



## TYPES AND FUNCTIONS OF METAPHORS IN THE ENGLISH QUOTES

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### Abstract

*This paper aims at explaining the use of metaphors in terms of types and functions as found in the English Quotes. The qualitative method is used to describe, analyze, and interpret the collected data. The data were taken from English Quotes published on the website of Pinterest, and all of the data were analyzed by using a semantics-cognitive approach. After doing the data analysis, the writers find nineteen anthropomorphic, sixteen animal metaphors, thirteen metaphors from concrete to abstract, and two synaesthetic metaphors used in the Quotes. The types of metaphors used in the Quotes reflect their functions. There are three functions in those metaphors, such as to convey the inexpressibility of action, shorten the language, and vividness of emotional states. Each of these functions consists of different categories. Then, the writers also find some of the English quotes that are members of a particular culture, such as American, Japanese, and Indonesian cultures, and mostly tend to be universal. The contribution of studying metaphors used in the English Quotes is to develop one's imagination and enrich the English learners' vocabularies.*

**Keywords:** Metaphor, Types, Function, Quotes

### 1 Introduction

There are various words and figurative language used in literary works including English Quotes as motivational words or as inspirational words. One of the figurative language used in the quotes is a metaphor. This paper will describe the types and functions of metaphors used in English Quotes. Metaphors, are widely used by linguists to better understand and digest a language. A metaphor is a figure of speech, but in understanding it cognitively, metaphor is not only interpreted as just a figure of speech or style but more to the meaning contained in it.

There are a lot of definitions of metaphor, Kridalaksana (2010:152) in the linguistic dictionary states that metaphor is the use of the word or another expression for the object or other concepts based on figures of speech or similarity; eg mountain foot, foot table, based on the figure on the legs man. In addition, Grady (2007) states that "Metaphor is understood to refer to a pattern of conceptual association". Then, Kövecses (2010) says that metaphor is one figurative language that means an analogy of one thing to another. It can be said implicitly as a comparison between A and B or the two different entities, for example, *health is up, sick is down*. Health up tells us that when people feel well people are on their feet and can do many activities, and sick is down, the situation is when people are ill they are more likely to be lying down.

There are many researchers who have conducted research on metaphors. Septiana (2013) has conducted research on the metaphor used by teenagers and adults in daily conversation in the Minangkabau language. She used the theory from Lakoff & Johnson (1980). Her findings show

structural metaphor in terms of the type of metaphor is mostly used by teenagers, and adults are more likely to use ontological metaphor than the other types of metaphor.

Agustina (2016) has conducted research on metaphors found in love song lyrics. She used the theory from Ullmann (1962) and Leech (1981). Her main discussion was the types of metaphors and the meaning of the metaphor. Suwarli (2014) has conducted research on metaphors in the lyrics of songs. Her main discussion was the meaning of metaphor in eight songs. All the songs are inspiring song. She used the theory from Saeed. Her finding shows there are 31 expressions of metaphor in eight songs. Yanti (2014) has conducted research on the metaphorical expression of anger in Minangkabau. Her main discussion was the metaphorical expression of anger from the perspective of cognitive semantics. She discussed how Minangkabau people use metaphors to express anger and emotion. The findings are metaphor is mapped from the source domains of the container into the target domain of anger.

Then, Awalludin (2011) discussed the types of metaphors and their functions of metaphor. He used the stylistics theory that focuses on metaphor and his findings are, there are 23 implicit and 8 explicit metaphors. Then, the functions of metaphor are to clarify the meaning, to unclear the meaning, and to emphasize the meaning.

These previous studies inspire us to study metaphors in terms of types and functions in different theories and data. In this research, the writers use the theory from Ullman (1962) to analyze the types of metaphor and Ortony (1975) to analyze the functions of metaphor, and the data were taken from a number of English Quotes.

The approach used in this research is cognitive semantics. According to Lakoff & Johnson (1980), cognitive principle refers to the traditional linguistic theory about the causal relationship between language and thought. Language is a product of the human mind based on life experiences and it is conceptualized through metaphor.

## 2.1 Theoretical Framework

The theory used in this research is a theory that is suitable and appropriate to the topic and the research questions. The theory can be used to analyze data in order to uncover the research questions.

