**Narrative Elements**

1. **PLOT** the sequence of events in a literary: character and conflict usually involved.

a. Exposition writing or speech that explains or informs. In a plot, it usually   
 introduces characters, setting, and provides background.

b. Rising Action series of events that builds from the conflict. It begins with the  
 initial conflict and ends with the climax.

c. Climax the high point of interest or suspense.

d. Falling Action the events after the climax which lead to the closing of the story.

e. Resolution events that occur during the falling action but resolve the  
 conflict.

2. **CHARACTER** a person or animal that takes part in the action.

a. Characterization the act of creating and developing a character.

b. Protagonist is the main character; normally the reader sympathizes with,   
 understands or at least learns from.

c. Antagonist is a character or force in conflict with the protagonist.

How do we learn about a character?

1. What a character says
2. What a character does
3. What others and the narrator say about them

3. **CONFLICT** a struggle between opposing forces; the problem

a. Internal conflict a struggle that an individual has within his or herself. Usually  
 faced with a difficult decision. Not physically visible to others.  
  
 **MAN VS. SELF**

b. External conflict a struggle between a person or animal and another force.  
  
 **MAN vs. MAN**  
 **MAN vs. NATURE**  
 **MAN vs. SOCIETY**  
 **MAN vs. TECHNOLOGY**  
 **MAN vs. THE SUPERNATURAL**

4. **THEME** the central message, concern, or insight into life.

5. **SETTING** the when and where OR time and place and environment of  
 the story.

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6. **TONE** is the attitude toward the subject and audience conveyed by the  
 language and rhythm of the speaker; word choice.

7. **MOOD** the feeling created inside the reader by the literary work; how  
 the story makes you feel.

8. **POINT OF VIEW** the perspective or vantage point from which a story is told.

a. 1st Person story is narrated by the main character; told in “I” format.

b. 3rd Person story is told by the narrator who is not a character in the story

9. **FORESHADOWING** the use of clues within a literary work to suggest events that  
 have yet to occur.