**Analogies**

***Academic Vocabulary***

The following quotations are all about education. Several of them us an **analogy** to explain education’s importance. An analogy might be figurative or literal.

In a **figurative analogy** (such as a metaphor or simile), the two things being compared are generally unlike except for one share characteristic. Such analogies are weak as evidence. In a **literal analogy**, however, the two things are similar in significant ways. For example, judges often rule based on similar previous rulings (case precedents), historians compare current events to previous historical examples, and critics often compare similar things.

1. **With your discussion group, analyze each analogy by writing a paraphrase or explanation of the quote.** Then, consider what each analogy suggests regarding education, and evaluate how insightful you think it is. Finally, discuss whether the analogy is figurative or literal.
2. “Education is not the filling of a bucket but the lighting of a fire.” –*William Butler Yeats*

1. “The highest result of education is tolerance.” –*Helen Keller*

1. “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” –*Nelson Mandela*

1. “Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today.” –*Malcolm X*

1. “Prejudices, it is well known, are most difficult to eradicate from the heart whose soil has never been loosened or fertilized by education; they grow there, firm as weeds among stones.” –*Charlotte Bronte*

1. Based on your discussion, which of the analogies most appeals to you? Why?
2. What kinds of analogies are shown in these quotations? (Figurative or Literal—LABEL EACH SENTENCE.) How effective might each be as evidence to support a claim about education?
3. What do you think is most persuasive and why?