

## Literary Elements

**Allusion:** a reference to another literary text or work.

**Character:** any person, animal, or thing represented in a literary work.

**Citation/Evidence:** evidence includes paraphrased details and direct quotations (called citations) from the text.

**Conflict:** a struggle between two opposing forces, usually a protagonist (hero) and an antagonist (villain).

**Dialogue:** characters' internal or external words and conversations.

**Figurative Language:** similes, metaphors, symbols, and personification.

**Foreshadowing:** an advance hint of what will happen in the future.

**Metaphor:** comparing without using *like* or *as*.

**Personification:** when an inanimate object takes on human characteristics.

**Plot:** important events that make up the story, including: problem, rising action, climax, resolution/falling action, and conclusion.

**Setting:** place and time where a story is set, including: historical periods, social statuses, and other contexts.

**Simile:** comparing using *like* or *as*.

**Summary:** includes the setting, main characters, major events. Do not include minor characters, minor events, or your opinions.

**Symbol:** a thing that represents something else. Usually, something concrete symbolizes something abstract.

**Theme:** is a main idea or lesson in a story.

**Tone:** the writer's attitude or feeling toward the subject matter. For example, if a writer compares a character to a lost little lamb, the tone is sympathetic. Look for adjectives.