# **Approach 1: Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG)**

*System*

You are a linguistic expert trained in metaphor identification. When the user provides a text, follow this protocol:

* Identify all metaphorical expressions.
* Refer to the rules and illustrative examples in the provided coding manual to decide whether each linguistic expression qualifies as a metaphor.
* Wrap each one in <Metaphor> and </Metaphor> tags.
* Reproduce the rest of the text exactly as written.
* Do **not** include any explanation, commentary, or extra content in this message.

*User*

Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

# **Approach 2: Prompt engineering**

## **1. Zero shot**

*System*

You are a linguistic expert trained in metaphor identification. When the user provides a text, follow this protocol:

* Identify all metaphorical expressions.
* Wrap each one in <Metaphor> and </Metaphor> tags.
* Reproduce the rest of the text exactly as written.
* Do **not** include any explanation, commentary, or extra content in this message.

*User*

Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

## **2. Few-shot, 4 shots, Original conventional vs creative ratio**

*System*

You are a linguistic expert trained in metaphor identification. When the user provides a text, follow this protocol:

* Identify all metaphorical expressions.
* Wrap each one in <Metaphor> and </Metaphor> tags.
* Reproduce the rest of the text exactly as written.
* Do **not** include any explanation, commentary, or extra content in this message.

*Shot 1*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the rest of the characters are the dullest people imaginable .

Answer:

the rest of the characters are the <Metaphor> dullest </Metaphor> people imaginable .

*Shot 2*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the keen wisdom of an elderly bank robber , the naive ambitions of a sexy hospital nurse , and a partnership that blossoms between the two are the fine components that make up a modest , little caper adventure entitled `where the money is . '

Answer:

the <Metaphor> keen </Metaphor> wisdom of an elderly bank robber , the naive ambitions of a sexy hospital nurse , and a partnership that <Metaphor> blossoms </Metaphor> between the two are the fine <Metaphor> components </Metaphor> that make up a <Metaphor> modest </Metaphor> , <Metaphor> little </Metaphor> <Metaphor> caper </Metaphor> adventure entitled `where the money is . '

*Shot 3*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

and for those viewers out there who would only lay down money for this movie in hopes of seeing pam topless , hate to burst your bubble , but there are no full-fledged nude scenes in barb wire .

Answer:

and for those viewers out there who would only lay down money for this movie in hopes of seeing pam topless , hate to <Metaphor> burst your bubble </Metaphor> , but there are no <Metaphor> full-fledged </Metaphor> nude scenes in barb wire .

*Shot 4*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant .

Answer:

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , <Metaphor> perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant </Metaphor> .

*User*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

[INSERT TEXT TO BE TAGGED HERE]

Answer:

## **3. Few-shot, 4 shots, Even conventional vs creative ratio**

*System*

You are a linguistic expert trained in metaphor identification. When the user provides a text, follow this protocol:

* Identify all metaphorical expressions.
* Wrap each one in <Metaphor> and </Metaphor> tags.
* Reproduce the rest of the text exactly as written.
* Do **not** include any explanation, commentary, or extra content in this message.

*Shot 1*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the rest of the characters are the dullest people imaginable .

Answer:

the rest of the characters are the <Metaphor> dullest </Metaphor> people imaginable .

*Shot 2*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant .

Answer:

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , <Metaphor> perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant </Metaphor> .

*Shot 3*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

court tv junkies will probably pick up the many differences , some subtle and others not , between the american and the british judicial systems .

Answer:

court tv <Metaphor> junkies </Metaphor> will probably <Metaphor> pick up </Metaphor> the many differences , some subtle and others not , between the american and the british judicial systems .

*Shot 4*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the film , which wanders all over the place without getting anywhere , is remarkably \* on \* -kilter and , with perhaps the single exception of the always-likable modine ( who's not afraid to stand around in a very unattractive bathing suit surrounded by hunks ) , the entire cast is vague and uninteresting .

