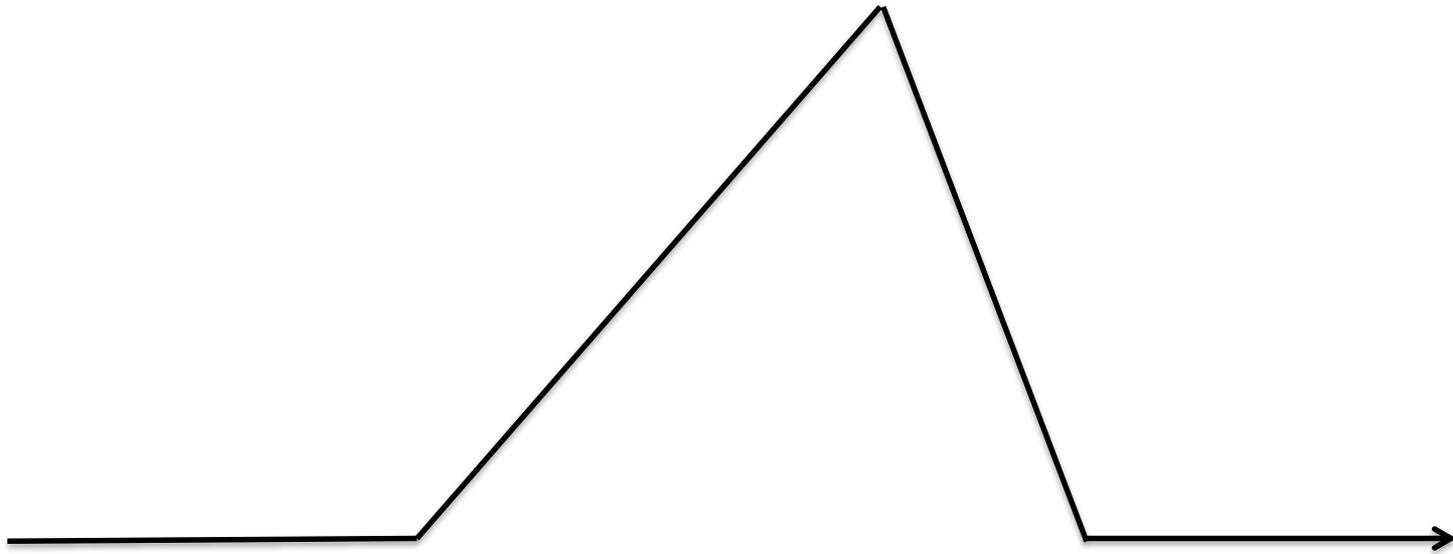


Rhetorical Devices: Terms & Examples

9th Grade ELA

Elements of Fiction



Characterization

Direct Characterization

Definition:

- Directly states the characteristic traits of the main characters
- This can be done by another character, narrator, or the protagonist himself

Indirect Characterization

Definition:

- Indirectly shows the characteristic traits of the main characters
- Can be done through his/her thoughts, behavior, speech, way of talking, appearance, and way of communication with others

Types of Characters

Round Character

Definition:

- Character that has depth in his/her feelings and passions, like real people
- Character that the audience can relate to and believe in
- Purpose- to make the text believable and effective

Flat Character

Definition:

- Character w/o any emotional depths
- Character is referred to as one or two dimensional, usually having one perspective or POV about life
- The audience will have little or no relation with this character

Types of Characters

Dynamic Character

Definition:

- Character that changes his/her characteristic traits over the course of the text due to several conflicts he/she encounters
- He/she develops and grows

Static Character

Definition:

- Character that does not undergo inner changes
- Characteristic traits do not grow or change

Types of Conflict

-Character vs. Self

-Character vs. Character

-Character vs. Society

-Character vs. Nature

-Character vs. Fate

Point of View

1st Person POV

Definition:

- Narrator writes from the “**I/we**” perspective
- He/she expresses about his/her **life, opinions, feelings, etc.**
- **Biggest clue-** 1st person pronouns are used such as **I, me, my, mine, etc.**

2nd Person POV

Definition:

- Narrator writes from the “**you**” perspective
- **Biggest clue-** 2nd person pronouns are used such as **you, your, yours, yourself, etc.**
- **NEVER** used in formal/professional writing!

3rd Person Point of View:

3rd Person Limited

Definition:

- Narrator can only convey the **thoughts** and **feelings** of **one** specific character
- Some writers prefer to write in limited **b/c** they want their readers to go on a journey alongside their protagonist, and not just on the outside looking in

3rd Person Omniscient

Definition:

- Narrator is aware of **all information** there is to know about the story's events, characters, setting, etc.
- With this technique, the writer is capable of **staging opportunities** for **dramatic irony**

Figurative Language

Metaphor

Definition:

- To make an **implicit, implied, or hidden comparison** b/w two things that are unrelated but share some common characteristics
- **No “like” or “as”**

Simile

Definition:

- To make a **comparison**, showing similarities between two different things
- **Uses “like”, “as”, or similar words**

Figurative Language

Personification

Definition:

- An idea or animal is given human attributes and characteristics

Example(s):

- The flowers danced in the gentle breeze.
- The fire swallowed the entire forest.

Foreshadowing

Definition:

- Hints or clues of what is to come later in the story
- Forms- dialogue, events, actions of characters, title, etc.

Figurative Language

Symbolism

Definition:

- Use of symbols to signify ideas and qualities by giving them symbolic meanings that are different from their literal meaning
- Can have different forms: object, action, event, idea, etc.

Example(s):

Smile = friendship

Owl = intelligence

Theme

Definition:

- The overall message or the lesson(s) the author wishes the reader to learn
- Can be expressed through the feelings, thoughts, conversations, and/or experiences of different characters

Figurative Language

Hyperbole

Definition:

- Involves an **exaggeration** of ideas for the sake of emphasis.
- It does make a comparison but unlike simile and metaphor, hyperbole has a **humorous effect created by an overstatement.**

Example(s):

- My grandmother is as old as the hills.
- Your suitcase weighs a ton!

Allusion

Definition:

- Brief reference to a person, place, thing, or idea of historical, cultural, literary, religious, or political significance.
- May have qualities of a simile or metaphor, but it does not describe the person or thing to which it refers to

Example:

Don't act like a Romeo in front of her.

Irony- 3 Types

1. Situational Irony

Definition: **When what actually happens is the opposite of what is expected**

Example:

Bill Gates uses an Apple computer.

2. Dramatic Irony

Definition: **When the reader understands more about the events of a story than a character**

Review of Irony

Something that is **ironic** is unexpected.

- If unexpected by a **character**, it's **dramatic**.
- If unexpected by **everyone**, it's **situational**.