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| Anecdote | A brief account of an interesting event |
| Anticlimax | is the turning point in a story. It is the point at which you learn that the story will not turn out in a way that truly resolves the problem or satisfies the reader. |
| Character | A person or animal that takes part in the action of a literary work. |
| Flashback | - A flashback is a section of a literary work that interrupts the chronological presentation of events to relate an event from an earlier time. |
| Incident | an unexpected and usually unpleasant thing that happens |
| Motivation | The reason behind a characters behavior |
| Narrative voice | is the term used to describe how the narrator tells a story. It is the voice, sometimes of a character in the story, sometimes an unseen voice, that provides background information, insight, or describes the actions of a scene. |
| Point of view | the mode of of narration that an author employs to let the reades "hear  and "see" what takes place in a story, poem, essay, etc. |
| First person POV | In the first-person point of view, the narrator is a character in the story and refers to himself or herself with the first-person pronoun "I".  e.g. The Fall of the House of Usher |
| Objective POV | Point of view that has to do with a reality that is independent of any particular person’s mind or personal internal experiences. (It must be able to be proven or verified.) |
| Omniscient POV | A method of storytelling in which the narrator knows the thoughts and feelings of all of the characters in a story. |
| Third person POV | Voice outside the story |
| Third person limited POV | Voice outside the story and knowledge of story teller is limited to internal states of one character. |
| Stream of Consciousness | A narrative technique that presents thoughts as if they were coming directly from a character's mind. |
| Subplot | a secondary or subordinate plot as in a play, novel, or other literary work; underplot |
| Theme | - A theme is a central message or insight into life reveled by a literary work. An essay's theme is often directly stated in its thesis statement. In most works of fiction, the theme is often indirectly stated. |
| Antithesis | A rhetorical device used to compare two opposite sides to achieve a contrasting effect. It emphasizes the idea by contrasting parallel structures of contrasted phrases or clauses.  Example: “It’s one small step for man, but one giant leap for mankind.” |
| Balanced sentence | A sentence made up of two parts that are roughly equal in length, importance, and grammatical structure: a paired construction.  A balanced sentence that makes a contrast is called antithesis. |
| Coherence | FICTION/SYNTAX-to hold together firmly as parts of the same mass |
| Complex sentence | - 1 main clause and 1 or more subordinate clauses |
| Compound complex sentence | Sentence with two or more independent clauses and at least one dependent clause. |
| Ellipsis | Three periods separated by spaces, that replace the words that are omitted, because they are obviously understood, but must be supplied to make the sentence grammatically complete |
| Inverted sentence | A sentence in which the predicate comes before the subject. Because there’s no object following the verb “lived” can be decoded as subject without problem. |
| Loose sentence | a type of sentence in which the main idea comes first, followed by dependent grammatical units. |

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| Description | A detailed portrayal of a person, place, object, or an event. |
| Exposition | - is writing or speech that explains, informs, or prevents information. The main techniques include analysis, classification, and comparison, contrast definition, exemplification or illustration. |
| Narration | A recital of events, especially in chronological order, as the story narrated in a poem or the exposition in drama. |
| Essay | - An essay is a short nonfiction work about a particular subject |
| Formal essay | Used to convey an idea is a formalized setting. The essay is usually three to five paragraphs and contains a statement at the end of the first paragraph. The thesis statement contains the core message of the essay. |
| Humorous essay | A type of personal essay that has the primary aim of amusing readers rather than informing or persuading them. |
| Informal essay | Is also called personal essays, explore every day topics in a conversational style. They may also employ a loose structure, circling around a topic and developing ideas in an indirect way. |
| Fable | a brief story illustrating human tendencies through animal characters. |
