

Making comparisons

This task is about identifying and explaining the metaphors used in some poems.

In each of the poems below two different things are being compared.

- Write down the two different things being compared in each poem, and
- explain all the ways in which the two things are shown to be alike in the poem.

The first one has been done as an example.

a)

Road Cones

The orange road cones
are the hats of the witches
who live in the gutters,
the grates, and the ditches.

They come out in dozens
whenever it rains
to dance orange dances
in water-filled drains.

By Andrew P. Wood

i) What two things are being compared?

Road cones and witches' hats

ii) In what ways are the two things alike?

• Road cones and witches' hats are the same shape.

• Witches' hats move when witches dance and road cones move when the drains fill with water.

b)

Lifeboat

Pūkeko feather
floating on the water –
bright boat,
light boat,
lifeboat
to a ladybird
that's landed.

By Diana Noonan

i) What two things are being compared?

_____ and _____

ii) In what ways are the two things alike?

c)

Muster

Slowly down the valley
The woolly flock flows.
A rippling mob of sheep,
Joined by more at every creek.
And as the valley widens,
The woolly river grows.

By Alan Bagnall

i) What two things are being compared?

_____ and _____

ii) In what ways are the two things alike?

Poetry sources: 'Road Cones', *School Journal, Part 2, No. 1, Learning Media Limited, 1999*;
'Lifeboat', *School Journal, Part 2, No. 3, Learning Media Limited, 2001*;
'Muster', *School Journal, Part 3, No. 1, Learning Media Limited, 1999*.