

Figurative Language

This lively introduction to figurative language explains a broad range of concepts, including metaphor, metonymy, simile, and blending, and develops new tools for analyzing them. It coherently grounds the linguistic understanding of these concepts in basic cognitive mechanisms such as categorization, frames, mental spaces, and viewpoint; and it fits them into a consistent framework which is applied to cross-linguistic data and also to figurative structures in gesture and the visual arts. Comprehensive and practical, the book includes analyses of figurative uses of both word meanings and linguistic constructions.

- Provides definitions of major concepts
- Offers in-depth analyses of examples, exploring multiple levels of complexity
- Surveys figurative structures in different discourse genres
- Helps students to connect figurative usage with the conceptual underpinnings of language
- Goes beyond English to explore cross-linguistic and cross-modal data

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To our students,
the past ones who inspired us, and the future ones
whom we hope to inspire.

Contents

<i>List of figures</i>	page xii
<i>List of tables</i>	xiii
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xiv
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Reassessing figurative language	1
1.2 Metaphor: What does <i>figurative</i> mean?	3
1.3 Metonymy	4
1.4 Broadening our understanding of <i>figurative</i> : blending and figurative grammar	6
1.5 Figurative language, cognition, and culture	7
1.6 The uses of figurative language	9
1.7 The basic tool-kit: categories, frames, and mental spaces	11
1.8 The road ahead	12
2 The basics of metaphor	13
2.1 The concept of a mapping	13
2.2 Frames and domains	17
2.3 How mappings are grounded in experience	21
2.3.1 Image schemata and experiential correlations	22
2.3.2 Primary Metaphors, conflation, and MIND AS BODY mappings	25
2.3.3 “Two-directional” metaphors	30
2.3.4 Metaphoric meaning change	31
2.4 Conventional or creative?	34
2.5 Experimental support for Cognitive Metaphor Theory	36
2.6 What is transferred between source and target?	38
2.7 Conclusions	41
2.8 Summary	41
3 Metaphoric structure: levels and relations	43
3.1 Inheritance and compositional relations between metaphors	43
3.2 Levels of complexity	49
3.3 The experiential bases of complex mappings	53
3.4 Image metaphors	59
3.5 Constraints on source–target relationships – is it about concrete and abstract?	62
3.5.1 Objectification and personification	62

x	Contents	
	3.5.2 Making the abstract concrete	64
	3.5.3 Metaphor families	67
	3.6 Conclusions: concrete and abstract, generic and specific	69
	3.7 Summary	71
4	Mental spaces and blending	73
4.1	Why we need to talk about more structure than two domains: metaphor as blending	73
4.2	The relationship of mental spaces to frames	76
4.3	Spaces and frames: types and relations	78
4.4	Blending processes and types of blends	82
4.4.1	How to build a blend	82
4.4.2	Types of blends	87
4.4.3	A complex multiscope example	94
4.5	Conclusions	97
4.6	Summary	98
5	Metonymy	100
5.1	Part–whole frame metonymy, framing, and objectification	102
5.2	Metonymy and metaphor	103
5.3	Metonymic polysemy and meaning change	106
5.4	Linguistic-form metonymies	110
5.5	Frame metonymy and asymmetry in language and cognition	113
5.6	Cognitive bases for categorial metonymy	115
5.7	The contribution of metonymy to Mental Space building and blending	117
5.8	Metonymy in visual blending	122
5.9	Conclusions	123
5.10	Summary	125
6	Grammatical constructions and figurative meaning	127
6.1	Introduction	127
6.2	Grammar and meaning	129
6.3	Metaphoric uses of constructions	132
6.4	Grammatical asymmetry and source–target asymmetry	133
6.5	Simile as a mapping and a construction	137
6.5.1	Characterization of simile	138
6.5.2	Narrow-scope similes	142
6.5.3	Broad-scope similes	145
6.6	Alternative spaces, simile, and metaphor	148
6.7	Nominal-Modification Constructions and frame metonymy	151
6.7.1	XYZ Constructions	151
6.7.2	Nominal modification	153
6.7.3	Proper names: framing and reference	156
6.7.4	Genitives and experiential viewpoint	158
6.7.5	Constructional compositionality	159
6.8	Constructions and the nature of figurative meaning	159
6.9	Summary	161

7	The crosslinguistic study of metaphor	162
7.1	Introduction: the crosscultural comparison of language and cognitive patterns	162
7.2	Examining linguistic variation and universals	163
7.3	Crosslinguistic contrasts in metaphor – and crosslinguistic universals?	165
7.4	Spatial metaphors for time: the TIME IS RELATIVE MOTION family	168
7.5	Beyond TIME IS RELATIVE MOTION	174
7.6	Gesture and temporal metaphors	178
7.7	Visual-gestural languages and figurative usage	179
7.8	Conclusions	181
7.9	Summary	182
8	Figurative language in discourse	183
8.1	Metaphor and viewpoint: the discourse of illness and addiction	184
8.1.1	The Boundary schema: two construals of illness	184
8.1.2	Metaphor and irony	185
8.1.3	Viewpointed experience and metaphor: an addiction narrative	187
8.2	Argumentation and linguistic choices	188
8.2.1	Source-of-Target metaphors	188
8.2.2	Compression as an argumentation strategy	190
8.2.3	Frames and grammar in political speeches	191
8.3	Extended metonymy and viewpoint	194
8.4	Literature and figurative meaning	196
8.4.1	Minimalism and maximalism in poetry	196
8.4.2	Narrative and blending	201
8.5	The discourse of science	202
8.5.1	Modeling the atom and scientific creativity	203
8.5.2	The status of science metaphors	205
8.6	Religious metaphor	208
8.7	Conclusions	211
8.8	Summary	212
9	Concluding remarks	213
9.1	Theoretical postulates	213
9.1.1	Levels of schematicity and levels of interpretation	214
9.1.2	Viewpoint and experience	216
9.1.3	Analyzing discourse	217
9.1.4	The role of experimental work	218
9.2	Linguistic issues	219
	<i>References</i>	222
	<i>Further reading</i>	234
	<i>Index</i>	236

Figures

4.1	The “Anger/Heat” blend	<i>page 75</i>
4.2	The “toxic info” blend	83
4.3	The “queue” blend	89
4.4	The “First Lady” blend	91
4.5	The “boat/island” blend	92
5.1	<i>Grin Reaper</i> , Banksy 2005	119

Tables

2.1	Selected mappings from Seeing to Knowing	<i>page 27</i>
2.2	Selected mappings from Grasping to Understanding	28
2.3	Selected mappings from Container to Self	29
3.1	Selected mappings from Location/Motion to Event Structure	45
3.2	Selected mappings from Journey to Love Relationship	57
3.3	Selected mappings from Physical Structures to Theories	58
3.4	Selected mappings among the Competition family of frames	68
5.1	The Grim Reaper blend	118

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* * *

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