

Comparing Love Metaphors

This activity accompanies “Love’s Phases,” from *The Complete Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar* by Paul Laurence Dunbar, record number 5134.

Activity Title: Comparing Love Metaphors

Description: The students will identify metaphors, and then compare and contrast two of the stanzas in the poem.

Subject: Reading/Language Arts

Skill: Compare and Contrast and Metaphors

Behavioral Objective:

- The student will identify metaphors, and then compare and contrast two of the four stanzas in the poem.

Materials:

- “Love’s Phases” poem, available in audio and print form at <http://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/>
- Paper and pencil
- Compare and contrast template (below)

Procedures:

Read the poem with the students, or have them read it on their own. Discuss with the students the main idea of the poem. Also, discuss with the students Dunbar’s use of metaphors throughout the poem. Then, have the students choose two of the four stanzas in the poem to compare and contrast. Have the students write the metaphors found in their stanzas, and then compare and contrast the two stanzas, using the template below. When the students are finished, have them pair up with another student who chose the same stanzas, to compare their answers.



NAME _____

DATE _____

Comparing Metaphors

Directions: Fill in the stanza numbers below. First, explain the metaphors found in the stanzas you chose, then compare and contrast the two in the Venn diagram.

Stanza _____'s metaphor: _____

Stanza _____'s metaphor: _____