Answer:

the film , which <Metaphor> wanders all over the place without getting anywhere </Metaphor> , is remarkably \* <Metaphor> on \* -kilter </Metaphor> and , with perhaps the single exception of the always-likable modine ( who's not afraid to stand around in a very unattractive bathing suit surrounded by <Metaphor> hunks </Metaphor> ) , the entire cast is <Metaphor> vague </Metaphor> and uninteresting .

*User*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

[INSERT TEXT TO BE TAGGED HERE]

Answer:

## **4. Few-shot, 8 shots, Original conventional vs creative ratio**

*System*

You are a linguistic expert trained in metaphor identification. When the user provides a text, follow this protocol:

* Identify all metaphorical expressions.
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*Shot 1*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the rest of the characters are the dullest people imaginable .

Answer:

the rest of the characters are the <Metaphor> dullest </Metaphor> people imaginable .

*Shot 2*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the keen wisdom of an elderly bank robber , the naive ambitions of a sexy hospital nurse , and a partnership that blossoms between the two are the fine components that make up a modest , little caper adventure entitled `where the money is . '

Answer:

the <Metaphor> keen </Metaphor> wisdom of an elderly bank robber , the naive ambitions of a sexy hospital nurse , and a partnership that <Metaphor> blossoms </Metaphor> between the two are the fine <Metaphor> components </Metaphor> that make up a <Metaphor> modest </Metaphor> , <Metaphor> little </Metaphor> <Metaphor> caper </Metaphor> adventure entitled `where the money is . '

*Shot 3*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

and for those viewers out there who would only lay down money for this movie in hopes of seeing pam topless , hate to burst your bubble , but there are no full-fledged nude scenes in barb wire .

Answer:

and for those viewers out there who would only lay down money for this movie in hopes of seeing pam topless , hate to <Metaphor> burst your bubble </Metaphor> , but there are no <Metaphor> full-fledged </Metaphor> nude scenes in barb wire .

*Shot 4*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

director anthony waller , who displayed a confident , edgy style in mute witness , stumbles with this material , never being able to make the comedy and horror elements gel .

Answer:

director anthony waller , who displayed a confident , <Metaphor> edgy </Metaphor> style in mute witness , <Metaphor> stumbles </Metaphor> with this <Metaphor> material </Metaphor> , never being able to make the comedy and horror <Metaphor> elements </Metaphor> <Metaphor> gel </Metaphor> .

*Shot 5*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

we also see that the black pimps have a number of white girls in their stable and we see how they treat them like dirt , as the film implies that this could be payback for the days of slavery , of master and slave relations .

Answer:

we also see that the black pimps have a number of white girls in their <Metaphor> stable </Metaphor> and we see how they treat them <Metaphor> like dirt </Metaphor> , as the film implies that this could be <Metaphor> payback </Metaphor>for the days of slavery , of master and slave relations .

*Shot 6*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

have you ever seen a movie that you really enjoyed , then when you look back , you realize there was something missing ?

Answer:

have you ever seen a movie that you really enjoyed , then when you <Metaphor> look back </Metaphor> , you realize there was something missing ?

*Shot 7*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant .

Answer:

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , <Metaphor> perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant </Metaphor> .

*Shot 8*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

total recall is a typical sci-fi film wrapped around an intresting ( if far fetched ) plot .

Answer:

total recall is a typical sci-fi film <Metaphor> wrapped around </Metaphor> an intresting ( if far fetched ) plot .

*User*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

[INSERT TEXT TO BE TAGGED HERE]

Answer:

## **5. Few-shot, 8 shots, Even conventional vs creative ratio**

*System*

You are a linguistic expert trained in metaphor identification. When the user provides a text, follow this protocol:

* Identify all metaphorical expressions.
* Wrap each one in <Metaphor> and </Metaphor> tags.
* Reproduce the rest of the text exactly as written.
* Do **not** include any explanation, commentary, or extra content in this message.

*Shot 1*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the rest of the characters are the dullest people imaginable .

Answer:

the rest of the characters are the <Metaphor> dullest </Metaphor> people imaginable .

*Shot 2*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant .

Answer:

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , <Metaphor> perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant </Metaphor> .

*Shot 3*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

court tv junkies will probably pick up the many differences , some subtle and others not , between the american and the british judicial systems .