### 2.2.1 Metaphor

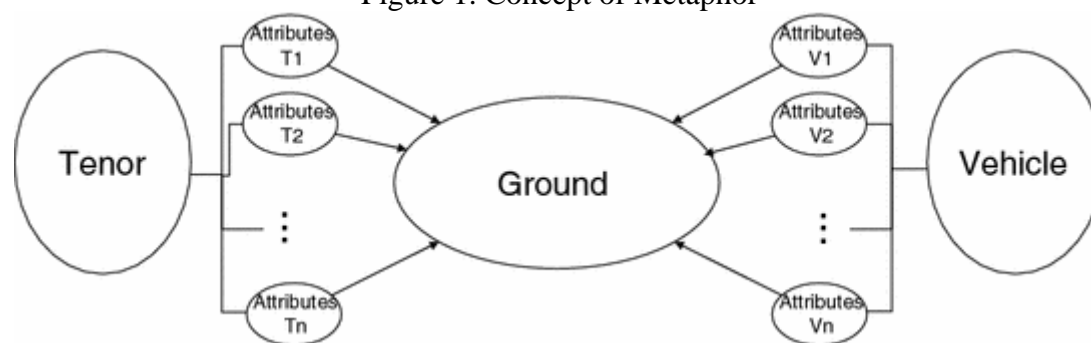
There are some linguists who define metaphor. According to Gibbs (1994), metaphor is a comparison between two terms that is made in order to explore the nature of one. Furthermore, Lakoff (1987) stated that metaphor is the expression of the understanding of one concept in terms of another concept, where there is some similarity or correlation between the two. For example, *time is money*. This is a metaphorical expression that means time is a valuable resource, therefore it is better to do things as quickly as possible.

According to Perrine (1998), metaphor and simile are both used as means of things that are essentially unlike. The only distinction between them is that metaphor as a comparison is not using the word: like, as, such, and so on, so that the first subject is directly connected to the second principle. In metaphor, an idea is implicitly compared while in simile it is explicitly compared.

### 2.2.2 The Concepts of Metaphors

The metaphor's concepts were previously proposed by Richards (1936), He stated that metaphor is constituted by *topic (vehicle), tenor, and ground*. *Tenor* is the subject of metaphor or the idea which is intended to be expressed, the *vehicle* is another idea by which the tenor is being described, and the *ground* is a new idea that is produced by the similarities or the two analogies of *tenor* and *vehicle* involved or put together. It can be said that *ground* is a new idea produced by the interaction of *tenor* and *vehicle*. For example, *jack is a tiger in debate*. Jack is the *tenor* and the tiger is the *vehicle*. The analogy and ideas between the two, which is possibly the way Jack delivers his arguments in debate as strong as a tiger, and make it difficult for opponents to rebate is *ground*. The concepts stated by Richards can be seen in Figure 1.

Figure 1. Concept of Metaphor



Source: link.springer.com

Furthermore, metaphors are spread not only in certain genres striving to create some artistic effect like in literary works but also in the most neutral genres for example magazines, newspapers, conversation, etc. In these, the researchers found a number of metaphorical examples, such as “defending an argument”, “exploding with anger”, “building a theory”, and “fire in someone’s eyes”, (Kovecses, 2017).

Then, Kovecses (2017) underlines that “A *conceptual metaphor is a systematic set of correspondences between two domains of experience*” which means “understanding one domain in terms of another” means. In the literature term “correspondence can be said as mapping” because certain elements and the relations between them are said to be mapped from one domain (source domain), onto the other domain (target domain).

### 2.2.3 Types of Metaphors

Ullmann (1962) has defined four kinds of metaphors. Such kinds of metaphors are anthropomorphic, animal metaphor, concrete to abstract, and synaesthetic metaphor. Anthropomorphic metaphor is a kind of metaphor that sources to part of the human being's body and the characteristics of a human being which then relates to unliving things or objects such as the mouth of the river, the lung of a town, the leg of the table, etc. It can be said that parts of the human body are compared with an object.

Animal metaphor is as the source comes from the animal world. There are two main directions of animal metaphor. First, a transfer of animal images is applied to certain plants, for instance, the name of plants are applied from animal images such as *kumis kucing*, *cock's foot* or *cat grass*, *goatsbeard*, etc Second, a transfer of animal images into the human sphere, such as *she behaves in such a catty or doggedway* or *he is a rat*. It can be said that the animal metaphor comes from the characteristic of the animal as well as the parts of its body.

