Similes

- Teaching is like:
  - Animal Training
  - Space Exploration
  - Viral Infection
  - A rollercoaster
  - Leading
  - Learning again yourself
  - Wine
  - Sharing your apples
  - Embracing the sun
  - Building your own mountain, stone by stone. You eventually develop a broad foundation, but as you continue to build your mountain, some of the looser rocks tumble away.
  - Paddling a canoe
  - Conducting – directing focus and attention, working together to create an idea, a process, to inspire further work or study
  - Taking travelers from an oasis into the desert
  - Gardening

- Learning is like:
  - Trusting a stranger with your future
  - Metamorphosis – caterpillar to a butterfly
  - Flying a plane
  - Discovering the unknown/exploring
  - Brain expansion
  - Sweet lychees – I just keep wanting more
  - Walking from a cave into a broad plain (with ladders)
  - Jumping into the Black Sea
  - Tasting a fresh fruit
  - A top spinning higher and higher. You make the circumference the first time and find you recognize things from an earlier rotation.
  - Expanding horizons
  - Building a house – from foundations, to floors, to walls, to windows
• Reading is like:
  o Being in a dream
  o Escaping to another dimension
  o Seeing life through another’s eyes and heart
  o Escapism
  o Escaping your world for awhile
  o Absorbing by surface absorption
  o Biting into a delicious peach (if the writing is good)
  o A conversation with the past
  o Diving for pearls

Metaphors

• Teaching is:
  o Giving back to the community
  o Empowering
  o Fulfilling
  o A change bearing agent
  o Plate spinning
  o Inspiring students to learn
  o Creating inspiration
  o A mixed bag of chocolates
  o Conducting
  o Navigating to a cherished place with friends who’ve never been
  o Map invasion
  o Philanthropy
  o A walk in the woods
  o Breaking and remolding pottery, creating new art from a mosaic of shattered pieces

• Learning is:
  o An infinite and never ending road to success
  o Joy
  o Searching for answers (asking questions)
  o Riding a bike
  o Power and empowerment
  o Opening a closed box, it may be full of possibilities
  o Exploration
  o Life
  o Growth in a garden
  o Breathing – you need it to live, hard not to do
Reading is:
- Work
- Challenging
- Dancing
- Being carried away beyond immediate thoughts
- Mind engagement
- A bridge into other minds

Synectics

Teaching is both ___________ and ___________ because:
- A viral infection and laughter because both are contagious. They spread from person to person, snowballing as they go.
- Giving and receiving because we learn through working with other minds.
- A mixed bag of chocolates and conducting because you don’t know the experience until you bite into it.
- Rewarding and hazardous because the best rewards come with risk.
- Mountain building and traveling because you develop your skills rock by rock, yet sometimes you find the best rocks from uncharted locations.
- Coaching and a walk in the woods because by being reflective you both enjoy the journey and by reflecting/self coaching your movement to become more fluid in those movements and travel.
- Plate spinning and breaking and remolding pottery because you are spinning and supporting plates at their height while allowing them to fall and break, creating new art from a mosaic of shattered pieces.