

## Literary Devices & Terms

### “The Basics”

Characters  
Imagery  
Plot  
Point of View  
Setting  
Symbolism  
Theme

### Terms for Interpreting Authorial Voice

Tone/Voice  
Mood  
Irony  
Stream of Consciousness  
Satire  
**Style/Structure**  
Exposition  
**Paradox**

### Terms for Interpreting Narrative Voice

Point of View  
Persona/Speaker  
Dialogue  
Dialect  
Tone  
**Reliability of Narrator**

### Terms for Interpreting Characters

Protagonist  
Antagonist  
**Characterization**  
**Anti-Hero**  
Caricature  
**Archetype**  
Dialogue/Dialect  
**Hubris**

### Terms for Interpreting Plot

Conflict (4 staple conflicts)  
Climax  
**Denouement**  
*Deus ex machina*  
**Chronology (i.e.,  
Flashback/Flashforward)**  
Foreshadowing  
Exposition

### Terms for Interpreting Layers of Meaning (Figurative Language)

Alliteration  
**Allegory**  
Assonance  
**Didacticism**  
Euphemism  
Metonymy  
**Catharsis**  
Metaphor/Simile  
Denotation vs. Connotation  
**Personification**  
Hyperbole  
Malapropism  
**Synecdoche**  
Aesthetics (the nature of beauty in art)  
Allusion  
**Motif**  
**Extended Metaphor**  
Parody  
**Determinism**

## **(Some) Literary Subgenres and/or Movements**

Realism/**Social Realism**

Modernism

Naturalism

Post-Modernism

Surrealism

**Historical Fiction**

Post-Apocalyptic

Dystopian Fiction

Black Comedy

**Social Darwinism**

**Polemic**

## **(Some)Types of Fiction**

Short Story

Novel

Novella

Picaresque Novel

*Bildungsroman*

Epistolary Novel

Regional Novel

Gothic Novel

Flash Fiction