

## Essential Literary Terms

<b>Alliteration</b>	repetition of the initial consonant sounds of words: "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers"
<b>Allusion</b>	a reference to something well-known that exists outside the literary work
<b>Antagonist</b>	character that is the source of conflict in a literary work
<b>Aside</b>	a dramatic device in which a character makes a short speech intended for the audience but not heard by the other characters on stage
<b>Assonance</b>	repetition of vowel sounds followed by different consonant sounds: "Anna's apples," "the pond is long gone"
<b>Characterization</b>	The manner in which an author develops characters and their personalities
<b>Conflict</b>	struggle between two or more opposing forces (person vs. person; nature; society; self; fate/God)
<b>Dialogue</b>	direct speech between characters in a literary work
<b>Diction</b>	word choice to create a specific effect
<b>Figurative Language</b>	language that represents one thing in terms of something dissimilar (non-literal language). <i>Includes simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, symbol</i>
<b>Flashback</b>	the method of returning to an earlier point in time for the purpose of making the present clearer
<b>Foreshadowing</b>	hint of what is to come in a literary work
<b>Genre</b>	type or category to which a literary work belongs
<b>Hyperbole</b>	extreme exaggeration to add meaning
<b>Imagery</b>	language that appeals to the five senses
<b>Irony</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dramatic... when the reader or audience knows something a character does not</li> <li>• Situational... when there is a disparity between what is expected and what actually occurs</li> <li>• Verbal... when the speaker says one thing but means the opposite</li> </ul>
<b>Metaphor</b>	an implied comparison between dissimilar objects: "Her talent blossomed"
<b>Mood</b>	The atmosphere that pervades a literary work with the intention of evoking a certain emotion or feeling from the audience.
<b>Motif</b>	a recurring feature of a literary work that is related to the theme
<b>Onomatopoeia</b>	use of a word whose sound imitates its meaning: "hiss"
<b>Oxymoron</b>	phrase that consists of two words that are contradictory: "living dead" or "Microsoft works"

<b>Personification</b>	figure of speech in which non-human things are given human characteristics
<b>Plot</b>	The sequence of events in a literary work
<b>Point of view</b>	<p>I. the vantage point or perspective from which a literary work is told...</p> <p>A. 1<sup>st</sup> person point of view- the narrator is a character in the story (use of 'I')</p> <p>B. 3<sup>rd</sup> person point of view- the narrator is outside of the story (use of 'he' 'she' 'they')</p>
<b>Protagonist</b>	the main character in a literary work
<b>Rhyme</b>	repetition of similar or identical sounds: "look and crook"
<b>Rhyme Scheme</b>	pattern of rhyme among lines of poetry [denoted using letters, as in ABAB CDCD EE]
<b>Setting</b>	The time and place of a literary work
<b>Simile</b>	a direct comparison of dissimilar objects, usually using like or as: "I wandered lonely as a cloud"
<b>Soliloquy</b>	a dramatic device in which a character is alone and speaks his or her thoughts aloud
<b>Speaker</b>	voice in a poem; the person or thing that is speaking
<b>Stanza</b>	group of lines forming a unit in a poem
<b>Stereotype</b>	standardized, conventional ideas about characters, plots and settings
<b>Suspense</b>	technique that keeps the reader guessing what will happen next
<b>Symbol/symbolism</b>	one thing (object, person, place) used to represent something else
<b>Theme</b>	the underlying main idea of a literary work. Theme differs from the subject of a literary work in that it involves a statement or opinion about the subject.
<b>Tone</b>	the author's attitude toward the subject of a work.