**STORY TERMS**

**Allusion** – a reference to a person or event from history or literature, e.g., “He was a real Romeo”

**\*Antagonist** – the major character in a narrative or drama that works against the hero or protagonist

**Atmosphere** – the overall feeling we get from the story from words and images used to describe the setting, e.g., cheerful, anxious, menacing.

**Character** – is a person in the story

**Character Sketch** – a brief description of a character that shows attitudes, feelings, thoughts, and personality. It also describes if a person changes in the story.

**Conflict** – a struggle between opposing forces; conflict may be described as:

*internal* – a struggle inside a person;

*external* – a struggle against the environment/nature or society, or struggle against another person(interpersonal)

**Conflicts may also be described as:**

*main* – the central conflict that moves the plot forward;

*minor* – secondary conflict that does not influence the plot a great deal

**Dialogue** – the actual words that characters speak

**Flashback** –presenting something that happened before the story that helps explain the current situation.

**Foreshadowing** – provides clues about events that may happen later in the story.

**Irony** – can be defined as:

*Verbal Irony* – when what a character says and thinks he or she means is actually different from what the audience perceives is meant;

*Situational Irony* – when there is a difference between what is expected to happen and what actually does happen;

**Narrator** – the speaker who tells the story

**Plot** – the author’s arrangement of events that make up the action of a story; includes:

* *Exposition* – background material about the characters, setting, and situation
* *Conflict* – any obstacle/problem that increases the tension of the story;
* *Rising action* – a series of events in the story that builds the suspense
* *Climax* – the moment when the action comes to its highest point of conflict
* *Resolution* –pulls together all the loose threads of the story

Climax

Rising Action Falling action

Conflict

Exposition Resolution

**Point of view** – the perspective from which the story is told. Includes:

*First person* (eg. I) – the narrator participates in the action of the story*;*

*Third person* (eg. he, she, Mary, Mr. Tucker, *etc*.) – the narrator does not participate in the action of the story; may be classified as*:*

1) Omniscient – the narrator presents the thoughts of more than one of the characters;

2)Limited– the narrator presents only his or her own thoughts which is only one side of the story

**\*Protagonist** – the main character in a story

**Setting** –time, place and circumstances of a story

**Suspense** –how the author keeps the reader interested and wondering what will happen next

**Theme** – the story’s main message or statement