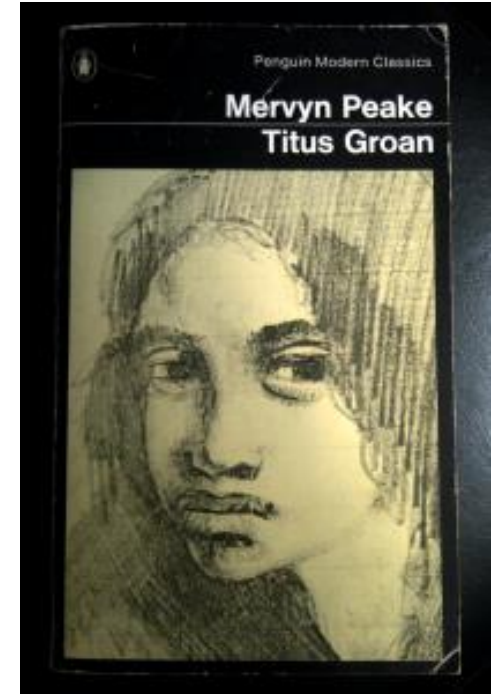# Words fail me

"Glorious,' said Steerpike, 'is a dictionary word. <u>We are all imprisoned by the dictionary.</u> We choose out of that vast, paper-walled prison our convicts, the little black printed words, when in truth we need fresh sounds to utter, new enfranchised noises which would produce a new effect. ....Dead words defy me. I can make no sound, dear ladies, that is apt.'

'You could try,' said Clarice. "We aren't busy"
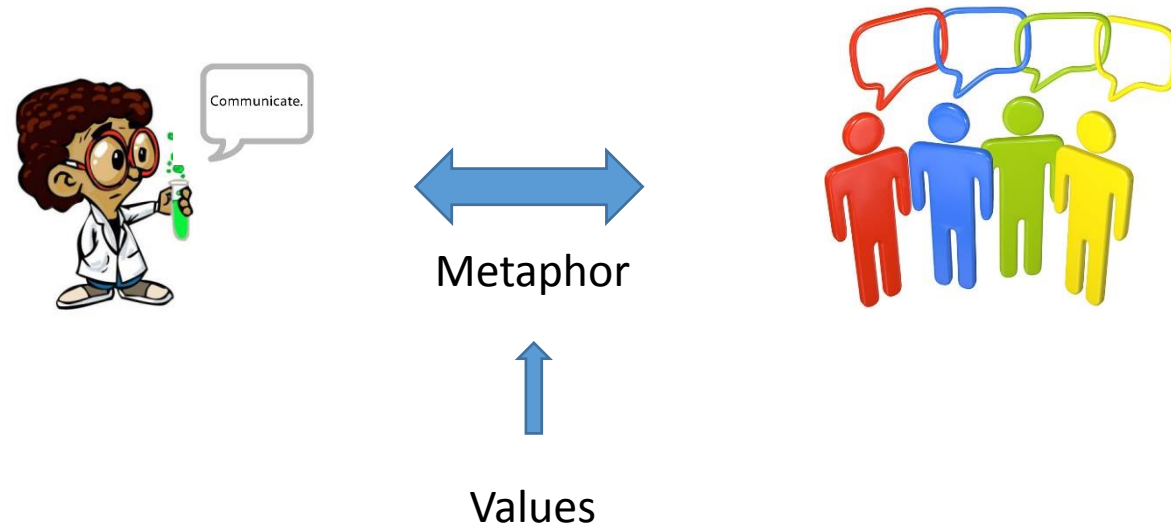
And so it is with metaphors.....

Metaphors allow us to conceptualise something of one sort as if it were another.

They can allow leaps beyond existing meanings that revolutionise how we think about something. Corporeal form to vision?

Metaphor use eventually becomes hackneyed and eventually we might stop using one

Metaphors and values

Metaphor

Values

If a metaphor fails to fit peoples frame will it be taken up?

All models (metaphors) are wrong but some are useful

sustainable Development

Polysemy – where metaphors have multiple meanings which vary with context

Constructive ambiguity

I know what it looks like when I see it

Justice Potter Stewart to describe his threshold test for obscenity in Jacobellis v. Ohio.

Bruntland report (1987) →

A Metaphoric Hippocratic oath

"When I use a metaphor, I will endeavour to avoid using metaphors that cause harm & seek ones least likely to do so"