singing" by Walt Whitman

Underline the voices that make up America in the passage.

I hear America singing, the varied carols I hear,

Those of mechanics, each one singing his as it should be blithe and strong,

The <u>carpenter</u> singing his as he measures his plank or beam,

The <u>mason</u> singing his as he makes ready for work, or leaves off work,

The boatman singing what belongs to him in his boat, the deckhand singing on the steamboat deck,

The shoemaker singing as he sits on his bench, the hatter singing as he stands,

The wood-cutter's song, the ploughboy's on his way in the morning, or

at noon intermission or at sundown.

-"I Hear America Singing," Walt Whitman

Instruction Part 2

Allusion and Metaphor in "I, Too, Sing America"



Comparing the Poems

Underline the positive words that both speakers used in the poems.

The <u>delicious</u> singing of the mother, or of the young wife at work, or of

the girl sewing or washing,

Each singing what belongs to him or her and to none else,

The day what belongs to the day—at night the party of young fellows,

robust, friendly,

Singing with open mouths their strong melodious songs.

–"I Hear America Singing," Walt Whitman Nobody'll dare

Say to me,

"Eat in the kitchen,"

Then.

Besides,

They'll see how <u>beautiful</u> I am

And be ashamed-

I, too, am America.

–"I, Too, Sing America," Langston Hughes

Summary

Allusion and Metaphor in "I, Too, Sing America"



Lesson Question

How does an extended metaphor help the reader understand the poem's message?

Answer

An extended metaphor helps the reader understand the poem's message by making a series of comparisons that emphasize big ideas in the poem.

Use this space to write any questions or thoughts about this lesson.