

LITERARY TERMS

- **THEME:** the central message(s); the moral; the life lesson; the big idea
- **NARRATOR:** the voice telling the story
- **DIALOGUE:** discussion between or among characters, set apart by quotation marks and attributives.
- **CONFLICT:** problem; clash
- **VERBAL IRONY:** words are opposite of meaning
- **DRAMATIC IRONY:** audience knows something character doesn't
- **SETTING:** place, time, weather
- **FLASHBACK:** a return to a previous time during the story
- **PLOT:** the intentional staging of the events in the story that lead to a climax and resolution
- **FALLING ACTION:** the story begins to wind down; the unveiling
- **IRONY:** there is an opposite outcome to your expectation
- **MOOD:** the feeling of the story
- **POINT OF VIEW:** perspective of a character/story
- **DENOUEMENT:** the untying of the knots (problems) in the story.
- **DIRECT CHARACTER:** Directly described (painted with words) by the author.
- **3RD PERSON LTD POV:** narrator is not involved in the story, but does know all about 1 character
- **3RD PERSON OMN POV** narrator is not involved in the story and knows all about everybody
- **INDIRECT CHARACTER:** You must infer about their character based on their words & actions.
- **SITUATIONAL IRONY:** the opposite outcome of events in a story
- **CLIMAX:** the emotional peak of the story; the point of no return
- **EXPOSITION:** the background information; usually found in the beginning of the story, but not necessarily
- **INTERNAL CONFLICT:** Man vs self
- **FLAT CHARACTER:** has little development; built on stereotypes.
- **ROUND CHARACTER:** author takes the time to develop with thoughts/actions/descriptions/feelings/dialogue
- **FORESHADOWING:** a clue as to what is to come
- **RESOLUTION**
- **EXTERNAL CONFLICT:** man vs. man, man vs. nature man vs. world
- **1ST PERSON POV:** I tell the story that I am also in
- **IMAGERY:** concrete words that appeal to your 5 senses
- **DYNAMIC CHARACTER:** one that changes over the course of the story
- **STATIC CHARACTER:** one that shows no changes