

**You should already be familiar with these literary terms. This is provided for review.**

## LITERARY TERMS

**Allusion** - a reference to something well-known that exists outside the literary work

**Antagonist**- character that is the source of conflict in a literary work

**Dialogue** - direct speech between characters in a literary work

**Diction** - word choice to create a specific effect

**Figurative Language** -language that represents one thing in terms of something dissimilar (non-literal language). *Includes simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, symbol)*

**Imagery** - language that strongly appeals to one of the five senses

**Irony** - **Dramatic:** when the reader or audience knows something a character does not

**Situational:** when there is a contrast between what is expected and what actually occurs

**Verbal:** when the speaker says one thing but means the opposite

**Metaphor** - an implied comparison between dissimilar objects: "Her talents blossomed."

**Personification** - figure of speech in which non-human things are given human characteristics

**Simile** - a direct comparison of dissimilar objects, usually using like or as: "I wandered lonely as a cloud."

**Symbol/symbolism** - one thing (object, person, place) used to represent something else

**Theme** - 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.

**Tone** - the author's attitude toward the subject of a work.

## Elements of Narrative: Plot Analysis

### Plot (definition)

Plot is the organized pattern or sequence of events that make up a story. Every plot is made up of a series of incidents that are related to one another.

## 5 Elements of Plot:

### 1. Exposition

This usually occurs at the beginning of a short story. Here the characters are introduced. We also learn about the setting of the story. Most importantly, we are introduced to the main conflict (main problem).

### 2. Rising Action

This part of the story begins to develop the conflict(s). A building of interest or suspense occurs.

### 3. Climax

This is the turning point of the story. Usually the main character comes face to face with a conflict. The main character will change in some way.

### 4. Falling Action

All loose ends of the plot are tied up. The conflict(s) and climax are taken care of.

### 5. Resolution

The story comes to a reasonable ending

## Keywords for Plot Analysis

**Foreshadowing:** The use of hints or clues to suggest what will happen later in the story.

**Inciting Force:** The event or character that triggers the conflict.

**Conflict:** The essence of fiction. It creates plot. The conflicts we encounter can usually be identified as one of four kinds. (Man versus...Man, Nature, Society, or Self)

**Suspense:** That quality of a literary work that makes the reader or audience uncertain or tense about the outcome of events. Suspense makes the reader ask "What will happen next?". Suspense is greatest when it focuses attention on a sympathetic character. Thus, the most familiar kind of suspense involves a character hanging from the lee of a tall building, or tied to a railroad tracks as a train approaches.

**Flashback:** The method of returning to an earlier point in time for the purpose of making the present clearer.

## POINT OF VIEW

### **First Person**

The narrator is a character in the story who can reveal only personal thoughts and feelings and what he or she sees and is told by other characters. He can't tell us thoughts of other characters.

### **Third-Person Objective**

The narrator is an outsider who can report only what he or she sees and hears. This narrator can tell us what is happening, but he can't tell us the thoughts of the characters.

### **Third-Person Limited**

The narrator is an outsider who sees into the mind of one of the characters.

### **Omniscient**

The narrator is an all-knowing outsider who can enter the minds of more than one of the characters

