

## figure, n.

**Pronunciation:** /'fɪgə(r)/ /-jʊə(r)/

**Forms:** ME **vig(o)ur**, (ME **wyгур**), ME **fig(o)ur**, (ME **feigure**), ME–15 **fygure**, ME– **figure**.

**Etymology:** < French *figure* (= Provençal, Spanish, Italian *figura* ), < Latin *figūra* , < \**fig-* short stem of *figĕre* : see [feign v.](#)

The Latin word was the ordinary rendering of Greek *σχῆμα* (see [scheme n.](#)<sup>1</sup>) in its many technical uses; several of the senses below are traceable, wholly or in part, to Greek philosophy.

**(Note: additional meanings of “figure” from OED are omitted here)**

### V. In various uses, representing the technical applications of Greek *σχῆμα*.

( *σχῆμα*. = “*schema*” – *Ed.*)

21. *Rhetoric.*

- a. Any of the various ‘forms’ of expression, deviating from the normal arrangement or use of words, which are adopted in order to give beauty, variety, or force to a composition; e.g. Aposiopesis, Hyperbole, Metaphor, etc. Also, figure of speech.

c1386 Chaucer [Clerk's Prol.](#) 16 Your termes, your coloures, and your figures, Kepe hem in store, til [etc.].

1589 G. Puttenham *Arte Eng. Poesie* iii. vii. 128 Figures be the instruments of ornament in euery language.

1596 J. Harington *New Disc. Ajax* Prol. sig. B4, And minding to speake it shorter, by the figure of abbreviation.

1610 *Bible (Douay)* II. Psalms cxiii. Comm., By the figure Apostrophe he speaketh to the sea, river, and hilles.

c1633 T. Hobbes *Art of Rhetoric* (1840) 519 A figure is garnishing of speech in words, or in a sentence.

1665 R. Boyle *Occas. Refl.* Introd. Pref. sig. a5<sup>v</sup>, That noble Figure of Rhetoriok [*sic*] call'd Hyperbole.

1766 Ld. Chesterfield *Let.* 14 Jan. (1932) (modernized text) VI. 2705 The *egotism* is the usual and favourite figure of most people's rhetoric.

1795 L. Murray *Eng. Gram.* App. 210 Figures of Speech imply some departure from simplicity of expression.

1878 R. B. Smith *Carthage* 161 The proverb 'as many slaves, so many enemies' was, in their case, no figure of rhetoric but the stern and simple truth.

**b. In a more restricted sense (with mixture of senses [9](#), [12](#)): A metaphor or metaphorical mode of expression; an image, similitude.**

►1435 R. Misyn tr. R. Rolle *Fire of Love* 3 De flaume, whilk vndyr fygure I cald fyer.

1526 W. Bonde *Pylgrimage of Perfection* Pref. sig. Ai, Declared it by the similitude and figure of the passage of the children of Israel from Egipt.

1611 *Bible (King James)* 1 Cor. iv. 6 These things..I haue in a figure transferred to my selfe.

1727 Pope et al. *Peri Bathous* 17 in Swift et al. *Misc.: Last Vol.* That..Destroyer of fine Figures, which is known by the Name of Common Sense.

1782 J. Priestley *Hist. Corruptions Christianity* I. ii. 156 [These] expressions have much the air of figure and allusion.

1855 G. Brimley *Ess.* (1858) i. 44 Simile and figure may be regarded as a natural short-hand.

1871 B. Jowett in tr. Plato *Dialogues* II. 86 The old Pythagorean ethical symbols still exist as figures of speech among ourselves.

22.

**a. Grammar.** Any of the permitted deviations from the normal forms of words (e.g. Aphæresis, Syncope, Elision), or from the ordinary rules of construction (e.g. Ellipsis). †Formerly also *figure of speech*.

1669 Milton [Accedence](#) 40 Words are somtimes encreast or diminisht by a Letter or Syllable..which are call'd Figures of Speech.

1724 N. Bailey [Universal Etymol. Eng. Dict.](#) (ed. 2)

# metaphor, n.

**Pronunciation:** Brit. /'mɛtəfə/ , /'mɛtəfɔ:/ , U.S. /'mɛdə,fɔ(ə)r/

## Forms:

α. IME **methaphor**, 15 **metafor**, 15–16 **metaphore**, 15– **metaphor**.

β. 15 **metaphoraes** (plural), 15–16 **metaphora**.

