

Need another word that means the same as “metaphor”? Find 11 synonyms and 30 related words for “metaphor” in this overview.

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**The synonyms of “Metaphor” are: figure of speech, image, trope, allegory, parable, analogy, comparison, symbol, emblem, word painting, word picture**

## **Metaphor as a Noun**

### **Definitions of "Metaphor" as a noun**

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “metaphor” as a noun can have the following definitions:

- *A figure of speech in which an expression is used to refer to something that it does not literally denote in order to suggest a similarity.*
- *A figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable.*
- *A thing regarded as representative or symbolic of something else.*



## Synonyms of "Metaphor" as a noun (11 Words)

- allegory** A symbol.  
*Pilgrim s Progress is an **allegory** of the spiritual journey.*  
The religious belief that between creature and creator no similarity can be found so great but that the dissimilarity is always greater any analogy between God and humans will always be inadequate.
- analogy** *An **analogy** between the workings of nature and those of human societies.*
- comparison** A consideration or estimate of the similarities or dissimilarities between two things or people.  
*They made a **comparison** of noise levels.*
- emblem** A visible symbol representing an abstract idea.  
*America s national **emblem** the bald eagle.*
- figure of speech** Language used in a figurative or nonliteral sense.



- image** Language used in a figurative or nonliteral sense.  
*She s the very **image** of her mother.*
- parable** (New Testament) any of the stories told by Jesus to convey his religious message.  
*A modern day **parable**.*
- symbol** A shape or sign used to represent something such as an organization, e.g. a red cross or a Star of David.  
*The chemical **symbol** for helium is He.*
- trope** A figurative or metaphorical use of a word or expression.  
*Both clothes and illness became **tropes** for new attitudes toward the self.*
- word painting** A promise.
- word picture** The divine word of God; the second person in the Trinity (incarnate in Jesus).



## Usage Examples of "Metaphor" as a noun

- *Her poetry depends on suggestion and metaphor.*
- *The amounts of money being lost by the company were enough to make it a metaphor for an industry that was teetering.*
- *When we speak of gene maps and gene mapping, we use a cartographic metaphor.*



## Associations of "Metaphor" (30 Words)

### **allusion**

The practice of making allusions.  
*The use of **allusion**.*

### **analogy**

The religious belief that between creature and creator no similarity can be found so great but that the dissimilarity is always greater any analogy between God and humans will always be inadequate.  
*The syndrome is called deep dysgraphia because of its **analogy** to deep dyslexia.*



<b>bombast</b>	High-sounding language with little meaning, used to impress people. <i>The <b>bombast</b> of gung ho militarism.</i>
<b>compare</b>	Examine and note the similarities or differences of. <i>John <b>compared</b> his haircut to his friend s.</i>
<b>comparison</b>	Relation based on similarities and differences. <i>When it comes to achievements this season there s no <b>comparison</b> between Linfield and Bangor.</i>
<b><u>conceptual</u></b>	Being or characterized by concepts or their formation. <i><b>Conceptual</b> discussions.</i>
<b>equal</b>	A person who is of equal standing with another in a group. <i>His work is concerned with why private property <b>equals</b> exploitation.</i>
<b><u>equate</u></b>	Cause (two or more things) to be the same in quantity or value. <i>You cannot <b>equate</b> success in financial matters with greed.</i>
<b><u>exaggerate</u></b>	To enlarge beyond bounds or the truth. <i>Claims of turmoil within the firm are greatly <b>exaggerated</b>.</i>
<b>exaggeration</b>	The action of making exaggerations. <i>It would be an <b>exaggeration</b> to say I had morning sickness but I did feel queasy.</i>
<b>figurative</b>	Not literal; using figures of speech. <i>The <b>figurative</b> art of the humanistic tradition.</i>
<b>fustian</b>	A strong cotton and linen fabric with a slight nap. <i>The coarse <b>fustian</b> of prison clothing.</i>
<b><u>hyperbole</u></b>	Exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally. <i>He vowed revenge with oaths and <b>hyperboles</b>.</i>
<b><u>imagery</u></b>	The ability to form mental images of things or events. <i>Tennyson uses <b>imagery</b> to create a lyrical emotion.</i>
<b>impressionism</b>	A school of late 19th century French painters who pictured appearances by strokes of unmixed colors to give the impression of reflected light.
<b>liken</b>	Point out the resemblance of someone or something to. <i>Racism is <b>likened</b> to a contagious disease.</i>
<b>likeness</b>	The fact or quality of being alike; resemblance. <i>The only known <b>likeness</b> of Dorothy as a young woman.</i>
<b>magnification</b>	The degree to which something is or can be magnified. <i>The lines are only visible under high <b>magnification</b>.</i>
<b>metonymy</b>	The substitution of the name of an attribute or adjunct for that of the thing meant, for example suit for business executive, or the turf for horse racing.

<b>overstatement</b>	The action of stating something too strongly; exaggeration. <i>A classic piece of <b>overstatement</b>.</i>
<b>parallelism</b>	The state of being parallel or of corresponding in some way. <i>The <b>parallelisms</b> are reinforced by frequent alliteration.</i>
<b>poetic</b>	Written in verse rather than prose. <i>A <b>poetic</b> drama.</i>
<b>reference</b>	A remark that calls attention to something or someone. <i>The publishers reprinted and sold the work without <b>reference</b> to the author.</i>
<b>resemblance</b>	Similarity in appearance or external or superficial details. <i>The physical <b>resemblances</b> between humans and apes.</i>
<b>rhetorical</b>	Given to rhetoric, emphasizing style at the expense of thought. <i>The general intended his question to be purely <b>rhetorical</b>.</i>
<b>similarity</b>	A similar feature or aspect. <i>The <b>similarity</b> of symptoms makes them hard to diagnose.</i>
<b>simile</b>	The use of similes as a method of comparison. <i>His audacious deployment of <b>simile</b> and metaphor.</i>
<b>statement</b>	A document setting out items of debit and credit between a bank or other organization and a customer. <i>The ministers issued a joint <b>statement</b> calling for negotiations.</i>
<b>symbolism</b>	The use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities. <i>He has always believed in the importance of <b>symbolism</b> in garden art.</i>
<b>trope</b>	A significant or recurrent theme; a motif. <i>Perhaps it is a mistake to use <b>tropes</b> and parallels in this eminently unpoetic age.</i>

