Metaphor –

In a metaphor, one subject is implied to be another so as to draw a comparison between their similarities and shared traits. The purpose of using a metaphor is to take a concept that we understand clearly and use it to better understand the lesser known element. Metaphors entertain the minds of high-level thinkers, helping them to make connections through alternate perspectives.

“Henry was a lion on the battlefield.” The metaphor in this sentence suggests that Henry fought so valiantly and bravely that he embodied all of the personality traits attributed to the ferocious animal. This sentence implies immediately that Henry was courageous and fearless, much like the king of the jungle.

Metaphors help create vivid imagery.

* Love is a battlefield. Love is a garden.
* Home is a prison. Home is a lighthouse.
* My sister is a couch potato. My sister is a conniving witch.
* Huddled together in the darkened stairwell, we were covered by a blanket of secrecy.
* Shivering cold, he imagined his bed was magnetic nails and his blanket was lead.
* Life is a game of chess, full of moves and countermoves.
* Life is a game of Monopoly - a competition where we are always gambling, acquiring, and taking chances.