Making Comparisons with Analogy

An analogy is a comparison between two things, usually made for the purpose of explaining or clarifying something.

**EXAMPLE:** Though they had argued all the way home, when he offered to help her out of the car she allowed him to; which is to say that things between them were already beginning to thaw.

An analogy is drawn between their relationship and the transition from winter to spring, i.e., the thaw.

**Directions:** Identify and explain the analogy in each short passage below.

1. It was bad enough that he didn’t want to hear what she had to say. What made it worse was that he had to put up with her voice on top of it. He cringed more and more with each successive word, as if rather than speaking she had merely been dragging her nails down a chalkboard.

2. The entire time that Lana was recovering from her illness, her husband cared for her, the house and the children all by himself. He also went to work five days a week. Lana’s friends couldn’t believe the change in him, since he had once been so flighty and unreliable. But Lana assured him that since her brush with death, Liam had become a rock.

3. “The first day of school is always awkward,” my father counseled me. “Go slowly. Expect setbacks.” I looked at him doubtfully. “Trust me,” he said. “High school is different from what you were doing before. You’re going to feel like a fish out of water.”