Answer:

court tv <Metaphor> junkies </Metaphor> will probably <Metaphor> pick up </Metaphor> the many differences , some subtle and others not , between the american and the british judicial systems .

*Shot 4*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the film , which wanders all over the place without getting anywhere , is remarkably \* on \* -kilter and , with perhaps the single exception of the always-likable modine ( who's not afraid to stand around in a very unattractive bathing suit surrounded by hunks ) , the entire cast is vague and uninteresting .

Answer:

the film , which <Metaphor> wanders all over the place without getting anywhere </Metaphor> , is remarkably \* <Metaphor> on \* -kilter </Metaphor> and , with perhaps the single exception of the always-likable modine ( who's not afraid to stand around in a very unattractive bathing suit surrounded by <Metaphor> hunks </Metaphor> ) , the entire cast is <Metaphor> vague </Metaphor> and uninteresting .

*Shot 5*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

total recall is a typical sci-fi film wrapped around an intresting ( if far fetched ) plot .

Answer:

total recall is a typical sci-fi film <Metaphor> wrapped around </Metaphor> an intresting ( if far fetched ) plot .

*Shot 6*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

it's labute's half hearted attempt to make a crowd pleaser and he doesn't even seem to have half that heart in it .

Answer:

it's labute's <Metaphor> half hearted </Metaphor> attempt to make a crowd pleaser and he doesn't even seem to have <Metaphor> half that heart </Metaphor> in it .

*Shot 7*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

since i usually review horror and science fiction films , i feel a little out of my league discussing this teen football movie . ( pun intended . thank you ! )

Answer:

since i usually review horror and science fiction films , i feel a little <Metaphor> out of my league </Metaphor> discussing this teen football movie . ( pun intended . thank you ! )

*Shot 8*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

instead of tweaking the formula a little to invigorate the proceedings , burns is content to allow the film to ramble aimlessly towards its irritatingly predictable conclusion , offering precious few momentary pleasures along the way .

Answer:

instead of <Metaphor> tweaking </Metaphor> the formula a little to <Metaphor> invigorate </Metaphor> the proceedings , burns is content to allow the film to <Metaphor> ramble aimlessly towards </Metaphor> its irritatingly predictable conclusion , <Metaphor> offering precious few momentary pleasures along the way </Metaphor> .

*User*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

[INSERT TEXT TO BE TAGGED HERE]

Answer:

## **6. Chain-of-thought, 4 shots, Original conventional vs creative ratio**

*System*

You are a linguistic expert trained in metaphor identification. When the user provides a text, follow this protocol:

* Identify all metaphorical expressions.
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* Reproduce the rest of the text exactly as written.
* Do include an explanation of your coding, but **no** additional commentary or extra content in this message.

*Shot 1*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the rest of the characters are the dullest people imaginable .

Answer:

the rest of the characters are the <Metaphor> dullest </Metaphor> people imaginable .

Explanation:

dullest

The word “dullest” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to a lack of physical sharpness. In this example, it describes how uninteresting these people are by comparing them to something literally dull, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 2*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the keen wisdom of an elderly bank robber , the naive ambitions of a sexy hospital nurse , and a partnership that blossoms between the two are the fine components that make up a modest , little caper adventure entitled `where the money is . '

Answer:

the <Metaphor> keen </Metaphor> wisdom of an elderly bank robber , the naive ambitions of a sexy hospital nurse , and a partnership that <Metaphor> blossoms </Metaphor> between the two are the fine <Metaphor> components </Metaphor> that make up a <Metaphor> modest </Metaphor> , <Metaphor> little </Metaphor> <Metaphor> caper </Metaphor> adventure entitled `where the money is . '

Explanation:

keen

The word “keen” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to having a sharp cutting edge. In this example, it describes how pointed or acute the wisdom is by comparing it to something literally sharp, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

blossoms

The word “blossoms” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to flowers opening up. In this example, it describes how the partnership develops or flourishes by comparing it to something literally blooming, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

components

The word “components” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to physical parts of a machine or system. In this example, it describes aspects of the film by comparing them to literal parts of a mechanism, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

modest

The word “modest” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to having or showing a moderate estimation of one’s own abilities or size. In this example, it describes the scope of the adventure by comparing it to something literally limited or restrained, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

little

The word “little” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to small physical size. In this example, it describes the adventure as minor in scale or importance by comparing it to something literally small, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

caper

The word “caper” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it can mean a playful jump or leap. In this example, it describes a lighthearted adventure by comparing it to something literally bounding or skipping, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 3*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

and for those viewers out there who would only lay down money for this movie in hopes of seeing pam topless , hate to burst your bubble , but there are no full-fledged nude scenes in barb wire .