| Genre | A genre is a division, or type, of literature. Literature is commonly divided into three major genres: poetry, prose, and drama. Each major genre in turn can be divided into smaller genres. Poetry can be divided into lyric, concrete, dramatic, narrative, and epic poetry. Prose can be divided into fiction or nonfiction. Drama can be divided into serious drama, tragedy, comic drama, melodrama, and farce. |
| Novel | A book-length fictional prose narrative. The novel has more scope than that of a short story in its presentation of plot, character, setting, and theme. |
| Novella | A story not as long as a novel but is longer than a short story. |
| Parable | A simple narrative that illustrates a moral or religious lesson |
| Prose | Ordinary form of written language. Of the major genes of literature in form of fiction or non-fiction. Ex: Mostly writing not poetry, drama, or song. |
| Verse | A single metrical line in a poetic composition. Verse also represents grouping of words in a poetic composition. (i.e stanzas) |
| Allusion | – a passing or casual reference: an incidental mention of something, either  directly or by implication. |
| Apostrophe | An apostrophe is a figure of speech in which a speaker directly addresses an absent person or a personified quality, object, or idea. |
| Euphemism | The term refers to polite, indirect expressions which replace words and phrases considered harsh or impolite. Euphemism is an idiomatic expression which loses its literal meanings and refers to something else in order to hide its unpleasantness.  For example, “kick the bucket” is a euphemism that describes the death of a person. In addition, many organizations use the term “downsizing” for the distressing act of “firing” its employees. |
| Hyperbole | an extravagant statement or figure of speech not intended to be taken literally, |
| Litotes | FORM/FIGURE OF SPEECH-understatement in which an affirmative is expressed by the negative of the contrary |
| Metaphor | figure of speech that compares two things by saying that one thing is another |
| Onomatopoeia | The use of words (such as *hiss* or *murmur*) that imitate the sounds associated with the objects or actions they refer to. Adjective: *onomatopoeic* or *onomatopoetic*. |
| personification | a figure of speech in which a nonhuman subject is given human characteristics |
| Simile | A figure of speech that makes a direct comparison between two subjects, using either *like* or *as*. |
| Symbol | a symbol is anything that stands for or represents something else. |
| Synecdoche | A synecdoche is a figure of speech in which part of something is used to stand for the whole thing. In "Recuerdo," when Edna St. Vincent Millay says, 'We hailed,' Good marrow, mother!' to a shaul-covered head." the shaul-covered head stands for the woman being greeted. |
| Understatement | Saying less than is actually meant, generally in an ironic way.  Ex; Figurative Language, hyperbole and irony |
| Allegory | An allegory is a story or tale with two or more levels of meaning-- a literal level and one or more symbolic levels. The events, setting, and characters in an allegory are symbols for ideas or qualities. Arthur Miller's play *The Crucible* is an allegory. |
| Diary | An individual’s personal, diary record of impressions, events, or thoughts written for the individual’s personal use rather than for publication. |
| Discourse | Writing that is classified into four modes. (narration, exposition, persuasion, description) |
| Argumentation | writing in which reason is used to influence ideas or action. An argument is a form of persuasion. While some persuasive writing depends on emotion, an argument uses logic, reasons, and evidence. |

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| Denotation | The literal, or dictionary, meaning of a word. |
| Dialect | - is the form of a language spoken by people in a particular region or group. Dialect differs from each other in details of vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. |
| Dialogue | A conversation between characters. |
| Diction | - Diction is a writer’s or speaker’s word choice. It is also a part of a writer’s style and may be described as formal or informal, plain or ornate, common or technical, abstract or concrete. |
| Epigram | An epigram is a brief, pointed statement, in prose or in verse, often characterized by use of some rhetorical device or figure of speech. Benjamin Franklin was famous for his epigrams, which include “Fools make feasts, and wise men eat them,” and “A plowman on his legs is higher than a gentleman on his knees.” |
| Invective | Abusive language; Discourse that casts blame on somebody or something |
| Inversion | Placing of sentence elements out of normal position. Ex: Instead of “let’s so persevere in love,” it is worded “in love let’s so persevere”. |
| Irony | - Irony is a figure of speech in which words are used in such a way that their  intended meaning is different from the actual meaning of the words. The two  main types of irony is verbal and situational. |
