Short Story Terms

To be used with worksheet

What is a short story?

a story with a fully developed theme but significantly shorter and less elaborate than a novel.



Personification

the attribution of a personal nature or human characteristics to something nonhuman, or the representation of an abstract quality in human form.



Symbol

an object or name that stands for something else, especially a material thing that stands for something that is not material.





Flashback

a transition in a story to an earlier time, that interrupts the normal chronological order of events.

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Allegory

a story, poem, or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral or political one.

Foreshadowing

a literary device in which a writer gives an advance hint of what is to come later in the story.

Example

A character in a story comments on the weather, and says, "I think a storm is coming." This can signify a physical storm or a metaphorical storm that is coming in the story.



Conflict

any struggle between opposing forces

→ Internal

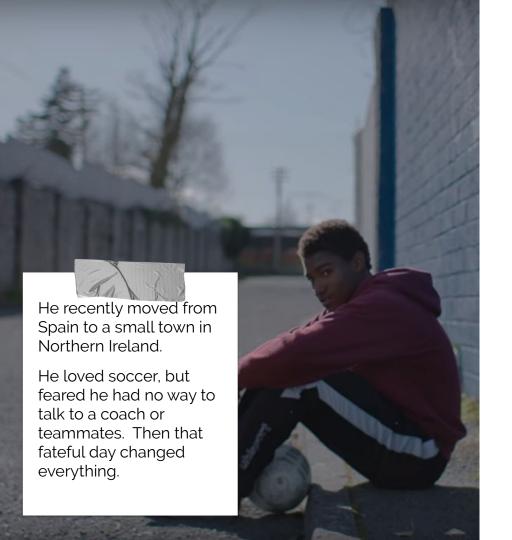
Man vs. self

→ External

Man vs. man

Man vs. nature

Man vs. society



Suspense

is the sense of anticipation or worry that the author makes the reader feel.

Setting

the time and place in which the story takes place.

Protagonist

the main character in any story







Point of View

the angle of considering things, which shows us the opinion, or feelings of the individuals involved in a situation.

- → First person- a character narrates the story with *I-me-my-mine* in his or her speech
- → Third person limited- the reader enters only one character's mind
- → Third person omniscient-the thoughts of every character are open to the reader



Character

any person, animal, or figure represented in a literary work.

Plot

the events that make up a story or the main part of a story.

Exposition

A literary device used to introduce background information about events, settings, characters etc. to the audience or readers

Rising Action

a series of events build toward the point of greatest interest

Climax

a decisive moment that is of maximum intensity or is a major turning point in a plot.



the part of a literary plot that occurs after the climax has been reached and the conflict has been resolved.

Resolution (Denouement)

The part of a story's plot line in which the problem of the story is resolved or worked out. This occurs after the falling action and is typically where the story ends.





Irony

a figure of speech in which words are used in such a way that their intended meaning is different from the actual meaning of the words. It may also be a situation that ends up in quite a different way than what is generally anticipated.

- → Verbal
- → Situational

 Fire station is on fire
- → Dramatic Only the audience knows.