The type from concrete to abstract refers to a metaphor that emerged as a consequence of the transfer of concrete to an abstract experience and conversely, from an abstract to a concrete thing. According to Ullmann (1962), one of the basic tendencies of metaphor is to translate abstract experiences into concrete ones. For example, “dropped his oily manner”, the transfer appeared from the concrete thing which dropped to an abstract phrase that is his oily manner. Manner is not something real or absolutely abstract. So it is not possible to treat it and provide an action such as dropping or lifting it. The use of the concrete-abstract metaphor in this phrase show language variation so that they become more interesting and attractive. Abstract refers to ideas or concepts for which they have no physical reference. For example, love, success, freedom, etc. these terms are common and familiar and can be recognized, imagined or understood. Those are not real.

Synaesthetic metaphor is a kind of metaphor created based on transferring the conceptions or senses. It might be transferring of one human being's sense to another; from sound to sight, from touch to sound, etc. For example, *a warm voice* or *a cold voice*. It can be seen that the sense of warmth is compared with another sense which is the hearing sense and feeling sense.

## 2.2.4 Functions of Metaphors

According to Ortony (1975), three functions can be performed by metaphors, namely to express an action that cannot be expressed, to shorten language, and to clarify the expression of emotional feelings. The first function refers to a metaphor that allows people to convey something that is difficult to express directly or is limited to the literal use of language. The second function of metaphor is a very compact means of communication. The third function is that metaphors can help capture the clarity of phenomenal experiences, metaphors can convey more information than discrete units, and metaphors can also paint richer and more detailed pictures than are conveyed using literal language. For expressions of emotion, the use of metaphors is more appropriate because they tend to have qualities that are difficult to understand and which are difficult to explain in literal language, although they can usually be labeled in literal language. For example, it is difficult to give a literal description of the qualities of some particular experiences of fear or anger. Metaphors can help express anger emotions with "She is boiled"; Fear as "scared to death". For emotional states, metaphors seem appropriate because they tend to have an elusive quality.

## 3 Methodology

This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach in order to describe phenomena that occur in terms of language use. This research is the phenomenon of using metaphors in English Quotes. The research data are qualitative data, which means the data are not in the form of numbers (Creswell, 2009). This is in line with the descriptive understanding of Bogdan and Taylor (Moleong, 2006), namely research procedures that produce descriptive data, in the form of written or spoken words from observable behavior and people.

In this research, the data were collected in form of words which are words taken from the Quotes. Some steps to do are preparing and organizing the data; reading all the data; coding process; generating a description of the setting or people for analysis; making an interpretation of the data analysis based on the theories used. The data collection technique is to identify words that contain metaphors.

In data analysis techniques, the writers identify words, phrases, or sentences used as metaphors, looking for associations between the concept of the word with the object it represents, the interpretation of the meaning contained in the metaphor, and the last step the conclusion.

## 4 Results and Discussion

From the data analysis, the results show there are four types of metaphor used in English Quotes namely anthropomorphic metaphor, animal metaphor, concrete to abstract metaphor, and synesthetic metaphor. There are nineteen anthropomorphic metaphors, sixteen animal metaphors, thirteen metaphors from concrete to abstract, and two synaesthetic metaphors used in the Quotes. The types of metaphors used in the Quotes reflect their functions. There are three functions in those metaphors, such as to convey the inexpressibility of action, shorten the language, and vividness of emotional states.

### 4.1 Four Types of Metaphors Used in The Quotes

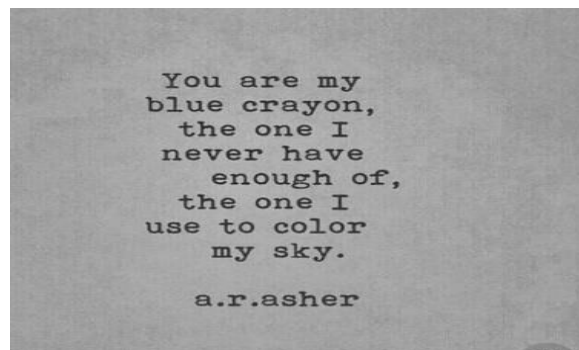
#### 4.1.1 Anthropomorphic metaphor

Ullmann (1962) stated that an Anthropomorphic metaphor is a kind of metaphor that sources part of a human being's body and the characteristics of a human being which then relates to unliving things or objects. It can be seen from the datum below:

- (1) "People say that eyes are windows to the soul."  
— Khaled Hosseini, *The Kite Runner*

In example (1), it can be seen the anthropomorphic metaphor. Parts of the human body such as the eyes are compared to an object such as windows. In this datum, the author probably wants to emphasize that the eyes of a person are supposed to give other people insight into their inner world - their feelings, thoughts, etc. In addition, if people look into a person's eyes people will get an idea of who they are. Also, the feeling of love is often said to come from the eyes and goes to the heart of people. In other words, people fall in love through sight. The new idea that is created by this metaphor is called ground.

