

# Literary Terms

Terms	Definitions	Examples / Symbol
<b>Fiction</b>	A story that is made up or not true.	Wizard of Oz – characters/setting/events all made up
<b>Genre</b>	A group of books which share the same style, form, or content.	-Biography / -Autobiography -Short Stories -Fantasy -Science Fiction -Mysteries -Historical Fiction -Poetry
<b>Short Story</b>	-A short work of fiction. -Usually only 1-2 main characters / 1 main setting / 1 main theme. -Less developed characters. -Conflict is introduced and resolved quickly.	-“The Stone” -“Just Once”
<b>Novel</b>	-Longer fictional story that is usually more than 100pgs in length. -Complex plot / more characters / more settings / more themes than a short story.	-The Wizard of Oz -The Hunger Games
<b>Character</b>	-A person / animal / thing in a story	-Dorothy -Toto
<b>Protagonist</b>	-Main Character in a story. -Not always likeable.	-Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz -Harry in Harry Potter
<b>Antagonist</b>	-The “force” in a story who is against the main character. -Does not always have to be a person.	-The Wicked Witch -Nature against Brian in Hatchet
<b>Static Character</b>	-Stays the same from beginning to end. -Does not show growth or change during the story	-Wicked Witch -Glinda (The Good Witch) -Toto (The dog)
<b>Dynamic Character</b>	-Encounters conflict and learns an important lesson from it.	-Dorothy learns that there’s no place like home. Happiness is not a place, but a condition.
<b>Conflict</b>	-A problem or struggle between two opposing forces	-Fight -Altercation -Problem
<b>External Conflict</b>	-When the struggle is between a	-Man vs. Man (Dorothy vs. Witch)

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<b>Internal Conflict</b>	character and an outside force -When the struggle is with the character and himself.	-Person vs. Nature (Dorothy vs. Tornado) / (Brian vs. The woods) -Man vs. Society
<b>Setting</b>	-Where and when the story occurs.	-Man vs. Self (Struggle with fear / loneliness / self-esteem) -Ex. Dorothy vs. Fear of going into the forest -Wizard of Oz: Set in a made up land called OZ
<b>Theme</b>	-A life lesson that the character learns.	-Dorothy learns there is no place like home. Happiness is not a place, but a condition. -Need to know more feeling
<b>Suspense</b>	-The quality in a book or story that makes the reader keep reading.	
<b>Dialogue</b>	-When two or more characters speak.	-Conversation
<b>Plot</b>	-The sequence of events	
<b>Plot Diagram</b>	-Chart used to organize events in a fictional story.	
<b>Exposition</b>	-The story begins -Introduced to the characters / setting	
<b>Inciting Incident / Conflict</b>	-The reader is introduced to the conflict	
<b>Rising Action</b>	-Events that lead to the climax. -Tension and suspense are built.	
<b>Climax</b>	-The most exciting part of the story.	

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<b>Falling Action</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Turning point</li> <li>-Conflict reaches its highest point.</li> <li>-The conflict begins to resolve.</li> <li>-The problems are starting to be 'cleaned up.'</li> </ul>	
<b>Resolution</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-End of story.</li> <li>-Conflict is most likely resolved.</li> <li>-Not all stories have this.</li> </ul>	
<b>Point of View</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Refers to who is telling the story</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-First Person</li> <li>-Third Person</li> </ul>
<b>First Person</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-When the character is involved in and is telling the story.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Identified by the use of "I"</li> </ul>
<b>Third Person / Omniscient</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-When the narrator is not involved in the story.</li> <li>-He / She knows all thoughts and feelings of all characters.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Uses "He", "She", "They"</li> </ul>
<b>Tone</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The author's feelings about his or her writing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Joyful</li> <li>-Serious</li> <li>-Humorous</li> </ul>
<b>Mood</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-How the author feels after reading a selection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"The night was dark and stormy." —This gives you a scary mood (feeling)</li> <li>-Often appears at the beginning of a story or a chapter and helps the reader develop expectations about the coming events in a story.</li> </ul>
<b>Foreshadowing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Hints the author gives about what will happen later in the story</li> </ul>	
<b>Narrative</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Any piece of literature that tells a story.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Short Story</li> <li>-Narrative Poem</li> <li>-Biography</li> </ul>
<b>Narrator</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-The person telling the story.</li> <li>-Can be someone in the story or outside the story.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-First person: Character in the story telling what they see / hear / think.</li> <li>-Third person: Someone telling you about the characters in the story but is not involved.</li> </ul>