[\(Show Less\)](#)

**Etymology:** < Middle French *metaphore* (c1275 in Old French as *metafore* ; French *métaphore* ) and its etymon classical Latin *metaphora* < ancient Greek *μεταφορά* < *μετα-* [meta- prefix](#) + *φορά* carrying ( < the *o* -grade of the stem of *φέρειν* to bear, carry: see [bear v.](#)<sup>1</sup>), after *μεταφέρειν* to transfer. Compare Italian *metafora* (a1375), Spanish *metáfora* (1st half of the 15th cent.), Portuguese *metáfora* (15th cent.). The β forms are after classical Latin *metaphora*.

**1. A figure of speech in which a name or descriptive word or phrase is transferred to an object or action different from, but analogous to, that to which it is literally applicable; an instance of this, a metaphorical expression. Cf. [metonymy n.](#), [simile n.](#)**

α.

a1500 (►c1477) T. Norton [Ordinal of Alchemy](#) (BL Add.) (1975) 63 (*MED*), Thei made theire bokis to many men ful derk, In poyses, parabols, & in methaphoris alle-so, which to scolers causith peyne and wo.

1533 King Henry VIII in Wotton [Lett.](#) (1654) Suppl. 8 And rather then men would note a lye when they know what is meant, they will sooner by allegory or metaphor draw the word to the truth.

1555 E. Bonner [Certaine Homelyes](#) 71\* Chryste alwayes in hys speakyngye dyd vse fygures, metaphores and tropes.

1563 W. Baldwin et al. [Myrrour for Magistrates](#) (new ed.) Collingbourne xxxvii, These metafors I vse with other more.

1600 S. Nicholson [Acolastus his After-witte](#) 861 Mens words are Metaphors, it makes no matter.

- 1646 Sir T. Browne [\*Pseudodoxia Epidemica\*](#) v. ix. 247 An horn is the hieroglyphick of authority, power, & dignity, and in this Metaphor is often used in Scripture.
- 1691 J. Hartcliffe [\*Treat. Virtues\*](#) 339 Men will embrace Metaphors and Allegories, fancies and forms of Speech, instead of the Substance of true and real Righteousness.
- 1712 J. Addison [\*Spectator\*](#) No 289 ¶8 Those beautiful Metaphors in Scripture, where Life is termed a Pilgrimage.
- 1756 J. Warton [\*Ess. on Pope\*](#) I. iii. 176 No author ever adorned a scientific treatise with so many beautiful metaphors.
- 1783 H. Blair [\*Lect. Rhetoric\*](#) I. xv. 313 If the resemblance..be long dwelt upon, and carried into all its minute circumstances we make an allegory instead of a metaphor... This is called straining a Metaphor.
- 1841 R. C. Trench [\*Parables\*](#) (1877) i. 9 The allegory stands to the metaphor,..in the same relation that the parable does to the..simile.
- 1876 J. B. Mozley [\*Serm. preached Univ. of Oxf.\*](#) xvi. 301 The metaphor of the poet is perfectly true in fact, for life *is* a stage.
- 1929 I. A. Richards [\*Pract. Criticism\*](#) iii. i. 187 A poet..may, by metaphor and otherwise, present objects for thought which are logically quite irrelevant.
- 1952 R. A. Knox [\*Hidden Stream\*](#) iv. 33 It is a metaphor if you describe Oxford as a hive of industry, or some of its inhabitants as drones.
- 1992 J. Peters & J. Nichol [\*Tornado Down\*](#) viii. 64 ‘Peeling the Onion’ was the metaphor some people in the military used to describe..the stripping away of the successive layers of the Iraqi defences.
- β.
- α1529 J. Skelton *Speke Parrot* in [\*Poet. Wks.\*](#) (1843) II. 10 In this processe Parrot nothing hath surmysed, No matter pretendyd, nor nothyng enterprysed, But that metaphora, allegoria with all, Shall be his protectyon, his pauys, and his wall.
- 1550 R. Sherry [\*Treat. Schemes & Tropes\*](#) sig. Ciiii<sup>v</sup>, Metaphora..a worde translated from the thyng that it properlye signifieth.
- 1592 A. Day *2nd Pt. Eng. Secretorie* sig. M3<sup>v</sup>, in [\*Eng. Secretorie\*](#) (rev. ed.) *Metaphora*, which is when a word from the proper or right signification is transferred to another neere vnto the meaning.
- 1605 J. Sylvester tr. G. de S. Du Bartas [\*Deuine Weekes & Wks.\*](#) ii. ii. 423 Better then Greeke with her..Fit Epithetes, and fine Metaphoraes.
- 1650 Earl of Monmouth tr. J. F. Senault [\*Man become Guilty\*](#) 175 The Metaphora, which is so frequent with them,..is it not an imposture?

