



Lesson Plan: *Understanding and Using English Metaphors*

Grade Level / CEFR: Grades 6–10 / ESL B1–B2

Time: 60 minutes

Topic: English Metaphors — Definition, Examples, and Usage

Materials Needed:

- TeachersInstruction.com article printout or projection
- Printable worksheet (matching + fill-in-the-blank)
- Whiteboard/markers or digital board
- Student notebooks
- Optional: Metaphor generator (in the article)

Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Define what a metaphor is and how it differs from a simile or idiom.
2. Identify metaphors in context and explain their meaning.
3. Use metaphors in their own writing or speaking to describe emotions, situations, or abstract ideas.

Lesson Breakdown

Time	Stage	Activities & Notes
5 min	Warm-Up	Ask: "Have you ever said 'time is money' or 'he's a night owl'?" Write on board. Elicit responses: <i>What do these really mean?</i>
10 min	Mini-Lesson (Definition)	Use article's intro and definition section . Write this on board: Metaphor = a direct comparison (X is Y) without using "like" or "as." Project or read: "Her smile is sunshine."
10 min	Compare & Contrast	Use the comparison table : Metaphor vs. Simile vs. Idiom. Guide students through matching example pairs. Students copy table in notebooks.
15 min	Guided Practice	Distribute worksheet: Matching quiz + fill-in-the-blank. Have students work in pairs. (You can pull examples from your article's themed sections: Love, Life, Growth.)
10 min	Creative Application	Use whiteboard prompt: "Write your own metaphor about an emotion, a season, or a challenge." Students write 1–2 sentences, share in pairs or aloud.
5 min	Review & Exit Ticket	Ask: "What's one metaphor you remember from today? What does it mean?" Collect or share aloud. Optionally, give a 3-question review quiz.

Assessment

Tool / Format	Criteria
Worksheet (matching/fill-in)	80%+ accuracy for identifying metaphors
Creative sentence	Includes metaphor structure (X is Y), appropriate and original
Exit Ticket / Share Out	Demonstrates understanding of metaphor meaning

Extensions / Homework

- **Creative writing prompt:** Write a short paragraph using 2 metaphors about your day.

- **Metaphor scavenger hunt:** Find 3 metaphors in a song or poem and explain their meaning.

Standards Alignment (U.S. ELA or ESL)

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.6-8.5:** Demonstrate understanding of figurative language.
- **CEFR B1–B2:** Can understand the main points of figurative expressions in texts and use simple metaphors to describe ideas or feelings.