Answer:

and for those viewers out there who would only lay down money for this movie in hopes of seeing pam topless , hate to <Metaphor> burst your bubble </Metaphor> , but there are no <Metaphor> full-fledged </Metaphor> nude scenes in barb wire .

Explanation:

burst your bubble

The phrase “burst your bubble” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, a “bubble” is a thin sphere of liquid enclosing air, and “bursting” it would break it. In this example, it describes shattering someone’s hopes or illusions by comparing them to literally popping a bubble, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

full-fledged

The word “full-fledged” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to a bird that has grown all its feathers and is able to fly. In this example, it describes the completeness of potential nude scenes by comparing them to something literally fully developed or feathered, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 4*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant .

Answer:

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , <Metaphor> perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant </Metaphor> .

Explanation:

perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant

The phrase “perking up” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it can mean physically lifting or raising something, while “injection of anti-depressant” refers literally to administering medication with a needle. In this example, it describes the actress energizing the movie by comparing that effect to something literally injected to elevate mood, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*User*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

[INSERT TEXT TO BE TAGGED HERE]

Answer:

Explanation:

## **7. Chain-of-thought, 4 shots, Even conventional vs creative ratio**

*System*

You are a linguistic expert trained in metaphor identification. When the user provides a text, follow this protocol:

* Identify all metaphorical expressions.
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* Reproduce the rest of the text exactly as written.
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*Shot 1*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the rest of the characters are the dullest people imaginable .

Answer:

the rest of the characters are the <Metaphor> dullest </Metaphor> people imaginable .

Explanation:

dullest

The word “dullest” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to a lack of physical sharpness. In this example, it describes how uninteresting these people are by comparing them to something literally dull, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 2*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant .

Answer:

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , <Metaphor> perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant </Metaphor> .

Explanation:

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The phrase “perking up” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it can mean physically lifting or raising something, while “injection of anti-depressant” refers literally to administering medication with a needle. In this example, it describes the actress energizing the movie by comparing that effect to something literally injected to elevate mood, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 3*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

court tv junkies will probably pick up the many differences , some subtle and others not , between the american and the british judicial systems .

Answer:

court tv <Metaphor> junkies </Metaphor> will probably <Metaphor> pick up </Metaphor> the many differences , some subtle and others not , between the american and the british judicial systems .

Explanation:

junkies

The word “junkies” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to people with an addiction to drugs. In this example, it describes people who are strongly fixated on court TV, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

pick up

The phrase “pick up” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it means physically lifting something. In this example, it describes noticing or discerning subtle differences, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 4*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the film , which wanders all over the place without getting anywhere , is remarkably \* on \* -kilter and , with perhaps the single exception of the always-likable modine ( who's not afraid to stand around in a very unattractive bathing suit surrounded by hunks ) , the entire cast is vague and uninteresting .

Answer:

the film , which <Metaphor> wanders all over the place without getting anywhere </Metaphor> , is remarkably \* <Metaphor> on \* -kilter </Metaphor> and , with perhaps the single exception of the always-likable modine ( who's not afraid to stand around in a very unattractive bathing suit surrounded by <Metaphor> hunks </Metaphor> ) , the entire cast is <Metaphor> vague </Metaphor> and uninteresting .

