

Critical thinking happens when someone is asked to make reasoned judgement about a question or issue. An interesting intellectual tool is to compare two seemingly unlike things by creating metaphor and/or simile. Reasoned judgement is required to determine what is 'like' and 'unlike' and the formal development of a detailed metaphor and/or simile can be a powerful learning tool. The metaphor and/or simile can only be developed if there is adequate understanding of the two unlike things. The process can serve as a creative assessment tool in measuring understanding.

Metaphor and Simile

Metaphor and simile are two of the best known tropes and are often mentioned together as examples of rhetorical figures. Metaphor and simile are both terms that describe a comparison: the only difference between a metaphor and a simile is that a simile makes the comparison explicit by using "like" or "as." The Columbia Encyclopedia, 6th edition, explains the difference as:

a simile states that A is like B, a metaphor states that A is B or substitutes B for A.

According to this definition, then, "You are my sunshine" is a metaphor whereas "Your eyes are like the sun" is a simile. However, some describe similes as simply a specific type of metaphor (see Joseph Kelly's *The Seagull Reader* (2005)); in this case, metaphor is the umbrella term for making comparisons between unlike concepts, and simile describes the figure where one makes the comparison explicit. Source: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metaphor>

Here are your choices of tasks:

TASK ONE: Create a metaphor/simile of a concept you are learning and something seemingly unrelated. Think of something you know well and start to think about how it might be similar to a key concept you have been learning. (see example)



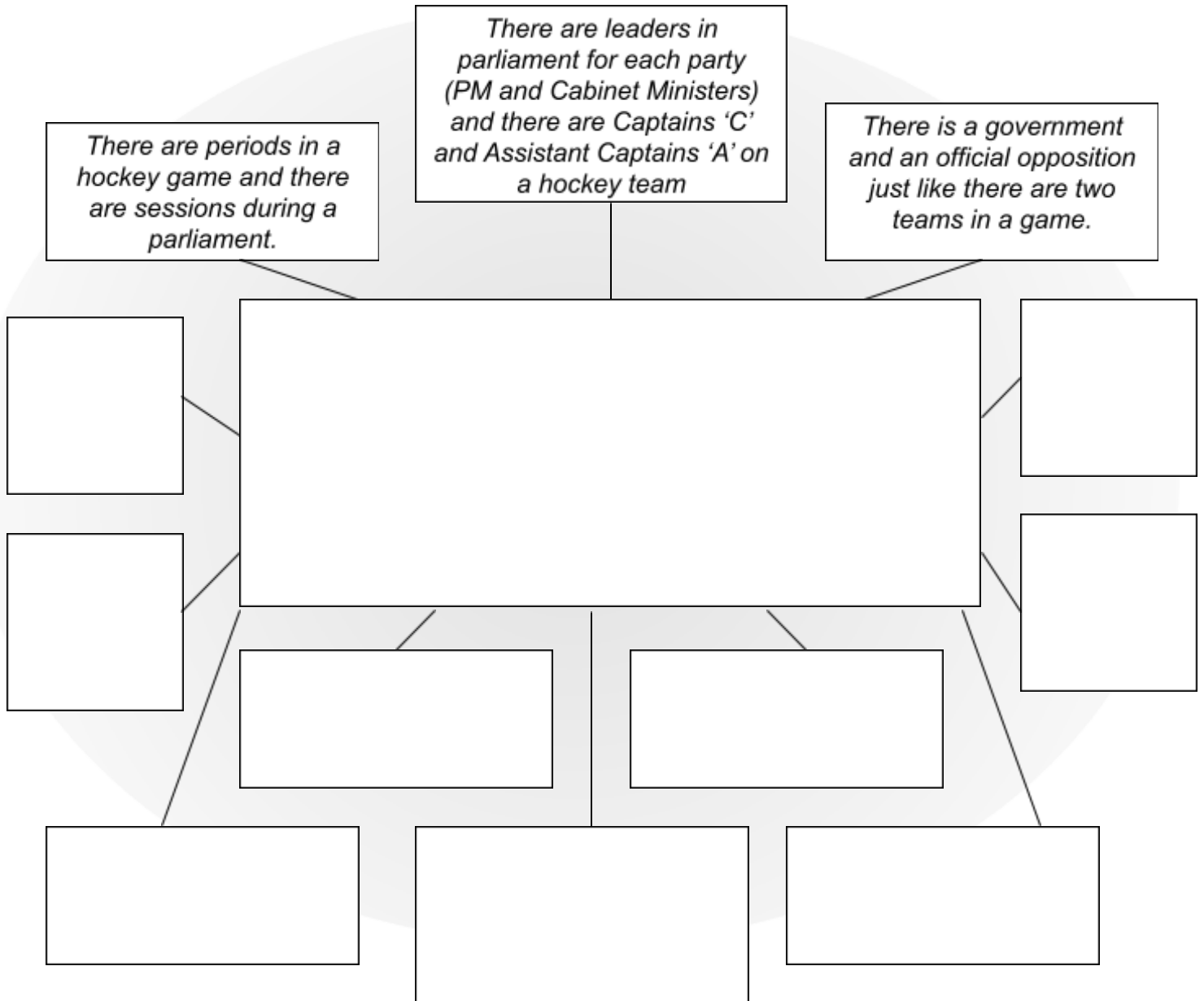
Now create a metaphor/simile comparing the two things.

TASK TWO: Use the 'recipe' idea to display your understanding of a key concept from class.

(see example)



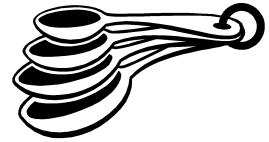
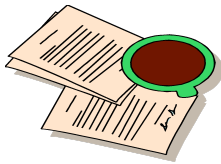
A hockey game is like the parliamentary system in Canada in the following ways...



Be creative with your final product!!!



Joseph Stalin



Think back to what you have learned about dictatorships, historical and present day. Your task will be to come up a **recipe** for the creation of a dictatorship. You will need to think of all of the characteristics of the dictatorships you have learned about and arrange them into types of ingredients, amounts of ingredients, and a preparation and cooking procedure.

Here is an example:

Adolf Hitler

Be creative with your final product!!!