

Sugar Town Queens

Written by Malla Nunn

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OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

Fifteen year old Amandla lives with her mother in Sugar Town, South Africa. She is a strong character that seeks the truth about her family. In this lesson, students will focus on the skill of identifying and interpreting metaphors in a piece of literature.

LEARNING TARGETS

1. Students will identify metaphors and their comparisons in a piece of writing.
2. Students will demonstrate their understanding of a piece of literature by interpreting multiple metaphors.

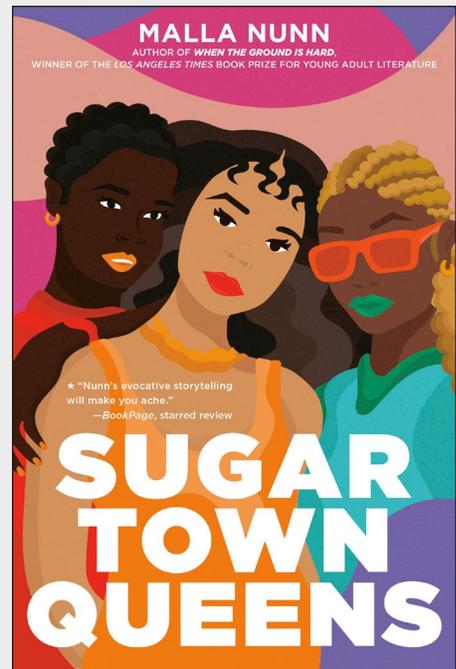
MATERIALS NEEDED

- *Sugar Town Queens* by Malla Nunn, pages 40-49
- Metaphorically Speaking Worksheet
- Metaphor Website: tinyurl.com/36h37nca

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

Similes tend to be easy for students. Metaphors, on the other hand, can be more difficult. Practice using literary devices in isolation can provide the support they need. Students will begin studying metaphors through the use of I Do, We Do, You Do. The metaphors will start out in isolation and end with an application activity in a piece of literature. Similes tend to be easy for students. Metaphors, on the other hand, can be more difficult. Practice using literary devices in isolation can provide the support they need. Students will begin studying metaphors through the use of I Do, We Do, You Do. The metaphors will start out in isolation and end with an application activity in a piece of literature.

**Finding
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SUMMARY

A biracial girl living in post-apartheid South Africa is determined to unveil the mystery of her white mother's hidden past.

- Refer to the Metaphorically Speaking worksheet Worksheet and pp. 40-49 of *Sugar Town Queens* by Malla Nunn.
- Teacher will review the definition of a metaphor and show the I Do sample on the Metaphorically Speaking Worksheet.
- Students will complete the You Do sample on the Metaphorically Speaking Worksheet. Once students complete, students may share their findings in a group and then with the class.
- Finally, the students will read pp. 40-49 of *Sugar Town Queens* by Malla Nunn independently. On the Metaphorically Speaking Worksheet, the students have been provided with the words that are being used as metaphors: house sparrow and white seagulls.

Students will need to read the chapter to discover the meaning of these two metaphors. Not all authors blatantly explain their metaphors used, but Malla Nunn does in this chapter. Students should record their answers on the Metaphorically Speaking Worksheet.

Key Ideas:

- “Boom. The small guard’s strange bird comment suddenly makes sense. I am the sparrow, and the Bollards are the white seagulls. And, judging from his surprised expression, I’m the only brown bird in the flock” (Nunn 49).
- Amandla is the house sparrow because her skin color is dark.
- The Bollards (Amandla’s grandparents) are the White Seagulls because their skin color is white.
- Once completed, the students may share in a group, or they can share with the class.

Metaphorically Speaking

What is a metaphor? It is a literary device that compares one thing to another to help the reader create a picture in their mind. There is NO like or as.

I Do		
Example: He was a building.		
What TWO things are being compared?	HE	BUILDING
Image Created: He is a BIG guy or a TALL guy.		

We Do		
Example: “But soft, what light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun!”(Shakespeare)		
What TWO things are being compared?		
Image Created:		

You Do		
Example: Read pp. 40-49 from <i>Sugar Town Queens</i> by Malla Nunn		
“Eish!” The small guard makes a surprised sound and says in Zulu, “You are right, my friend. Imagine that. A house sparrow among the white seagulls”(Nunn 40).		
What TWO things are being compared? (You will need to read the rest of the chapter to discover the comparisons)		
Image Created:		
Why do you think the author chose these images?		

