Your name

Mr Staton

Conceptual metaphor

Date

Questions to *Metaphors We Live By* (to p. 40)

NB This is a Word document. Please type your answers directly below the questions. Note that many questions do not have a “right” answer.

1. How long after the authors first met did they publish the book?
2. The authors acknowledge their debt to many scholars. List the names of those you have heard of.
3. How would you describe the source(s) of the linguistic evidence presented?
4. On p. 4 under the heading argument is war there is a list of examples which are widely quoted in the literature on conceptual metaphor. Which of the phrases in italics are familiar to you (in the metaphorical sense they are intended to illustrate)? Which translate naturally into languages you know?
5. P. 5, par. 1 “*The essence of metaphor*…” Which do you consider to be the key word in this sentence?
6. Pp. 7-8. Give 5 natural-sounding examples of the time is money metaphor in languages that you know.
7. P. 11. Give 5 natural-sounding examples of the conduit metaphor in Italian.
8. P. 23, par. 2 Do you feel that the bigger is better metaphor as applied to cars is specific to an American subculture, or is it shared by Europeans? Which “energy crisis” is being referred to?
9. Pp. 29-32. Give a few examples of your own for the metaphors visual fields are containers, events are objects, activities are containers, and states are containers.
10. Pp. 38-39. Add a couple of examples to each of the categories of metonymy.
11. Most of the examples presented by Lakoff and Johnson appear to be invented. You are going to check to see how many of their collocations appear in a large corpus of authentic English (the BNC). Follow these steps. Using your browser go to BNC BYU. Register following the instructions. When you have registered, click on the SEARCH tab at the top of the window. You should find a search box. Above the box is the default setting “List”. Type the string SHOOT down NOUN into the box and click on “Find matching strings”. You should get a list of collocates beginning with “shoot down planes”. Examine the list for metaphors. If you need more context click on the string (in blue). Follow the same procedure for the other strings. (Be careful to leave a space before and after asterisks.) Make brief notes for each list so that you can compare your findings with a partner.

SHOOT down NOUN

NOUN \* indefensible

SPEND time

SPEND \* time

GIVE time

GIVE \* time

BORROW time

LEND time

LEND \* time