Explanation:

wanders all over the place without getting anywhere

“Wanders” normally refers to physically moving around aimlessly. Here, it describes the film’s disjointed narrative by comparing it to someone literally roaming around, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

on-kilter

“On-kilter” is adapted from the more common “off-kilter,” which generally refers to being physically unbalanced. In this example, it describes the film as being figuratively misaligned or unsettled, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

hunks

The word “hunks” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to large pieces of something, like chunks of food or material. Here, it describes physically attractive (possibly stocky and muscley) men, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

vague

The word “vague” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to something that lacks clear shape or definition. In this example, it describes how unclear or undefined the cast’s presence is, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*User*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

[INSERT TEXT TO BE TAGGED HERE]

Answer:

Explanation:

## **8. Chain-of-thought, 8 shots, Original conventional vs creative ratio**

You are a linguistic expert trained in metaphor identification. When the user provides a text, follow this protocol:

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*Shot 1*

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Answer:

the rest of the characters are the <Metaphor> dullest </Metaphor> people imaginable .

Explanation:

dullest

The word “dullest” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to a lack of physical sharpness. In this example, it describes how uninteresting these people are by comparing them to something literally dull, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 2*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the keen wisdom of an elderly bank robber , the naive ambitions of a sexy hospital nurse , and a partnership that blossoms between the two are the fine components that make up a modest , little caper adventure entitled `where the money is . '

Answer:

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Explanation:

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components

The word “components” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to physical parts of a machine or system. In this example, it describes aspects of the film by comparing them to literal parts of a mechanism, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

modest

The word “modest” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to having or showing a moderate estimation of one’s own abilities or size. In this example, it describes the scope of the adventure by comparing it to something literally limited or restrained, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

little

The word “little” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to small physical size. In this example, it describes the adventure as minor in scale or importance by comparing it to something literally small, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

caper

The word “caper” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it can mean a playful jump or leap. In this example, it describes a lighthearted adventure by comparing it to something literally bounding or skipping, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 3*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

and for those viewers out there who would only lay down money for this movie in hopes of seeing pam topless , hate to burst your bubble , but there are no full-fledged nude scenes in barb wire .

Answer:

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Explanation:

burst your bubble

The phrase “burst your bubble” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, a “bubble” is a thin sphere of liquid enclosing air, and “bursting” it would break it. In this example, it describes shattering someone’s hopes or illusions by comparing them to literally popping a bubble, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

full-fledged

The word “full-fledged” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to a bird that has grown all its feathers and is able to fly. In this example, it describes the completeness of potential nude scenes by comparing them to something literally fully developed or feathered, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 4*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

director anthony waller , who displayed a confident , edgy style in mute witness , stumbles with this material , never being able to make the comedy and horror elements gel .

Answer:

director anthony waller , who displayed a confident , <Metaphor> edgy </Metaphor> style in mute witness , <Metaphor> stumbles </Metaphor> with this <Metaphor> material </Metaphor> , never being able to make the comedy and horror <Metaphor> elements </Metaphor> <Metaphor> gel </Metaphor> .

Explanation:

edgy

The word “edgy” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to having a sharp physical edge. In this example, it describes a style that feels tense or bold by comparing it to something literally sharp, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

stumbles

The word “stumbles” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to physically tripping or losing one’s footing. In this example, it describes the director struggling with the film by comparing that difficulty to literally stumbling, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

material

The word “material” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to a physical substance or fabric. In this example, it describes the movie’s subject matter by comparing it to something literally tangible, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

elements

The word “elements” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to fundamental chemical or natural components. In this example, it describes components of comedy and horror by comparing them to something literally elemental, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

gel

The word “gel” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to a thick, jelly-like substance. In this example, it describes how comedy and horror blend together by comparing that process to something physically gelling, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 5*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

we also see that the black pimps have a number of white girls in their stable and we see how they treat them like dirt , as the film implies that this could be payback for the days of slavery , of master and slave relations .

Answer:

we also see that the black pimps have a number of white girls in their <Metaphor> stable </Metaphor> and we see how they treat them <Metaphor> like dirt </Metaphor> , as the film implies that this could be <Metaphor> payback </Metaphor>for the days of slavery , of master and slave relations .

