Literary/Stylistic Devices



Terms	Definition / Explination		
short story	<ul> <li>is a relatively short <u>fictional</u> narrative that focuses on <u>one</u> event or character</li> <li>it is characterized by <u>unity</u> and <u>economy</u></li> <li>UNITY: is the sense that there is a single <u>plot</u> that focuses on one main</li> </ul>		
	<ul> <li>event and there is usually one central idea that the author wants to get across to the reader</li> <li>ECONOMY: is the sense that there are few <u>characters</u> in novels, they are <u>revealed</u>, not developed (words are not wasted, there is less description and, very often, only a brief</li> </ul>		
	introduction and conclusion)		
structure	<ul> <li>the basic structure of a short story consists of a series of related <u>events</u> or <u>incidents</u> that show the conflict of the main character</li> <li>the events of a short story usually lead to a <u>climax</u></li> </ul>		
setting	<ul> <li>refers to the <u>time</u>, <u>place</u> and <u>duration</u> of the story</li> <li>this is turn establishes the <u>atmosphere</u> and the <u>mood</u> of the story</li> <li>the author will present <u>specific details</u> and carefully select appropriate words in order to create an <u>atmosphere</u> and a <u>mood</u> in keeping with his purpose</li> </ul>		
mood	<ul> <li>is the general <u>feeling</u> the author creates through his story</li> <li>it is usually one of three: <u>humourous</u>, <u>suspenseful</u>, or <u>dramatic</u></li> <li>the reader senses the mood of the story through words, style and action</li> <li>the <u>emotional</u> atmosphere of a piece of writing (<i>e.g., romantic, scary, nervous,</i>)</li> </ul>		

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plot	<ul> <li>a plot line is a line on which the plot of the story is <u>traced out</u> and divided into certain sections</li> <li>the sequence of events in a story</li> <li>5 <u>parts</u> in a basic plot line: <ul> <li>a) exposition: introduces the main characters, setting (time, place, duration) point of view, mood</li> <li>b) conflict: main character is faced with conflict, this kicks off the rising action</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
	c) <b>rising action</b> : series of events from the exposition that lead up to the climax (inciting force and conflicts, suspense builds, it sets the story in action)		
	d) <b>climax</b> : the highest point of interest or action (the event in which changes things in the story)		
	d) <b>falling action</b> : events that wind down the story, ties up the loose ends		
	e) <b>resolution/denouement</b> : final outcome of the story, might give a moral or a final twist to the story		
conflict	a problem, not getting along 2 types:		
	a) inner (internal) conflict: describes the struggles <u>within</u> a character man VS. himself : conscience, a decision or a solution to a problem		
	b) outer (external) conflict: involves an <u>outside</u> force acting on the characters man VS. man man VS. nature man VS. supernatural man VS. animal		

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characterization	<ul> <li>and <u>family</u> backgrou</li> <li>static character:</li> <li>dynamic character:</li> <li>protagonist:</li> </ul>	and <u>behavioral</u> characteristics, <u>personality</u> traits ind a character who does NOT change throughout the story a character who CHANGES main character, often the hero of the story	
	• antagonist:	someone who opposes, deceives, frustrates the main character (could be a person, society, nature)	
theme	<ul> <li>the theme of the story refers to the <u>message</u> of the story</li> <li>it is the meaning or <u>point</u> of the story and often deals with universal issues and <u>human</u> experiences</li> <li>conveys a <u>general</u> sense of ideas or the specific sense of a <u>major</u> or <u>central</u> idea</li> <li>it gives a <u>total impact</u> and effect of a work upon readers</li> </ul>		