| Dramatic irony | In dramatic irony, there is a contradiction between what a character thinks and what the reader or the audience thinks. |
| Situation irony | Exists when the actual outcome of a situation is the opposite of someone’s expectations. |
| Verbal irony | Words that are used to suggest true opposite of their usual meaning. |
| Mood | Feeling created by the literary work or passage. Elements that can influence the mood of a work include its setting, tone, and events. |
| Paradox | Statement that sounds contradictory but really present truth Ex: “Victory won’t come/to me unless I got/to it”. |
| Proverb | A wise saying or precept; a didactic sentence. |
| Pun | a play on words |
| Sarcasm | A simple form of verbal irony in which it is obvious from context and tone that the speaker means the opposite of what he or she says. |
| Satire | Writing that ridicules or exposes the faults of individuals, groups, institutions, or humanity at large.  Some examples can include some movies that subliminally provide satire or poetry. Some movies that promote satire are *21 Jump Street* (is a satire of Hollywood’s mistakes in producing films) or the *Cabin in the Woods*( a satire of present-day horror cliches overused). |
| Slang | very informal usage in [vocabulary](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/vocabulary) and idiom that is characteristically more metaphorical, playful,elliptical, vivid, and ephemeral than ordinary [language](http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/language), as *Hit the road.* |
| Tone | ELEMENTS OF STYLE-ascent of inflection expressive of a mood or emotion |
| Voice | distinctive use of language that conveys the author’s or narrator’s personality to the reader, determine by elements of style such as word choice and tone |
| Atmosphere | Also known as mood. It is the feeling created in the reader by a literacy work or passage.  ・ Elements that can influence the mood of work include its setting, tone, and events. |
| Colloquial | informal speech that people use in everyday conversation |

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| Conflict | The central struggle between two opposing forces in a story or drama. |
| Crisis | In a plot of a narrative, the crisis is the turning point for the protagonist- the point at which the protagonist’s situation or understanding changes dramatically. |
| Denouement | Any event that occurs after the resolution. |
| Dues ex machine | - An unrealistic or unexpected intervention to rescue the protagonists or resolve the story's conflict. The term means "The god out of the machine," and it refers to stage machinery. |
| Epilogue | A short addition or concluding section at the end of a literary work, often dealing with the future of its characters. |
| Exposition | A literary device used to introduce background information about events, settings, characters etc. |
| Falling action | The events that follow the climax |
| Farce | a form of low comedy designed to provoke laughter through highy exaggerated  caricatures of people in improbable or silly situations. |
| Foil | A foil is a character who provides contrast to another character.  e.g. In F. Scott Fitzgerald's "Winter Dreams," Irene Screecher is a foil for the tantalizing Judy Jones. |
| Hamartia | *Literature* the flaw of the character which leads to the downfall of the protagonist in a tragedy. |
| Hero | A character whose actions are inspiring or noble. Often heroes struggle to overcome foes or escape from difficulties. |
| Hubris | A negative term implying on self-pride and a fatal plan leading to the downfall of a tragic hero. A lack of insight due to pride in one’s abilities |
| Monologue | Speech delivered entirely by a person or character. |
| Prologue | A preface or introduction to a literary work; describes a speech addressed to an audience by an actor at the beginning of the play. |
| Protagonist | a major division in the action of the play, comprising one or more scenes. |
| Rising action | The events that lead up to the **climax** |
| Scene | A subdivided segment in an act of a play describing plot settings, character developments, and portrayal of real life events. |
| Soliloquy | an utterance or discourse by a person who is talking to himself or herself or is disregardful of or oblivious to any hearers present (often used as a device in drama to disclose a character's innermostthoughts) |
| Tragedy | a serious drama typically describing a conflict between the protagonist and a superior force and having sorrowful or disastrous conclusion that elicits pity or terror |
| Tragic flaw | - outside forces or a weakness within the character which may cause the downfall |
| Villain | **.** A dramatic or fictional character who is typically at odds with the hero. |
| Act | a major division in the action of the play, comprising one or more scenes. |