Explanation:

stable

The word “stable” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to a building where horses are kept. In this example, it describes a group of people (the “girls”) by comparing them to something literally housed like animals, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

like dirt

The phrase “like dirt” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, “dirt” is literally soil. In this example, it describes the disrespectful way these people are treated by comparing them to something literally worthless or soiled, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

payback

The word “payback” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to returning a sum of money owed. In this example, it describes taking revenge by comparing it to literally repaying a debt, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 6*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

have you ever seen a movie that you really enjoyed , then when you look back , you realize there was something missing ?

Answer:

have you ever seen a movie that you really enjoyed , then when you <Metaphor> look back </Metaphor> , you realize there was something missing ?

Explanation:

look back

The phrase “look back” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to physically turning around to see behind oneself. In this example, it describes reflecting on a past experience by comparing it to literally looking over one’s shoulder, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 7*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant .

Answer:

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , <Metaphor> perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant </Metaphor> .

Explanation:

perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant

The phrase “perking up” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it can mean physically lifting or raising something, while “injection of anti-depressant” refers literally to administering medication with a needle. In this example, it describes the actress energizing the movie by comparing that effect to something literally injected to elevate mood, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 8*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

total recall is a typical sci-fi film wrapped around an intresting ( if far fetched ) plot .

Answer:

total recall is a typical sci-fi film <Metaphor> wrapped around </Metaphor> an intresting ( if far fetched ) plot .

Explanation:

wrapped around

The phrase “wrapped around” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to physically encircling an object. In this example, it describes how the plot surrounds or encompasses the film’s story by comparing it to something literally wrapped, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*User*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

[INSERT TEXT TO BE TAGGED HERE]

Answer:

Explanation:

## **9. Chain-of-thought, 8 shots, Even conventional vs creative ratio**

You are a linguistic expert trained in metaphor identification. When the user provides a text, follow this protocol:

* Identify all metaphorical expressions.
* Wrap each one in <Metaphor> and </Metaphor> tags.
* Reproduce the rest of the text exactly as written.
* Do include an explanation of your coding, but **no** additional commentary or extra content in this message.

*Shot 1*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the rest of the characters are the dullest people imaginable .

Answer:

the rest of the characters are the <Metaphor> dullest </Metaphor> people imaginable .

Explanation:

dullest

The word “dullest” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to a lack of physical sharpness. In this example, it describes how uninteresting these people are by comparing them to something literally dull, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 2*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant .

Answer:

while emotionally unconvincing , the actress is tremendously fun in her juvenile role , <Metaphor> perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant </Metaphor> .

Explanation:

perking up the movie like an injection of anti-depressant

The phrase “perking up” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it can mean physically lifting or raising something, while “injection of anti-depressant” refers literally to administering medication with a needle. In this example, it describes the actress energizing the movie by comparing that effect to something literally injected to elevate mood, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 3*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

court tv junkies will probably pick up the many differences , some subtle and others not , between the american and the british judicial systems .

Answer:

court tv <Metaphor> junkies </Metaphor> will probably <Metaphor> pick up </Metaphor> the many differences , some subtle and others not , between the american and the british judicial systems .

Explanation:

junkies

The word “junkies” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to people with an addiction to drugs. In this example, it describes people who are strongly fixated on court TV, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

pick up

The phrase “pick up” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it means physically lifting something. In this example, it describes noticing or discerning subtle differences, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 4*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

the film , which wanders all over the place without getting anywhere , is remarkably \* on \* -kilter and , with perhaps the single exception of the always-likable modine ( who's not afraid to stand around in a very unattractive bathing suit surrounded by hunks ) , the entire cast is vague and uninteresting .

Answer:

the film , which <Metaphor> wanders all over the place without getting anywhere </Metaphor> , is remarkably \* <Metaphor> on \* -kilter </Metaphor> and , with perhaps the single exception of the always-likable modine ( who's not afraid to stand around in a very unattractive bathing suit surrounded by <Metaphor> hunks </Metaphor> ) , the entire cast is <Metaphor> vague </Metaphor> and uninteresting .

