

ENGLISH 12

TERMS AND DEVICES

A

active voice
allegory
alliteration
allusion
analogy
antagonist
anti-climax
antithesis
apostrophe
argumentative essay
anecdotal evidence
archaic language
aside
assonance
atmosphere
audience
autobiography

B

ballad
ballad stanza
bias
biography
blank verse

C

cacophony
caricature
case study
catastrophe
cause and effect
character
characterization
character foil
chorus
chronological order
cliché
climactic order
climax
colloquialism
colloquial language

comedy
comic relief
compare and contrast
comparison
conflict
connotation
consonance*
contrast
couplet

D

denotation
dénouement
descriptive essay
dialect
dialogue
diary
diction
didactic
dilemma
direct presentation
dissonance
drama
dramatic irony
dramatic monologue
dramatic form
dynamic character

E

editorial
elegy
emotional appeal
epic
epilogue
epiphany
epigram
epitaph
euphemism
euphony
expert testimony
exposition
expository essay

extended metaphor
external conflict

F

fable
falling action
fantasy
farce
figurative language
first person point of view
flashback
flat character
foil
foreshadowing
form
formal essay
formal language
frame story
free verse

G

genre
graphic text

H

hero
historical reference
hyperbole

I

iambic pentameter
idiom
image
imagery
indeterminate ending
indirect presentation
informal essay
informal language
interior monologue
internal conflict
internal rhyme
irony

* *consonance is defined in two ways:*

1) the repetition of consonant sounds before and after differing vowels, such as “flip-flop,” “feel-fill.”

OR

2) the repetition of consonant sounds at the ends of words only, as in “east-west,” or “hid-bed.”

Literary Terms: A Dictionary 3rd ed. (Karl Beckson, Arthur Ganz, 1989)

J

jargon
juxtaposition

L

legend
limited omniscient
point of view
literal language
lyric

M

melodrama
metaphor
metre
monologue
mood
mystery
myth

N

narrative
narration
narrator

O

objective (language tone etc.)
objective point of view
octave
ode
omniscient point of view
onomatopoeia
oxymoron

P

paradox
parallelism
parody

passive voice
pastoral
pathos
personal essay
personification
persuasive essay
persuasive technique
plot
point of view
pro and con argument
prologue
propaganda
protagonist
proverb
purpose
pun

Q

quatrain
question and answer

R

refrain
repetition
research
resolution
rhetorical question
rhyme
rhyme scheme
rhythm
rising action
round character

S

sarcasm
satire
sestet

setting
simile
slang
soliloquy
sonnet
speaker
stanza
stream of consciousness
statistical evidence
static character
stereotype
stock / stereotyped character
story within a story
style
stylistic technique
subjective (language tone etc.)
surprise ending
suspense
symbol
symbolism

T

theme
thesis
thesis statement
third person point of view
tone
tragedy

U

understatement

V

voice

W

wit