(2)

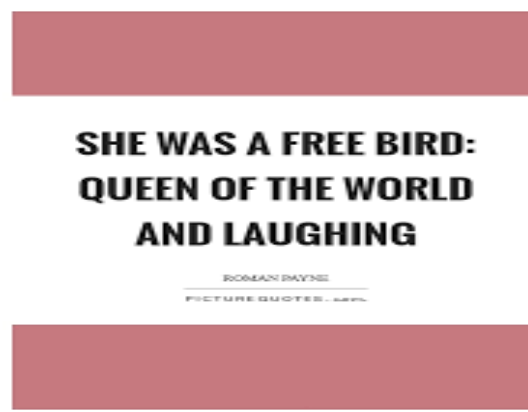


From datum (2), another example of the anthropomorphic metaphor. You, as a human being, compared to the blue crayon as an unliving thing or an object. It is probably because the author wants to highlight that "you" is very important in the author's life, and "you" can bring happiness to the author's life. In addition, "you" can make the author's life more colorful.

#### 4.1.2 Animal Metaphor

According to Ullmann (1962), the animal metaphor is as the source comes from the animal world. There are two main directions of animal metaphor. First, a transfer of animal images is applied to certain plants, for instance, the name of plants are applied from animal images such as *cock's foot* or *cat grass*, *goatsbeard* and etc. Second, a transfer of animal images into the human sphere, such as *she behaves in such a catty or dogged way* or *he is a rat*. It can be seen from the data below:

(3)



In (3), is an example of the animal metaphor. The word "She" is being compared to "free bird". Bird is the animal that can fly with their wings and go anywhere they want the word "free" also emphasize that pronoun "She" is free from everything that forces them to become what they don't

want. It can be seen that the tenor of this metaphor lies in the word “she” while the vehicle lies in the word “ a free bird”. Then the ground lies in the connection between these two.

(4) “She is a cat with a burning tail” – Stephen King

Example (4), is the animal metaphor since there is a transfer of animal images into the human sphere. It can be seen human being “she” is compared to an animal such as “a cat”. The metaphor in the data above probably means she is so lovely, funny, and cheering, though she has bad past experiences. In addition, bad things will not make her becomes sad, she is always cheering up people around her. It can be said that bad things do not affect her nature of life. The tenor of this metaphor lies in the word “she” and the vehicle lies in the word “cat”. Then, the connection of the two creates ground.

#### 4.1.3 From Concrete To Abstract Metaphor

According to Ullmann (1962), from concrete to abstract is a metaphor that appeared as the result of the transfer of concrete to an abstract experience and vice versa from an abstract to a concrete thing or vice versa. Abstract refers to ideas or concepts for which they have no physical reference. For example, love, success, freedom, etc. these terms are common and familiar. It can be recognized, imagined, or understood. However, they are not real. It can be seen from the data below:

(5) “Time is a river” -Jim Butcher, [Dead Beat](#)

Then in (5), it can be seen from abstract to concrete metaphor. An abstract thing such as “time” which is cannot be seen is compared to an object which is the concrete thing “river”. Probably, the author wants to emphasize that people cannot go back to the past and cannot jump to the future instantly. Since time is constructed with the concept of past, present, and future. In other words, there is no passage of time and people cannot go back to the old time. A river, therefore, is a metaphorical depiction of the passage of time, since the same water flows from the origin of the river to the river's mouth. In other words, it is impossible for the water that has been flown from the origin to the mouth to flow again to the origin.