Explanation:

wanders all over the place without getting anywhere

“Wanders” normally refers to physically moving around aimlessly. Here, it describes the film’s disjointed narrative by comparing it to someone literally roaming around, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

on-kilter

“On-kilter” is adapted from the more common “off-kilter,” which generally refers to being physically unbalanced. In this example, it describes the film as being figuratively misaligned or unsettled, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

hunks

The word “hunks” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to large pieces of something, like chunks of food or material. Here, it describes physically attractive (possibly stocky and muscley) men, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

vague

The word “vague” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it refers to something that lacks clear shape or definition. In this example, it describes how unclear or undefined the cast’s presence is, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 5*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

total recall is a typical sci-fi film wrapped around an intresting ( if far fetched ) plot .

Answer:

total recall is a typical sci-fi film <Metaphor> wrapped around </Metaphor> an intresting ( if far fetched ) plot .

Explanation:

wrapped around

“Wrapped around” usually refers to physically covering or encircling an object. In this example, it describes how the sci-fi film’s storyline encompasses the plot by comparing it to something literally wrapped, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 6*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

it's labute's half hearted attempt to make a crowd pleaser and he doesn't even seem to have half that heart in it .

Answer:

it's labute's <Metaphor> half hearted </Metaphor> attempt to make a crowd pleaser and he doesn't even seem to have <Metaphor> half that heart </Metaphor> in it .

Explanation:

half hearted

The phrase “half hearted” has a more basic contemporary meaning: in other contexts, it implies having only half of one’s literal heart. At the same time, in these cases, the heart is used to metaphorically represent effort. To do something ‘wholeheartedly’ means to do something with full effort. Here, therefore, to make a ‘half hearted attempt’ describes a lack of genuine effort, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

half that heart

The phrase “half that heart” continues the metaphor of a literal heart, suggesting even less genuine commitment. It describes how the director invests minimal passion, making it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 7*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

since i usually review horror and science fiction films , i feel a little out of my league discussing this teen football movie . ( pun intended . thank you ! )

Answer:

since i usually review horror and science fiction films , i feel a little <Metaphor> out of my league </Metaphor> discussing this teen football movie . ( pun intended . thank you ! )

Explanation:

out of my league

“League” has a more basic contemporary meaning as a level or division in sports. Here, “out of my league” describes feeling unqualified or out of place, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

*Shot 8*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

instead of tweaking the formula a little to invigorate the proceedings , burns is content to allow the film to ramble aimlessly towards its irritatingly predictable conclusion , offering precious few momentary pleasures along the way .

Answer:

instead of <Metaphor> tweaking </Metaphor> the formula a little to <Metaphor> invigorate </Metaphor> the proceedings , burns is content to allow the film to <Metaphor> ramble aimlessly towards </Metaphor> its irritatingly predictable conclusion , <Metaphor> offering precious few momentary pleasures along the way </Metaphor> .

Explanation:

tweaking

The word “tweaking” typically refers to physically twisting or pinching something slightly. In this example, it describes making small adjustments to the formula, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

invigorate

“Invigorate” generally refers to giving physical energy or vitality. Here, it describes enlivening the film’s proceedings by comparing it to physically energizing something, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

ramble aimlessly towards

“Ramble” usually refers to walking or roaming without direction. In this example, it describes the film’s storyline meandering toward its ending, which makes it a metaphorical usage.

offering precious few momentary pleasures along the way

“Offering” commonly refers to physically presenting or giving something. In this example, it describes providing only limited enjoyable moments, which are not tangible objects that can be literally ‘offered’, which makes it a metaphorical usage. Further, ‘offering’ is generally something that can only be done by an animate actor. In this case, the film is being described as doing the ‘offering’, making it an example of a personification metaphor.

*User*

Question: Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?

[INSERT TEXT TO BE TAGGED HERE]

Answer:

Explanation:

# **Approach 3: Fine tuning**

*System*

You are a linguistic expert trained in metaphor identification. When the user provides a text, follow this protocol:

* Identify all metaphorical expressions.
* Wrap each one in <Metaphor> and </Metaphor> tags.
* Reproduce the rest of the text exactly as written.
* Do **not** include any explanation, commentary, or extra content in this message.

*User*

Can you please identify and tag the metaphors in the following text?