

METONYMY

Metonymy is a figure of speech which a thing or concept is not called by its own name, but by the name of something intimately associated with that thing or concept (as “crown” in “lands belonging to the crown”)

“According to the White House”

The White House isn't a living human object so it can not be literally asked to talk so as metonymy it represents the President or the administration or even the government in general.

THE WHITE HOUSE –

For the President– The Government



The bottle for alcoholic drink.

The press for journalism

A skirt for a woman

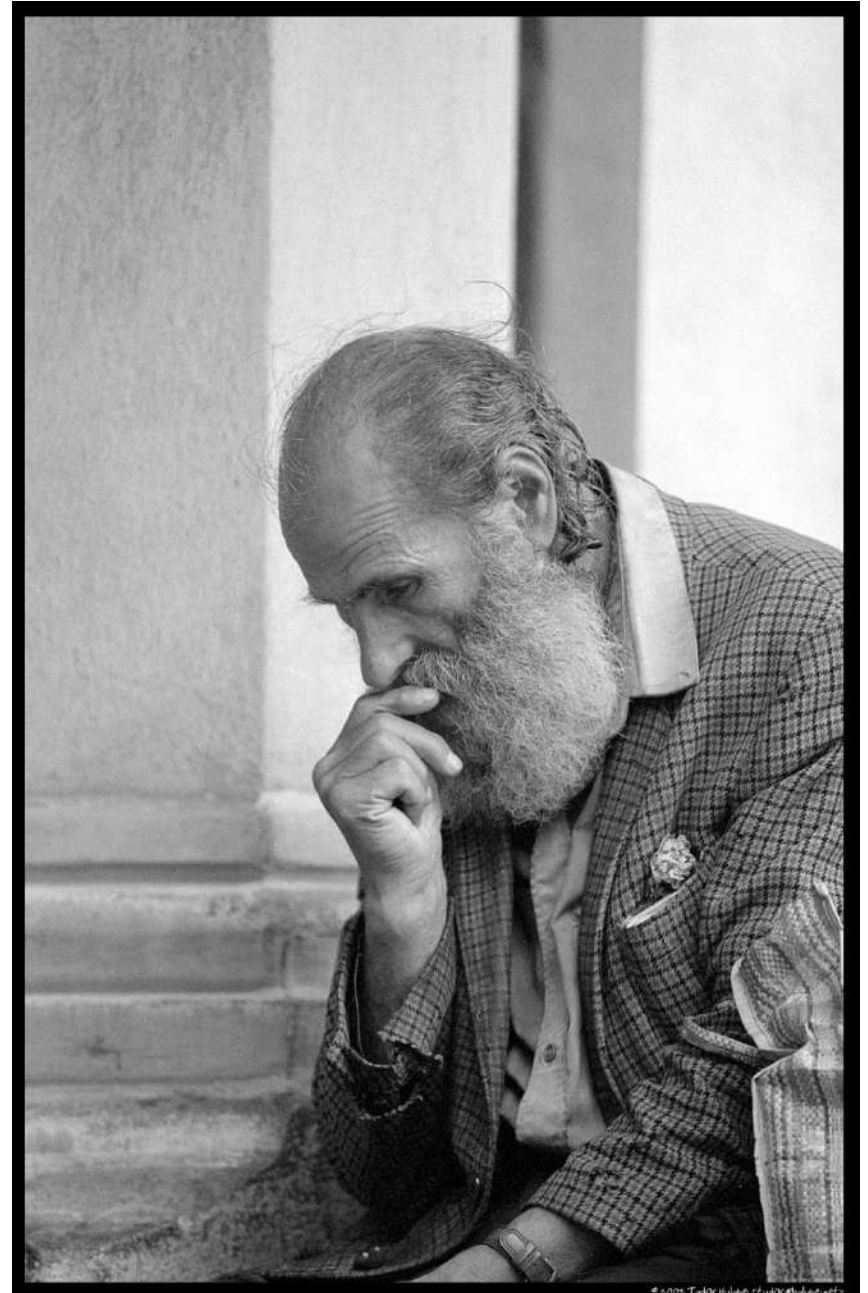
Mozart for Mozart's music

The Oval Office
for the US Presidency.

“ My Old Man”

“Old Man” refers to father. Father may or may not be considered old, but “old man” is associated as an attribute related to father.

By extension see “old woman” or “old lady” – Though generally “old lady” has a different connotation.



REDNECK

A stereotypical member of the white rural working class in the Southern U.S., originally a reference to necks sunburned from working in the fields."



**People might
say they are
going to the
capitol when
they are
actually
talking about
going to the
city of
Washington,
D.C.**



("This is NBC Nightly News with John Chancellor and David Brinkley.")

"Good evening. Elvis Presley died today. He was 42. Apparently, it was a heart attack. He was found in his home in Memphis not breathing. His road manager tried to revive him -- he failed. A hospital tried to revive him -- it failed. His doctor pronounced him dead at three o'clock this afternoon.

-- NBC Nightly News with John Chancellor and David Brinkley

Note: In this case, the whole (hospital) stands in for one of its parts (the attending physician and health care workers).

**From William Shakespeare's
Julius Caesar.**

**"Friends, Romans, countrymen,
lend me your ears"**

**Metonymically — "ear" represents
"attention" (because we use ears to pay
attention to someone's speech).**

"He writes a fine hand" meaning good handwriting

"The pen is mightier than the sword," meaning literary power is superior to military force.

"The House was called to order," meaning the members in the House.

"He is a man of the cloth." meaning a man of the church.

The suits on Wall Street walked off with most of our savings.

Explain the Metonymy in this sentence?

**Politicians often
differentiate between Wall
Street and Main Street.**

**What is the Metonymical
meaning of Main Street?**

**"The B.L.T.
left without
paying."**

**(waitress
referring to a
customer)**

**"Bush has
bombed
Afghanistan
and Iraq."**

**The President
representing the
nation as a whole**



Explain the
Metonymy.



**WELL, WELL, WELL! IF IT
ISN'T HANKY AND PANKY.**