(6)



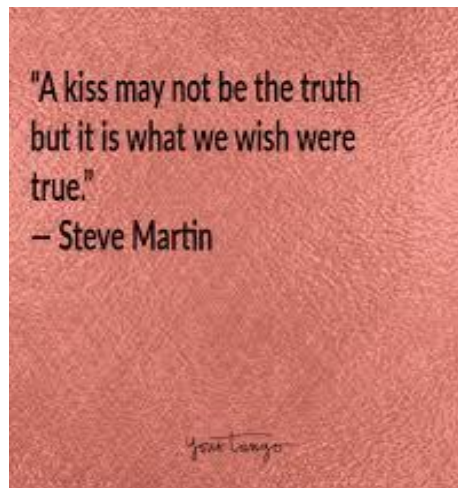
In (6), it can be seen from concrete to abstract metaphor. An abstract thing such as “family” is being compared to an object such as a “life jacket”. It is probably because the author wants to emphasize that family is people who will help us in the bad times. The family will always be on our

side when things go bad, uncontrolled. Family is the one who will cheer us up when everything goes wrong and will hold us up when everything is messed up. It can be seen that the tenor of this metaphor is in the word “family” and the vehicle is in the word “life jacket”. Then, the ground lies in the connection of the two.

#### 4.1.4 Synaesthetic Metaphor

According to Ullmann (1962), a synaesthetic metaphor is a kind of metaphor that is created based on the transfer of conceptions or senses. It might be the transfer of one human being's sense to another; from sound to sight, from touch to sound, etc. For example, *a warm voice* or *a cold voice*. It can be seen from the data below:

(7)



Example (7) is a synaesthetic metaphor. It is because It transfers or compared one human being's sense to another sense. Such as tasting “a kiss” to feeling sense (truth). It is probably the author who wants to say that people who kiss each other may not be in love. However, people believe that if they have kissed each other they are in love.

(8)

She is fire, he is ice.  
Once glimpse of her ignites  
his stone cold eyes.  
The heat of her body  
melts the frozen parts  
of his heart.  
He walks through flames  
just to feel her warmth.  
  
-Christy Ann Martine

In (8), it can be seen the synaesthetic metaphor since it transfers one human being's sense to another sense. In this data, the sense of touch “cold” is transferred to another sense of vision “eyes”. It is probably because the author wants to emphasize that she is in a bad phase of life so she has cold eyes. On the other hand, she has been crying all time so her eyes are cold because of the tears.

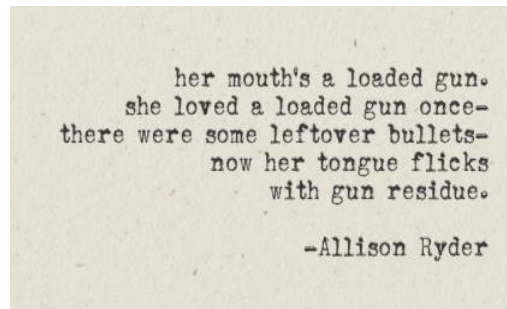
## 4.2 The Functions of Metaphors

Ortony (1975) stated that there are at least three functions that metaphor might serve, they are to express the inexpressibility of action, shorten the language, and vividness of emotional states. However, there will be 3 functions to be discussed. They are to express the inexpressibility of action and shorten the language and vividness of emotional states.

### 4.2.1 To Express inexpressibility of Action

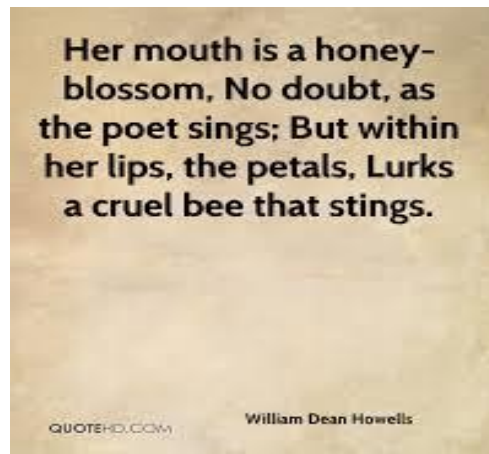
Ortony (1975) stated that they might allow one to express that which is difficult or impossible to express if one is restricted to literal uses of language. It can be seen from the data below:

(9)



In (9), it can be seen that the function of the metaphor used in this data is to express the inexpressibility of action. The author tends to use metaphor in their work because there are certain actions that are hard to express. "a loaded gun" is used to express some actions such as destroyer, breaker, and so on. In addition, by using metaphor, the author can have one word representing some actions.