## 2. Something regarded as representative or suggestive of something else, esp. as a material emblem of an abstract quality, condition, notion, etc.; a symbol, a token. Freq. with *for*, *of*.

1836 R. W. Emerson [\*Nature\*](#) iv. 41 Parts of speech are metaphors because the whole of nature is a metaphor of the human mind.

1864 W. Arnot [\*Parables Our Lord\*](#) iv. 119 The serpent, as a metaphor, was in practice as completely thirled to the indication of evil, as leaven had been.

1881 H. James [\*Washington Square\*](#) xxxii. 241 If your leg is a metaphor for young Townsend, I can assure you he has never been crushed... He is alive and perfectly intact.

1909 J. London in [\*Sat. Evening Post\*](#) 22 May 3/1 North of the Slot were the theaters, hotels, and shopping district... South of the Slot were the factories, slums,..and the abodes of the working class. The Slot was the metaphor that expressed the class cleavage of Society.

1962 [\*Times\*](#) 20 Dec. 11/1 The great joy of a novelist is that..he can create his own metaphor of the universe.

1984 H. Jacobson [\*Peeping Tom\*](#) (1985) i. iv. 113 The central metaphor for Tess's confusions is the threshing-machine.

1997 J. Seabrook [\*Deeper\*](#) viii. 253 The desktop metaphor shifted to the hypertext metaphor, in which work was not filed in stand-alone folders but linked across networks to other pages.

## Compounds

Objective.

### metaphor-making n.

1889 St. G. Mivart [\*Origin Human Reason\*](#) 273 This power of metaphor-making.

1992 [\*Eng. Today\*](#) July 58/2 They show how awareness of metaphor-making can lead to new insights and understandings and help students develop hypotheses and wage arguments.

### metaphor-monger n.

1670 J. Eachard [\*Grounds Contempt of Clergy\*](#) 46 These indiscreet and horrid Metaphor-mongers.

1870 [\*Atlantic Monthly\*](#) Aug. 197/1 He goes over the whole universe to gather images of bigness for your delectation, doing a larger business in mountains, earthquakes, and firmaments than any other metaphor-monger of the

## simile, n.

**Pronunciation** /ˈsɪmɪli/

**Forms** Also β. 16 **similie**, 16–18 **simily**.

**Etymology** < Latin *simile*, neuter of *similis* like. With the form *simily* (plural *-ies*), compare *query* for *quere*, *quære*.

1.

### a. A comparison of one thing with another, esp. as an ornament in poetry or rhetoric.

α.

1393 Langland *Piers Plowman* C. xx. 160 By this *simile*..ich seo an euidence, That ho so synegeþ in þe *seynt espirit* asoilled worth he neuere.

1589 R. Greene *Menaphon* sig. F, Samela had learnd..to anotamize wit, and speake none but Similes.

1589 R. Greene *Menaphon* sig. K4<sup>v</sup>, Stufft with pretie Similes and farre fetcht Metaphores.

1602 J. Marston *Hist. Antonio & Mellida* i. sig. B4<sup>v</sup>, No Simile Is pretious, choyce, or elegant enough.

1646 Sir T. Browne *Pseudodoxia Epidemica* (1686) i. ix. 26 Playing much upon the simile or illustrative argumentation.

1712 J. Addison *Spectator* No 303 ¶20 Milton..never quits his Simile till it rises to some very great Idea, which [etc.].

1728 Pope *Dunciad* i. 54 There motley Images her fancy strike, Figures ill-pair'd, and Similes unlike.

1781 Johnson *Pope* in *Pref. Wks. Eng. Poets* VII. 285 A simile, to be perfect, must both illustrate and ennoble the subject.

1825 E. Bulwer-Lytton *Falkland* 8, I could wish..that this simile were in all things correct.

1858 J. Doran *Hist. Court Fools* 167 Some of his similes are drawn from his profession.

1873 C. M. Davies *Unorthodox London* (ed. 2) 72, That was aptly illustrated by the simile of the infant that can only cry.



