

Short Stories

Elements of Short Stories

- **Conflict-** struggle between opposing forces
 - **Internal-** takes place in the mind of the character
 - **External-** character struggles with an outside force or another person
- **Plot-** sequence of events in a story
 - **Subplot-** secondary story line that adds depth to the main plot
 - **Exposition-** introduces the setting and characters
 - **Rising Action-** introduces the conflict or problem
 - **Climax-** turning point of the story
 - **Falling Action-** part of the story where the conflict lessens
 - **Resolution-** the story's conclusion

Elements of Short Stories

- **Setting-** time and place of the action in a story
- **Characters-** people or animals that take part in the action
 - **Character traits-** qualities, attitudes, and values that a character possesses; such as dependability or intelligence.
 - **Character motives-** reasons for a character's actions. Motivation can be internal (loneliness, jealous) or external (danger, poverty)

Elements of Short Stories

- **Theme-** central message expressed in a story
 - **Stated theme-** expressed directly by the author.
 - **Implied theme-** suggested indirectly through what happens to the characters.
 - **Universal theme-** message about life that is expressed regularly in many different cultures and time periods.

Literary Devices

- **Literary device-** tools that writers use to enhance their writing.
- **Point of View-** perspective from which the story is told.
 - **First Person-** perspective of the character
 - **Third Person-** perspective of the narrator outside of the story.
 - **Omniscient-** knows **everything** that happens, and reveals what each character thinks and feels.
 - **Limited-** reveals thoughts and feelings of one character.