

Metaphors from *Civil Disobedience*

Please select twenty metaphors. Your response for each must be written in such a manner that you both paraphrase and explain. Please underline the word in your paraphrase that extends the metaphor found in Thoreau's quote. Number one is your example and model. Please see that you follow this pattern.

1. "the mass of men serve the state thus, not as men mainly, but as machines with their bodies."

Answer: Most people act automatically for the government without thinking of their action.

As you might notice, this answer is written simply and in one sentence. Your responses must be accomplished in the same manner. The model sets the standard for your response.

Answer twenty of the following:

2. "What is the price current of an honest man and patriot today?"
3. "All machines have their friction, and possibly this does enough good to counterbalance the evil."
4. "But when the friction comes to have its machine, and oppression and robbery are organized, I say, let us not have such a machine any longer."
5. "It is not so important that many should be as good as you, as that there be some absolute goodness somewhere; for that will leaven the whole lump."
6. "There are nine hundred and ninety-nine patrons of virtue to one virtuous man, but is easier to deal with the real possessor of a thing than the temporary guardian of it."
7. "Such (those that serve the state) command no more respect than men of straw, or lump of dirt."
8. "If I have unjustly wrested a plank from a drowning man, I must restore it to him though I drown myself."
9. "Oh for a man who is a man and, as my neighbor says, has a bone in his back which you can not pass your hand through."
10. "After the first blush of sin, comes its indifference..."
11. "How can a man be satisfied to entertain an opinion merely, and enjoy it?"
12. "It (the performance of right) divides states and churches, it divides families; aye, it divides the individual, separating the diabolical in him from the divine."

13. "Why does it (the majority) always crucify Christ, and excommunicate Copernicus and Luther, and pronounce Washington and Franklin rebels?"
14. "Let your life be a counter friction to stop the machine."
15. "Under a government which imprisons any unjustly, the true place for a just man is also a prison."
16. "Is there not a sort of blood shed when the conscience is wounded?"
17. "But the rich man...is always sold to the institution which makes him rich."
18. "..., I could not help being struck with the foolishness of that institution which treated me as if I were mere flesh and blood and bones to be locked up."
19. "I saw the state was half witted, that it was timid as a lone woman with her silver spoons, and that it did not know its friends from its foes,..."
20. "If a plant (the comparison of the acorn and the chestnut falling on the ground side by side) cannot live according to its nature, it dies; and so a man."
21. "Truth is always in harmony with herself."
22. "There will never be a free and enlightened state, until the state comes to recognize the individual as a higher and independent power, from which all its own power and authority are derived..."
23. "Cast your whole vote, not a strip of paper merely, but your whole influence."

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