β.

1616 Shakespeare *As you like It* (1623) ii. i. 45 Did he not moralize this spectacle?.. O yes, into a thousand similies.

1636 W. Davenant *Platonick Lovers* ii. i. sig.C4, An excellent Similie for a Painter, That would draw a good face.

1695 J. Edwards *Disc. conc. Old & New-Test.* III. ix. 386 The same Simily is made use of in Terence.

1760 L. Sterne *Life Tristram Shandy* II. ii. 11 Even my similies,..my illustrations, my metaphors, are erudite.

1824 W. S. Landor *Imaginary Conversat.* I. xv. 275 The simily is imperfect because the fact is untrue.

1846 T. Wright *Ess. Middle Ages* I. i. 13 [In] Anglo-Saxon poetry..Similies..are rare.

## **b. Without article.**

1682 Duke of Buckingham *Ess. Poetry* They sigh in simile and die in Rhyme.

c1700 M. Prior *Locke & Montaigne* in *Dialogues of Dead* Simile is the very Algebra of Discourse.

1707 M. Prior *Simile* 4 'Tis but by way of Simile.

1864 J. R. Lowell *Fireside Trav.* 165 How would he have run him up and down the gamut of simile!

†2.

## **a. Likeness, resemblance; similarity. Obs.**

1604 R. Cawdrey *Table Alphabet.* *Similie*,..likenes, or resemblance.

1613 J. Davies *Muses Teares* in *Wks.* (Grosart) I. 5/1 The Simile twixt God and Man is such, That God is said to be immortall Man.

1692 T. Tryon [\*Good House-wife\*](#) (ed. 2) xiv. 103 What likeness or correspondence is there between Cloves, Mace,..and..Herbs or Flesh?  
Verily there is no simile between them.

**†b. The likeness of a thing. *Obs.*—<sup>1</sup>**

1743 W. Ellis [\*London & Country Brewer\*](#) (ed. 2) II. 151 Everything delighteth to produce its own Simile.

## Compounds

*Comb.*

### **simile-maker n.**

1676 W. Wycherley [Plain-dealer](#) ii. i, I cou'd not..sit to a vain young Simile-maker, tho' he flatter'd me.

### **simile-monger n.**

1868 A. Helps [Realmah](#) (1876) viii. 178 That sort of confusion is indulged in by all simile-mongers.

## Derivatives

### **'simile v. (*trans.*) to express by a simile.**

1727 P. Longueville [Hermit](#) 219 Having similed every different Part, he proceeds in the Representation thereof.

1972 G. Jones [Kings, Beasts, & Heroes](#) ii. i. 75 We are told the colour of her hair and hands, her flesh and bosom, but she stays cool to view as..a wax doll. A clean doll, admittedly... And one most nobly similiated.

## metonymy, n.

**Pronunciation:** Brit. /mɛ'tɒnəmi/ , U.S. /mə'tɒnəmi/

### Forms:

α. 15–16 **metonimie**, 15–16 **metonimy**, 15–16 **metonys ie**, 16 s **etanys y**, 16 18 s **etonos y**, 16– s **etonys y**, 17 s **etonos ie**.

β. 15–16 s **etonys ia**.

**Etyms ology:** < classical Latin *metōnymia* or its etymon Hellenistic Greek *μετωνυμία*, lit. ‘change of name’ < ancient Greek *μετα-* [meta-](#) [prefix](#) + *-ωνυμία* (see [-onymy comb. form](#)). Compare French *métonymie* (1521 in Middle French as *methonomie*), Italian *metonimia* (a1544), Spanish *metonimia* (c1580), Portuguese *metonímia* (16th cent. as *metonomia*).

The form *metonomian* in quot. [1547 at sense b](#) represents the Greek accusative *μετωνυμίαν*.

The position of the stress appears to have been subject to some variation over history: although pronunciations with second-syllable stress are the most common (as, for example, in Johnson (1755)), a number of sources from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries show stress on the first syllable. Johnston (1764) does so, as does the first (1828) edition of Webster. By 1854, Webster indicates a variable pronunciation, but a preference for first-syllable stress; the 1886 edition also shows variability, but this time with preference for second-syllable stress, which becomes the only option listed in the 1900 edition.

