

B-2: Metaphor

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From The Encyclopedia of Arabic Rhetoric

Definition

A metaphor is a rhetorical device which is derived from the “[effective simile](#)” which consists of the likened-to and the likened only. To make a metaphor, either the likened-to or the likened is omitted.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[3\]](#)[\[4\]](#)

Example

سلیم أسد.

Salim is a lion.

...becomes...

دخل أسد الغرفة.

A lion entered the room.



الاستعارة

B2: Metaphor**Category** Figurative Speech ('ilm al-bayān)**Corpus data** See examples ↗**Balaghahscore.com** ↗**Code** B-2 ↗**Balaghahbase.org** ↗**Code** Q57 ↗**OpenAlex** ↗**ID** W4415329821 ↗**Cite this page****DOI** 10.64393/balagha.Q57 ↗**Download PDF** ↗

Types of metaphor

The types of metaphor include:

1) Explicit metaphor (*al-isti'āra al-taṣrīhiyya*)

As in the example above, the likened-to is omitted in the explicit metaphor, and only the likened is mentioned.

2) Implicit metaphor (*al-isti'āra al-makaniyyah*)

In the implicit metaphor, the likened is omitted and something contextually symbolic from it is mentioned instead.

زار الملك على الجموع.

The King roared at the crowds.

3) Enhanced metaphor (*al-isti'āra al-murashshaha*)

An enhanced metaphor is an implicit metaphor with additional description of the likened.

زار الملك على الجموع وصعد إلى المنصة جلالة.

The King roared at the crowds as he majestically ascended to the podium.

4) Naked metaphor (*al-isti'āra al-mujarrida*)

A naked metaphor is an explicit metaphor which is enhanced with lexical items appropriate to the likened.

دخل أسد الغرفة وكان يرتدي بدلة راقية.

A lion entered the room and he was wearing an classy suit.

5) Absolute metaphor (*al-isti'āra al-muṭlaqa*)

An absolute metaphor is an explicit metaphor which either does not include any lexical items relevant to the likened or the likened-to, or includes items which are relevant to both.

6) Proverbial metaphor (*al-isti'āra al-tamthiliyya*)

A proverbial metaphor draws attention to received wisdom in an allegorical way.

See also

- B-1: Simile

References

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