

1. **alliteration:** the repetition of consonant sounds at the beginning of words
2. **allusion:** A reference to something literary, mythological, or historical to enhance the meaning of an idea
3. **analogy:** Comparison of two similar but different things, used to clarify an action or a relationship. Ex: Shells were to ancient cultures as dollar bills are to modern American culture.
4. **anecdote:** A story or brief episode told by the writer or a character to illustrate a point.
5. **antithesis:** a figure of speech characterized by strongly contrasting words, clauses, sentences, or ideas; the direct opposite
6. **antonyms:** words that have opposite meanings
7. **archetype:** A recurring symbol, character, landscape, or event found in myth and literature across different cultures and eras (hero, journey to the underworld, creation, etc.)
8. **central idea:** the most important point the author tries to make
9. **characterization:** methods a writer uses to develop characters
10. **conflict:** opposition between or among characters or forces in a literary work that spurs or motivates the action of a plot (internal, external; person vs. person, self, nature, society)
11. **connotation:** the feelings or emotions surrounding/associated with a word, beyond its literal meaning. Generally positive or negative in nature.
12. **couplets:** two consecutive lines of poetry that rhyme
13. **denotation:** the dictionary definition of a word
14. **dialect:** A regional variety of a language distinguished by vocabulary, spelling, and pronunciation
15. **dialogue:** the lines spoken by characters in drama or fiction
16. **diction:** an author's choice of words, which combine to help create meaning and tone.
17. **direct characterization:** the author explains through direct statements what the character is like (kind, evil, etc.).
18. **dramatic irony:** a circumstance in which the audience or reader knows more about a situation than a character
19. **ethos:** an appeal based on the character/reputation/ credibility of the speaker.
20. **exaggeration:** an overstatement; the act of making something seem greater than it is
21. **figurative language:** Writing or speech that is used to create vivid impressions by setting up comparisons between dissimilar things, (examples are metaphor, simile, and personification).
22. **flashback:** a scene or event from the past that appears in a narrative out of chronological order, to fill in information or explain something in the present
23. **foil:** character that shows qualities that are in contrast with the qualities of another character with the objective to highlight the traits of the other character.
24. **foreshadowing:** an author's use of hints or clues to suggest events that will occur later in the story
25. **general:** a fact about the whole (as opposed to specific)
26. **hyperbole:** a figure of speech that uses exaggeration to express strong emotion, make a point, or evoke humor
27. **idiom:** a word or phrase which means something different from its literal meaning (ex. "actions speak louder than words" or "costs an arm and a leg")
28. **imagery:** words or phrases appealing to one or more of the five senses in order to create a mental picture
29. **indirect characterization:** the writer reveals information about a character and his personality through that character's thoughts, words, and actions
30. **inference:** a conclusion one can draw from the presented details
31. **irony:** The use of words to convey a meaning that is the opposite of its literal meaning.
32. **logos:** an appeal based on logic or reason
33. **metaphor:** a figure of speech comparing to unlike things without using like or as
34. **mood:** the overall emotion created by a work of literature
35. **motivation:** a character's incentive or reason for behaving in a certain manner; that which impels a character to act
36. **narrative:** writing that tells a story
37. **objective summary:** summary produced without bias or opinion using textual evidence
38. **onomatopoeia:** the use of words that imitate sounds
39. **oxymoron:** a figure of speech wherein the author groups two apparently contradictory terms. "jumbo shrimp" and "cruel kindness."
40. **paradox:** a statement or proposition that seems self-contradictory or absurd but in reality expresses a possible truth.
41. **parallel structure:** the repetition of words or phrases that have similar grammatical structures
42. **pathos:** appeal to emotion
43. **personification:** A figure of speech in which an object or animal is given human feelings, thoughts, or attitudes
44. **poetry:** A kind of rhythmic, compressed language that uses figures of speech and imagery designed to appeal to our emotions and imagination.
45. **point of view:** a mental position from which things are viewed; the perspective or angle from which a story is told; the position the author takes which makes his/her writing achieve its purpose. (objective, subjective, political, religious, environmental, young, etc..)
46. **pun:** a joke that results from multiple word meanings
47. **purpose:** is the author's reason for writing or speaking: to inform, to entertain, to persuade, to praise, to celebrate, to warn.

48. **refrain:** a regularly repeated line or group of lines in a poem or song
49. **repetition:** repeated use of sounds, words, or ideas for effect and emphasis
50. **rhetoric:** From the Greek for "orator," this term describes the principles governing the art of writing effectively, eloquently, and persuasively. (the art of persuasion)
51. **rhetorical question:** A question asked solely to pose an idea for consideration (not to be answered)
52. **rhyme scheme:** the pattern of rhyme in a poem
53. **setting:** The time and place of a story
54. **simile:** a figure of speech that expresses a resemblance between things of different kinds (usually formed with 'like' or 'as')
55. **situational irony:** events turn out the opposite of what was expected
56. **soliloquy:** a (usually long) dramatic speech given by a character alone on stage
57. **stanza:** a group of lines in a poem or song that constitute a division (in prose: paragraph)
58. **structure:** The way a story's events are assembled, or the form a poem or play takes
59. **synonyms:** words that have similar meanings
60. **syntax:** the grammatical arrangement of words in sentences; word order
61. **theme:** a central message or insight into life revealed through a literary work
62. **tone:** The attitude of the author toward the audience and characters (e.g., serious or humorous).
63. **understatement:** the opposite of hyperbole. It is a kind of irony that deliberately represents something as being much less than it really is. Ex. "I think I can manage to survive on a salary of 2 million a year".
64. **unreliable narrator:** a narrator whose account of events appears to be faulty, misleadingly biased, or otherwise distorted
65. **verbal irony:** A figure of speech in which what is said is the opposite of what is meant