

## Metacognition – My Metaphor



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### The Navigator:

According to [Vocabulary.com](https://www.vocabulary.com), “A navigator is the person whose job it is to steer the ship. The *navigator* plans and charts the course and then points the ship in the right direction”.

I believe that this is the most apt metaphor for my style of teaching for the following reasons:

- Planning and charting the course is akin to lesson planning. It is my job to steer my class from the beginning to end of our journey (school year)
- A navigator must be able to read the weather and water and make corrections in direction and speed accordingly. Similarly, as a teacher I must sometimes speed up, slow down, or change tactics in delivery.
- Dangerous waters must be avoided for the wellbeing of the crew and passengers. If avoidance is not possible, the navigator is responsible to get the vessel through safely. In a classroom, this is like avoiding subject matter that could trigger a negative emotional response or resolving conflicts that arise unexpectedly.
- Finally, for all his efforts and preparation, and planning, the navigator may only choose and maintain a course. It is the ship itself that must undertake the journey. Just like the students we are teaching.

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