**a. Rhetoric.** (A figure of speech characterized by) the action of substituting for a word or phrase denoting an object, action, institution, etc., a word or phrase denoting a property or something associated with it; an instance of this.

**b. In extended use: a thing used or regarded as a substitute for or symbol of something else. Also (esp. in *Linguistics* and *Literary Theory*): the process of semantic association involved in producing and understanding a metonymy. Because the association involved in metonymy is typically by contiguity rather than similarity, metonymy is often contrasted with metaphor.**

[1547 J. Hooper [\*Answer Detection Deuyls Sophistrye\*](#) D 1 b, Men seyth that they admyt metonomian, and say under the forme of breade is the trew bodye of Christ.]

1553 T. Wilson [\*Arte of Rhetorique\*](#) iii. f. 93, When a woorde hath a proper signification of the owne, & beyng referred to an other thyng, hath an other meanyng, the Grecians cal it Metonymia.

1555 R. Sherry [\*Treat. Figures Gram. & Rhetorike\*](#) 23<sup>v</sup>, Metonymia, when in thynges that be syb together, one name is chaunged for an other.

1562 T. Cooper *Answere Def. Truth* f. 106<sup>v</sup>, in [\*Apol. Priuate Masse\*](#) The figure is named Metonymia: when the name of the thyng is geuen vnto the signe.

1573 T. Cartwright [\*Replye to Answere Whitgifte\*](#) 14 The Apostle by a metonimie *Subiecti pro adiuncto*, dothe giue to vnderstand from whence y<sup>e</sup> assured persuasion doth spring.

1625 A. Gil [\*Sacred Philos.\*](#) ii. 156 *Shebet* signifies either a staffe, a truncheon, or Scepter,..and so by a metonymia it may signifie authority.

1656 J. Smith [\*Myst. Rhetorique\*](#) 15 A metonymie of the effect, is when the effect or thing caused, is put for its cause.

1668 H. More *Schol.* in [\*Divine Dialogues\*](#) 575 Here is a double Metonymie, Christ is put for the Doctrine of Christ, and Hope for the Cause of Hope.

1676 W. Hubbard [\*Happiness of People\*](#) 4 By times we are to understand things done in those times, by a metonymy of the adjunct.

1723 W. Meston [\*Knight\*](#) i. 24 For every sentence he would prop, With some Metonymie or Trope.

1798 [\*Anti Jacobin\*](#) 22 Jan. (1852) 47 Parr's buzz prose. [Note] This is an elegant metonymy... Buzz is an epithet usually applied to a large wig. It is here used for swelling, burly, bombastic writing.

1868 A. Bain [\*Mental & Moral Sci.\*](#) iv. xi. 403 By what is called 'metonymy', the fact intended to be expressed is denoted by one of the adjuncts.

1890 [Catholic World](#) Aug. 704 A charming book, full of delightful reading in lucid English, not a few strong periods, much of metonymy, little of metaphor.

1948 J. O. A. Tate [On Limits of Poetry](#) 172, I am raising the question whether the metonymy which attributes to the literal nightingale the asserted immortality of the song is convincing enough to carry the whole imaginative insight of the poem.

1956 R. Jakobson & M. Halle [Fund. of Lang.](#) ii. v. 76 The relation of similarity is suppressed in the former, the relation of contiguity in the latter type of aphasia. Metaphor is alien to the similarity disorder, and metonymy to the contiguity disorder.

1981 [N.Y. Times](#) 4 Oct. vii. 47/1 Can it [sc. ice-skating] be a metonymy for bonhomie, the Brueghel-like gathering at the pond?

2009 K.-U. Panther & L. L. Thornburg in K.-U. Panther et al. [Metonymy & Metaphor in Gram.](#) Introd. 24 The impact of metonymy on grammar has been demonstrated convincingly by a number of researchers.

## synecdoche, n.

**Pronunciation:** Brit. /sɪˈnɛkdəki/ , U.S. /səˈnɛkdəki/

### Forms:

α. ME **sinodoches**, ME **synadochie**, ME **synodoche**, ME **synodoches**, 15 **sinecdochine**, 15–16 **senechdoche**, 15–17 **senecdoche**, 15–17 19– **synechdoche**, 16 **sinecdoche**, 16 **synechdochie**, 16 **syneckdoche**, 16 **synegdoche**, 16– **synecdoche**.

β. 15 **sinecdoch**.

