

# Extended metaphors

In this free lesson by Taughtly.co.uk, we will learn how to write an extended metaphor. You can apply this to any descriptive writing piece you write for First Language English IGCSE. This will be particularly useful for your coursework or for your Paper 2, the writing paper.

**Watch my video lesson and proceed with the activities below.**

**Fill in the vocabulary table:**

Word	Definition
Cosmic	
Nocturnal	
Luminous	
Ethereal	
Nebula	
Spell-binding	
Constellations	
Serene	

## FLE Extended Metaphors

Galaxy

Myriad of stars

Celestial

North Star

Moonlit

Constellations

### Answer the questions.

What is a metaphor? Give one example.

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What is an extended metaphor?

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# Inspiration videos

As you watch the video about the **night sky**, make notes below:

Vocabulary	Images	Metaphor ideas

As you watch the video about the **theatre**, make notes below:

Vocabulary	Images	Metaphor ideas
		<i>How could you compare it to the night sky?</i>

# The night sky is...

Write your list of metaphors about the night sky here:

# Planning table

If you need more planning time, use this table to help you organise your thoughts.

**Base metaphor:** The night sky is...  
*Pick your base metaphor that you will extend. E.g. The night sky is a theatre.*

Now draw comparisons between aspects of the night sky and your base metaphor.  
**How** are they similar?

Aspect of the night sky	What are you comparing it to?	How are they similar?

# Exemplar:

### Extended metaphor: the night sky is a theatre

In the vast expanse of the cosmos, the night sky becomes a grand theatre. At the heart of this cosmic performance is the lead actress, a shooting star. She streaks across the velvet curtain of space, a fleeting but unforgettable presence, captivating the audience with her luminous trail. Her appearance, brief yet dazzling, is the climax of the night's drama. Far above, satellites drift through the theater's grandeur. They are the audience, silently observing the celestial drama below. These distant onlookers have a privileged view, passing by like spectators in a cosmic balcony, their metallic eyes reflecting the brilliance of the stage. Gravity, the unseen but omnipotent director, orchestrates the entire production. It dictates the movements of celestial bodies, guiding stars and planets in their cosmic dance. With its gentle touch, it ensures that every actor hits their mark and follows the script written in the language of physics. The Milky Way, a luminous band of countless stars, fills the theater's orchestra pit, serving as both the cosmic orchestra and the stage itself. Its radiant presence bathes the scene in a soft glow, as if every star were a musician playing their part in a celestial symphony. The harmony of light and dark, punctuated by the twinkling stars, creates an awe-inspiring soundtrack that resonates throughout the theater of the night sky. This celestial theater reminds us that even in the vastness of space, the universe puts on a show for all who care to look up and be enchanted by its beauty.

What night sky vocabulary can you find?

What theatre vocabulary can you find?

What aspects of the night sky am I describing?

How am I comparing to aspects of the theatre?

# Respond

Why is this extended metaphor effective?

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How does this extended metaphor develop ideas?

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There is no such thing as a perfect piece of writing and everything can always be improved.

What suggestions would you make to **improve** this extended metaphor and why?

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# Practice task

Write an extended metaphor of the night sky. You should write around one paragraph: 6-10 sentences.

Here are some optional sentence starters:

- In the vast expanse of the cosmos, the night sky becomes a theater, where...
- Just as a theater has its lead actors, the night sky's prominent performer is...
- \_\_\_\_\_ takes on the role of the director in this cosmic theater...
- Much like the orchestra pit in a theater, \_\_\_\_\_
- The moon, bright and resplendent, is \_\_\_\_\_

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## FLE Descriptive Writing Structure

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# Reflect

## Did you...?

Content and Structure	Style and Accuracy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Write clearly with the explicit meaning easy to understand?</li><li>• Use language devices?</li><li>• Use correct paragraphing?</li><li>• Develop your imagery, extending some ideas?</li><li>• Include details that bring your overall picture to life?</li><li>• Keep your tone consistent?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Write with correct spelling, punctuation and grammar?</li><li>• Use a variety of sentence lengths for effect?</li><li>• Use a variety of punctuation for effect? ; - ? ! ...</li><li>• Use precise and sophisticated vocabulary?</li></ul>