| Antagonist | - An antagonist is a character or force in conflict with a main character, or protagonist |
| Aside | An actor’s speech, directed to the audience that is not supposed to be heard by other actors on stage. An aside is usually used to let the audience know what a character is about to do or what he or she is thinking. In some movies that involve a great deal of first person narration, asides are used mainly to develop exposition. |
| Catastrophe | A sudden and wide spread disaster |
| Catharsis | DRAMA- purification or purgation of the emotions primarily through art that may also bring about spiritual renewal or release from tension |
| Character |  |
| Dynamic character | a literary or dramatic character who undergoes an important inner change, as a change in personality or attitude: Ebeneezer Scrooge is a dynamic character. |
| Flat character | a character, who is one dimensional |
| Round character | A character in fiction whose personality, background, motives, and other features are fully delineated by the author. |
| Static character | a static character is one who does not change in the course of a work. |
| Stock character | : A stock character is someone based on a common literary or social stereotype. Stock characters rely heavily on cultural types or names for their personality, manner of speech, and other characteristics. |
| Climax | The high point of interest or suspense in a literary work |
| Comedy | A work of literature. Especially a play that has a happy ending.  ・ Often shows ordinary characters in conflict with their societies.  ・ Their problems are resolved through laughter, reconciliation, and the correction of moral faults or social wrongs. |
| Comic relief | the repetition of the same stressed vowel sounds and any succeeding sounds in two or more words. For example, notation rhymes with vacation. End rhyme occurs at the ends of line of poetry. Internal rhyme occurs within a single line. Slant rhyme occurs when words include sounds that are similar but not identical. Slant rhyme typically involves some variation of consonance (the repetition of similar consonant sounds) or assonance (the repetition of similar vowel sounds). |

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| Alliteration | The commencement of two or more stressed syllables of a word group either with the same consonant sound or sound group (consonantal alliteration)  as in from stem to stern,  or with a vowel sound that may differ from syllable to syllable (vocalic alliteration)  as in each to all. |
| Assonance | the repetition of vowel sounds in conjunction with dissimilar consonant sounds |
| Blank verse | Poetry written in unrhymed iambic pentameter. |
| Cacophony | the use of words that combine sharp, harsh, hissing, or unmelodious sounds. |
| Cadence | A cadence is a sequence of notesor chords comprisingthe close of a musical phrase. |
| Caesura | A pause or break in the middle of a line or poetry.  Ex; Boll weevil’s coming, // and the winter’s cold. |
| Conceit | Also called an extended metaphor. It is a metaphor taken to its logical limit.  ・ With a conceit, the metaphor does not end in a single line or image, but builds throughout the work. |
| Connotation | the suggested or implied meanings associated with a word beyond its dictionary definition, or denotation. A word can have a positive, negative, or neutral connotation. |
| Consonance | The repetition of similar consonant sounds typically within or at the ends of words |
| Controlling image | a literary device employing repetition so as to stress the other of a work or a particular symbol. |
| Couplet | A two-line stanza. |
| Dirge | - A lyric poem or song commemorating a death and expressing grief. |
| Dissonance | – A disruption of harmonic sounds or rhythms. Like cacophony, it refers to a harsh collection of sounds; dissonance is usually intentional, however, and depends more on the organization of sound for a jarring effect, rather than on the unpleasantness of individual words. Gerard Hopkins’s use of fixed stresses and variables unstressed syllables, combined with frequent assonance, consonance, and monosyllabic words, has a dissonant effect. |
| Dramatic monologue | A poem written in the form of a speech of an individual character |
| Elegy | Is a solemn and formal lyric poem about death, often one that mourns the passing of a particular person |
| End-stopped line | in poetry, a line ending in a full pause, often indicated by  appropriate punctuation such as a period or semicolon. |
| Enjambment | Enjambled lines are those that do not end with a grammatical break and do not make full sense without the line that follows.  E.g.  They never heard me steal  into the stairwell hall and climb  the ladder into the fresh night air. |