(10)



From the data (10), the function of metaphor for expressing the inexpressibility of action. "honey-blossom" is used to express some express action in one word such as speaking well, or speaking powerfully. It is supposed that the author says she speaks so well and powerfully and she can gather people with her powerful and good speech. The mouth is compared with Honey, honey tastes sweet.

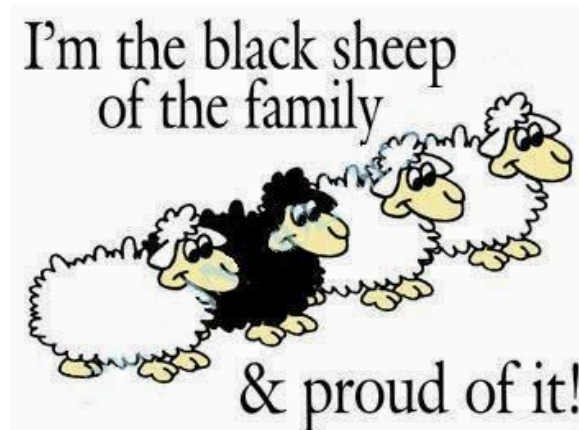
### 4.2.2 Vividness of Emotional States

Ortony (1975) stated that emotional expression seems very suitable for this function, the Vividness of Emotional States function, this function is very suitable for explaining emotional



situations that are very difficult to express or which are very difficult to explain in literal words even though they can be labeled with literal language. Look at the following example.

(11)



From the data (11), it can be seen the function of metaphor that is the vividness of emotional states. The metaphor above is used to express some emotional states such as “I am the one who fails in the family”, “I am useless”, and so on. It can be said one word can tell the vividness of emotional states.

(12) “I'm oxygen and he's dying to breathe.”

— Tahereh Mafi, [Shatter Me](#)

From the data (12), it can be seen the function of metaphor that is the vividness of emotional states. The metaphor above is used to express some emotional states such as “I am important” and feeling confident.

#### 4.3.2 Shorten the Language

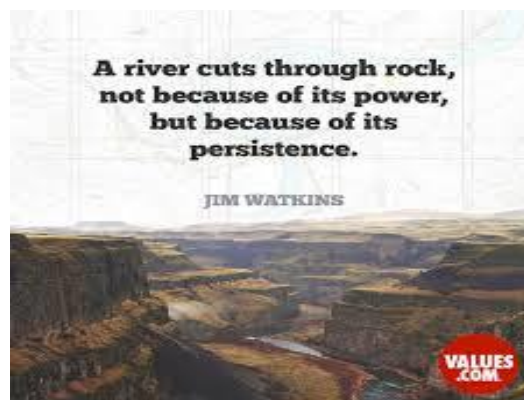
Ortony (1975) stated a function of metaphors is that they may constitute a particularly compact means of communication. Although conscious experience is continuous in form, the linguistic system we use to talk about it is comprised of discrete elements. Unlike more literal forms of language, metaphor may enable people to convey a great deal of information in a succinct manner by obviating the need to isolate the predicates to be expressed into their corresponding lexical representations. It can be seen from the data below:

(13) “People say that eyes are windows to the soul.”

— Khaled Hosseini, [The Kite Runner](#)

In example (13), It can be seen function of metaphor shorten the language because they want to express many things from the eyes are windows to the soul. Next example (14)

(14)



From the data (14), the function of metaphor shortens the language because a river cuts through rock want explain many things.

So, from the data description, the use of metaphors is a clear comparison between objects studied (source) with the final object (target) comparison. The understanding between the two things in comparison is very urgent. Our understanding of something is influenced by information- the information we get before, then through association, categorization, and the relationship between space and time. There are many Metaphors used to beautify the quotes and provide deeper and more memorable meanings.

## 5 Conclusion

The types of metaphor found (anthropomorphic, animal, concrete to abstract, and synaesthetic metaphor) functions to express the inexpressibility of action, shortening the language and vividness or emphasizing the emotional states. To understand metaphor, as a figurative language needs to know what is being compared with another, and what entity belongs to the thing compared. It requires a special understanding of the words used because the understanding of people towards metaphors can be different if they cannot interpret the figurative language correctly. of speech. An appropriate and clear context is needed so that the reader can understand the meaning of the metaphor. In cognitive linguistics, the understanding of metaphor is not just a style of language, but more on a deep understanding of the intent and meaning contained therein. The study of understanding metaphors uses associations and similarities between the two objects being compared. A metaphor is a clear comparison between objects studied with the object being compared.

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