

## Laws of Life Activity: Similes and Metaphors

Many students have used *similes and metaphors* to describe their Laws of Life. Similes and metaphors are ways of comparing things that might seem unrelated, but actually have concepts in common. These are literary devices that can make your writing interesting and spark the imagination of your readers. They are powerful tools in the writer's pen. They conjure up images, and are more instantly descriptive, bringing life and richness to writings.

### Introductory questions to stimulate discussion

1. What are some ways authors write to make their details more vivid?
2. What are some good describing words to describe: An object? An event? A person? A feeling?
- 3 .How can we write things to show comparisons?

### Defintions

Simile: Usage of the words as or like a similarity of one thing to another,

Metaphor: An implied comparison between two things, which are essentially different.

### Directions

Use the space next to each quote to indicate whether it is a simile (S) or metaphor (M). Choose one or two of these quotes and describe in a paragraph what that person is trying to say. Explain in more detail the meaning of that comparison (for

example, in #1: "Life is like a line..." : it has a beginning and an end.) Can that comparison apply to other things in your life? Find the essay in the Volume IV compilation and see if your ideas match what the author was trying to say.

\_\_\_ 1. "Life is a line and we make our way on this line." (Nigar Gulmalieva, Azerbaijan).

\_\_\_ 2. "If the Sunset every night, that rises again in the morning." (Nigar Gulmalieva, Azerbaijan).

\_\_\_ 3. "I believe that life is like a road." (LWL, Canada)

\_\_\_ 4. "So in this essay you will learn about the bricks that have built me wall of personality." (JR, Canada)

\_\_\_ 5. "Heroes are kind of like a mirror" (Unknown, Canada)

\_\_\_ 6. "Truth is a foundation for trust which it is like roots of a tree" (David, Canada)

\_\_\_ 7. "I would not give them up [my Laws of Life] because I would be like a bird without wings." (David, Canada)

\_\_\_ 8. "Life is a big story. I t's like a book", (Daniel Pop, Romania)

\_\_\_ 9. I see life like a blessing, like something shining and good. (Paul Rus, Romania)

\_\_\_ 10. "A person without principles is a "dead" person." (Maria Simon, Romania)

\_\_\_ 11. "May be for him I was nothing but a leaf in the blow of the wind" (Ros Daniela, Romania)

\_\_\_ 12. "Family is an octopus with eight feet." (Zhang Yijuan, China)

\_\_\_ 13. When one door of happiness closes another opens (Canada)

\_\_\_ 14. There's a river between dreams and the reality. If you can see clearly that the "river" is always such a small one. You can surely cross it with your effort. (Zhou Ninger, China)

\_\_\_ 15. The sun was shining in the sky, as a master of all that surrounded it. (Fivia Clapa, Romania)

\_\_\_ 16. Values. They are like water to humans, clouds to the sky, waves to the sea, seashells to the seashore. (Farah Amro , Lebanon)

\_\_\_ 17. Cultures bring color to this world, together; we make the most gorgeous rainbow. When violence and rudeness are brought into our rainbow, it makes the layers darker and darker each time. One day, if there is no one to shine this dullness up, the layers will eventually run out of color and be pitch black. (Canada)

\_\_\_ 19. [My law of life is: ] "An empty cooler sells no milk." (Jesse Lapham, USA)

\_\_\_ 20. "Life is like climbing an extremely tall tree." (Lee Ross, USA)

\_\_\_21. "I prefer to look at life as a cup half full, not half-empty." (Sara Ricco, USA)

\_\_\_22. "Choices well lead us down different paths that may be bumpy and steep, or smooth and flat." (Brooke Mars, USA)

\_\_\_23. "Honesty is like an old history book," (Ma. Krizia Andrei R. Abuan, Phillipines)

\_\_\_24. "Life had been a playground." (Ledi Marist M. Ruiz, Philippines)

\_\_\_25. Love without actions is like flower without smell, like food without taste. (Anton Rutkovsky, Ukraine)

\_\_\_26. And men's friendship is a big and strong mountain, which can be a volcano on very seldom occasions (Alexander Konovalov, Belarus)

Some essays use symbolism throughout, such as

- "**The Monopoly of Life**" - compares life to a game of monopoly (Lebanon) or

- Rebecca Lessick, USA—"Life is like a river: Riding down the river, I have experienced hurricanes and tornadoes, calm waters, and peaceful breezes. I have stopped at islands and watched volcanoes erupt, not once have I sailed for days at a time without seeing something of interest or without learning something new. Everyday you learn something new, whether you want to admit it or not. I know that I will sail my vessel until the river runs dry."

- "**The Music Box**", (Philippines)

**Find examples of other literary devices such as puns, personification, ....**

Ex. "humor is no laughing matter" (USA)

Ex. "Fear lives within us." , "evil give birth to evil" (Pakistan)