

A watercolor illustration of a desk. At the top, there are stacks of books in various colors (blue, brown, purple). A wooden ruler is on the left, and a red bell is in the center. A blue paperclip is on the right. The background is a light beige color with faint, repeating text in a cursive font. The main title is written in a large, elegant cursive font. Below the title, there is a block of text in a simple, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a paper airplane with a pink and blue plaid pattern, a pencil, an open book, and a blue cup on a saucer.

*Understanding Extended Metaphor through*  
*"The Road Not Taken"*

Discover how poets use powerful literary tools to talk about life and choices.

# Extended Metaphor

An extended metaphor is a comparison between two things that continues across multiple lines or even an entire poem or story.

## Examples:

- Simple metaphor: "Life is a journey."
- Extended metaphor: "Life is a journey filled with winding roads, detours, and dead ends, but every step teaches us something new."



# Extended Metaphor in the Poem

## The Road = Life

- In Frost's poem, the road is a metaphor for life's choices.
- The poem explores how we make decisions and how those decisions can shape our lives.
- It is an extended metaphor because the comparison runs through the whole poem.



# Symbol – Diverging Roads

- The two roads symbolize choices in life.
- Just like in real life, we can't see the future.
- Once we choose a path, we often can't go back.



# Symbol – The Road Less Traveled

- This road symbolizes nonconformity – doing things your own way.
- The speaker thinks it made a big difference—but both roads looked pretty similar!
- Suggests that we sometimes create meaning in our past choices, even if the path wasn't really so different.