| Epic | A long narrative poem that traces the adventures of a hero. Epics intertwine myths, legends, and history reflecting the values of the societies in which they originate. |
| Euphony | A pleasant sounding or harmonious combination of words |
| Foot | Rhythmical pattern determined by the number and types of stresses or beats in each line. |
| Free verse | Poetry that lacks regular rhythmical pattern or meter. Writer can use any rhythm that best fits what he or she is saying. |
| Iamb | A metrical foot of two syllables, one short (or unstressed) and one long (or stressed). |
| Image | – a word or phrase in a literary text that appeals directly to the reader's taste, touch,  hearing, sight, or smell. |
| Imagery | Imagery is the descriptive or figurative language used in literature to create word pictures for the reader. These pictures, or images, are created by details of sight, sound, taste, touch, smell, or movement. |
| In medias tres | The literary and artistic narrative technique of relating the story from the midpoint, rather than from the beginning. Stories often open with a dramatic and intense rising action instead of expository entry. For an example, in Homer’s *Odyssey* it opens with a journey after a war won by Odysseas, whereas in the *Iliad* is a book filled with flashbacks relating to the war. |
| Lyric | having the form and musical quality of a song, and especially the character of a songlikeoutpouring of the poet's own thoughts and feelings, as distinguished from epic and dramatic poetry. |
| Measure | POETRY-an estimate of what is to be expected |
| Meter | a regular pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables that gives a line a poetry more or less predictable pattern |
| Octave | In music, an **octave** (Latin: *octavus*: eighth) or **perfect octave** is the interval between one musical pitch and another with half or double its frequency. |
| Ode | A long, formal lyric poem with a serious theme that may have a traditional stanza structure. An ode may be written for a private occasion or for a public ceremony. Odes often honor people, commemorate events, respond to natural scenes, or consider serious human problems |
| Pentameter | A line of verse consisting of five metrical units, called feet. |
| Persona | the person who is understood to be speaking (or thinking or writing) a particular work. |
| Quatrain | : A four line stanza |
| Refrain | A repeated line or group of lines in a poem or song. |
| Repetition | Restating an idea using the same words. |
| Rhyme | the repetition of the same stressed vowel sounds and any succeeding sounds in two or more words. For example, notation rhymes with vacation. End rhyme occurs at the ends of line of poetry. Internal rhyme occurs within a single line. Slant rhyme occurs when words include sounds that are similar but not identical. Slant rhyme typically involves some variation of consonance (the repetition of similar consonant sounds) or assonance (the repetition of similar vowel sounds). |
| End rhyme | Rhymes occurring at the ends of lines of poetry. |
| External rhyme | - The last two words of the poem that rhyme with each other. |
| Feminine rhyme | A rhyme that matches two or more syllables, usually at the end of respective lines, in which the final syllable or syllables are unstressed. It is also commonly known as a double rhyme. |
| Internal rhyme | A poetic device in which a word in the middle of a line rhymes with a word at the end of the same metrical line. |
| Masculine rhyme | Masculine Rhyme is when the rhyming words share their rhyming sound only in the last syllable and when that last syllable is stressed. An example of masculine rhyme would be hat and bat or stair and repair |
| Scansion | The analysis and visual representation of a poems metrical pattern |
| Sestet | A poem or stanza containing six lines |
| Sonnet | a lyric poem of 14 lines, usuay in iambic pentameter, with rhymes arranged  according to certain definite patterns. It usually expresses a single, complete  ideaor thought with a reversal, twist or change of direction in the concluding  lines. |
| English sonnet | Also known as a Shakespearean sonnet, the English sonnet is a sonnet which consists of three quatrains and a concluding couplet. |
| Italian sonnet | Fourteen lines are divided into two stanzas, the eight line octave and the six line sestet. The sestet usually responds to a question or situation posed by the octave. They rhyme scheme for the octave is typically “abbaabba” and “cdecde” for the sestet. |
| Stanza | A group of lines in a poem ,sometimes having a fixed meter of rhythm |
| Stress | The emphasis and loudness that mark one syllable as more pronounced than another |
| Trochee | Foot with one stressed syllable followed by unstressed syllable Ex: Broken. |
| Volta | A sudden change in thought, direction, or emotion near the conclusion of a sonnet. Usually followed by a couplet. |