**Etymology:** < classical Latin *synecdochē* (in post-classical Latin also *synodoche* (13th cent. in British sources)) < Hellenistic Greek *συνεκδοχή* understanding one thing with another < *συν-* [syn- prefix](#) + ancient Greek *ἐκδοχή* receiving from the hands of another, succession, in Hellenistic Greek also taking in a certain sense, interpretation ( < *ἐκ-* (see [ex- prefix](#)<sup>2</sup>) + *δοχή* receptacle < an ablaut variant (o -grade) of the base of *δέχεσθαι* to receive: see [pandect n.](#)<sup>1</sup>), after *συνεκδέχεσθαι*, lit. ‘to take with something else’.

Compare Middle French *synecdoche* (1541; 15th cent. as *synodoche*; French *synecdoque*), Catalan *sinècdoque* (1696), Spanish *sinécdoque* (1580 or earlier; formerly also as †*sinédoque*), Portuguese *sinédoque* (15th cent. as †*sinodoche*), Italian *sineddoche* (14th cent.), and also German *Synekdoche* (1536 as †*synecdocha*).

The form [sinecdochine](#) is after the accusative forms classical Latin *synecdochen* , Hellenistic Greek *συνεκδοχήν* . Forms in *-es* are inferred nominatives from the Latin accusative form; compare the forms *syncopis* , *syncopin* at [syncope n.](#) and discussion at that entry.

### Grammar and Rhetoric.

A figure of speech in which a more inclusive term is used for a less inclusive one or vice versa, as a whole for a part or a part for a whole. Formerly sometimes used loosely, or explained differently.

a1450 (►a1397) *Prol. Old Test.* (Harl. 1666) in [Bible \(Wycliffite, L.V.\)](#) (1850) xii. 47 Bi a figure clepid synodoches [a1450 Harl. 6333 synadochie], whanne a part is set for al, either al is set for oo part.

- 1475 (1425) tr. R. Higden [Polychron.](#) (Harl.) (1872) IV. 263 Criste was seide to be in the..herte of therthe thre daies and iij nyghtes by a figure callede sinodoches [L. *synecdochen*, v.r. *sinodochen*], after Seynte Austyn, sythe Criste reste not in his sepulcre but by xlti howres.
- 1548 R. Hutten tr. J. Spangenberg [Sum of Diuinitie](#) F viij b, The subtyll cauillacyons, whereby they fayne Sinecdochine \_C~M0\_.
- 1551 T. Wilson [Rule of Reason](#) sig. Sij, Therefore, where as I saie, the church doth not erre, it is called *Synechdoche*, that is to saye, when the party is vsed for the whole [*sic*].
- 1602 J. Marston [Hist. Antonio & Mellida](#) v. sig. H2, I did send for you to drawe me a deuise, an *Imprezza*, by *Sinecdoche* a *Mott*.
- 1612 J. Mason [Anat. Sorcerie](#) 56 By these two blessings (to wit) the sunne & raine meaning al other earthly benefits whatsoever, by the figure synechdoche.
- 1660 Bp. J. Taylor [Worthy Communicant](#) i. iii. 58 It is by a Metonymy and a Sacramental Manner of speaking, yet it is also a synecdoche of the part for the whole.
- 1731 J. Trapp in tr. Virgil [Wks.](#) I. 11 (*note*) *Aristas*, by a Metonymy of the Adjunct, for Harvests; and Those by a Synecdoche, for Years.
- 1828 [Southern Rev.](#) Aug. 36 (*note*) It is no objection to the distinctive meaning and derivation of ‘rhyme’ and ‘rhythm’, that we find the former used by a synecdoche, for poetry generally, for verse.
- 1872 W. Minto [Man. Eng. Prose Lit.](#) Introd. 15 Metaphors, personifications, synecdoches and metonymy in almost every sentence.
- 1900 R. J. Drummond [Apost. Teaching](#) viii, This ordinance was frequently by synecdoche spoken of as the Breaking of Bread.
- 1930 [Jrnl. Royal Statist. Soc.](#) 93 237 Naturally a man who could combine a synecdoche and a metalepsis with intent to deceive would be capable of anything.
- 1991 [N.Y. Rev. Bks.](#) 28 Mar. 14/1 He creates a tale of three cities and their interaction..as a synecdoche for the larger patterns of urban policy.
- 2012 [Church Times](#) 27 Jan. 33/1 A dysfunctional family a synecdoche for a dysfunctional society.