

LITERARY
TERMS

1. adage
2. aesthetics
3. allegory
4. alliteration
5. allusion
6. anachronism
7. anagnorisis
- 7b. anagram
8. anapestic
9. anaphora
10. antagonist
11. anticlimax
12. antistrophe
13. antithesis
14. aphorism
15. apostrophe
16. archetypal hero
17. archetype
18. aside
19. assonance
20. atmosphere
21. ballad
22. bard
23. bathos
24. biblical free verse
25. blank verse
26. bombastic
27. bowdlerize
28. cacophony
29. cadence
30. caesura
- 30b. canon
31. caricature
32. carpe diem
33. catastrophe
34. catharsis
35. climax
36. colloquialism
37. comedy
38. comedy of manners
39. comic relief
40. complex sentence
41. compound sentence
42. compound-complex sentence
43. conceit
44. conflict
45. connotation
46. consonance
47. couplet
48. crisis
49. dactylic foot
50. denotation
51. denouement
52. dependent clause
53. determinism
54. deus ex machina
55. diction
56. didactic
57. dirge
58. disunity
59. doggerel
60. double entendre
61. dramatic monologue
- 61b. editorial omniscience
62. euphony
63. elegy
64. embedded stories
65. empathy
66. end-stopped lines
67. English sonnet
68. enjambment
69. enthymeme
70. epic
71. epigram/epigraph
72. epiphany
73. epithet
74. ethos
75. euphemism
- 75b. Euphony
76. existentialism
77. explicit meaning
78. exposition
79. expressionism
80. fable
81. falling action
82. farce
83. feminine rhyme
84. foil
85. foreshadowing
86. frame
87. free verse
88. genre
89. gothic novel
90. hamartia
91. heroic couplet
- 91b. historical criticism
92. homily
93. hubris
94. hymn
95. hyperbole
96. iambic
97. idiom
98. imagery
99. imagist
100. implicit meaning
101. implied author
102. implied reader
103. in medias res
104. independent clause
105. internal rhyme
106. intertextual
107. invective
108. irony
-verbal,
situational,
dramatic,
cosmic,
attitudinal
109. Italian sonnet
110. juxtapose (juxtaposition)
111. lampoon
112. literary canon
113. litote
114. logos
115. loose sentence
116. lyric poetry
117. malapropism
118. masculine rhyme
119. masque
120. meiosis (not science)
121. melodrama
122. metaphor
123. metaphysical conceit
124. metonymy
125. metrics
126. miracle and morality
plays
127. mixed metaphor
128. mock heroic
129. modernism
130. mood
131. moral center
132. motif
133. motivation
134. narrative pace
135. naturalism
136. neoclassicism
- 136b. new criticism
137. non-sequitur
138. nonce form
139. octave
140. ode
141. omniscient point of view
142. onomatopoeia
143. oversoul
144. overstatement
145. oxymoron
146. paean
147. parable
148. paradox
149. parallel
150. parody
151. paraphrase
152. pastoral
153. pathos
154. perepiteia
155. personification
156. picaresque novel
157. plagiarism
158. plot vs. story
159. poetic conventions
160. poetic license
161. poetry
162. point of view
163. private symbol
164. propaganda
165. prose
166. prosody
167. protagonist
168. public symbol
169. pun
170. quatrain
171. realism
172. referential meaning
173. resolution
174. reversal

175. rhetorical question
176. rhyme (end, near, off, slant, etc.)
177. rhyme royal
178. rhyme scheme
179. rising action
180. romanticism
181. satire
182. scansion
183. scenic narration
184. second person pov
185. sestet
186. sestina
187. setting
188. simile
189. simple sentence
190. slant rhyme
191. soliloquy
192. sonnet
193. Spenserian stanza
194. spondee
195. stasimon
196. stereotype
197. stichomythia
198. stream of consciousness
199. subtext
200. summary narration
201. syllogism
202. symbol/ symbolism
203. sympathy
204. symptomatic meaning
205. synecdoche
206. synesthesia
207. syntax
208. tercet
209. terza rima
210. text
211. theatre of the absurd
212. theme
213. tone
214. tragedy
215. tragic flaw
216. transcendentalism
217. travesty
218. trochiac
219. trope
220. understatement
221. unity/ unities
222. universal symbol
223. verisimilitude
224. villanelle
225. zeugma

