

pat·ro·nym·ic

ˌpatrəˈnɪmɪk/

noun

1. 1.
2. a name derived from the name of a father or ancestor, typically by the addition of a prefix or suffix, e.g., *Johnson*, *O'Brien*, *Ivanovich*.

adjective

1. 1.
2. denoting or relating to a name derived from the name of a father or male ancestor.
3. "the patronymic naming of children"

pro·tag·o·nist

prōˈtægənəst,prəˈtægənəst/

noun

1. the leading character or one of the major characters in a drama, movie, novel, or other fictional text.
 - the main figure or one of the most prominent figures in a real situation.

TERMS

allusion	short reference to something or someone outside the text
ambiguity	unclear meaning or uncertainty of intention
anagnorisis	recognition of some hidden truth
anaphora	repetition of a word or phrase at the start of a series of clauses
annotate	to make notes that comment upon a literary work
antonym	a word that means the opposite of another word
aside	words spoken by one character that other characters don't hear

backstory	background that is important to understanding the events of a story
bier	a stand or frame for a corpse and/or coffin to rest on
blank verse	unrhymed iambic pentameter
catharsis	a moment of spiritual and emotional release
characters	the people in the story or drama
Chorus	a group of men who take the role of an anonymous crowd and typically represent the opinions of the general populace
climax	final confrontation or key moment that concludes the rising action
close-reading	the careful analysis of a text
comedy	play in which problems are resolved in a happy or satisfying way
connotation	an implied meaning
context	sentences or phrases before and after a word that help determine meaning
demonstrative pronoun	pronoun that points to and identifies a noun or another pronoun
denotative meaning	the literal, or dictionary, definition of a word
Dionysia	annual religious festival honoring the Greek god of the harvest
dramatic action	the events of a drama
dramatic irony	a contrast in expectations between what is intended and what is accomplished
dynamic character	one who grows and changes, causing events to happen
epic poem	lengthy, episodic narrative poem that recounts heroic deeds

epithet	an adjective or descriptive phrase expressing a quality characteristic of the person or thing mentioned. Ex: Catherine the Great, Richard the Lionheart, The Delian Healer
episode	the part of a Greek drama that involves the interaction of actors
ethical	relating to the rules for appropriate or moral conduct or action
etymology	the history of a word's meaning including its origin
exodus	the choral ode sung as the chorus exits
falling action	the action that follows the climax and prepares us for the resolution
fate	destiny
First Episode	the section in Greek drama that follows the Parados
First Stasimon	the choral ode which follows the first episode
foil	secondary character who serves as a contrast to a main character
foreshadow	a subtle suggestion about what is going to happen
general vocabulary	words that are used in everyday communication
genre	a particular type of art; country music, romantic movie, comedic play
groundlings	audience members who paid a penny to stand in the courtyard of public theatres to watch performances
hamartia	a character's tragic flaw or fatal error
hubris	excessive pride
iambic pentameter	form of poetry with ten syllables per line in an unstressed/stressed pattern
imagery	words that appeal to the senses

indefinite pronoun	pronoun that takes the place of an unspecified person or thing to show the idea of all, any, none, or some
infer	to derive from evidence
intensive pronoun	pronoun used to emphasize its antecedent (noun its taking the place of)
interrogative pronoun	pronoun used to ask questions
irony	contrast between what a character and the audience knows; contrast between an expected outcome and what really happens
juxtaposition	literary device placing one person, idea, or action next to another to highlight the differences or create suspense
media	communication designed to reach a wide audience; television, radio, newspapers, etc...
medium	a means of communication; the way in which media is sent out to people
metaphor	a direct comparison made without like or as
meter	a poem's rhythm; affected by syllable count, the pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables, and rhyme scheme
monologue	long speech by one character in the presence of others
motif	a recurring set of images that points to a larger theme
motivation	what drives a character to act in certain ways
myth	traditional story about legendary heroes and supernatural beings
narrative poem	poem that tells a story (can be long or short)
nominative pronoun	personal pronoun that acts as the subject of a clause or sentence
objective pronoun	personal pronoun that is acted upon in a phrase, clause, or sentence
oracle	a prophecy or a place that gives prophecy

oxymoron	apparently contradictory terms
pacing	the rate at which the play's action moves, based on the timing of events
Parados	the choral ode that follows the Prologue
paradox	phrase or paragraph describing a contradiction
part of speech	the function of a word in a sentence; noun, verb, adjective, adverb
pathos	suffering
pat-ro-nym-ic	denoting or relating to a name derived from the name of a father or male ancestor.
peripeteia	reversal of fortune
personification	describing inanimate objects using human characteristics
polygonal	here, referring to a multi-sided theatre, with the audience surrounding the stage from all sides; common during the Elizabethan era
possessive pronoun	personal pronoun used to show ownership
poulter's measure	type of poetic verse featuring rhyming couplets of alternating 12-syllable and 14-syllable lines
predestination	fate; the idea that each person's destiny is determined beforehand and unavoidable
prefix	a word part that attaches to the beginning of a root word and modifies its meaning
prologue	narrative device with ancient Greek origins; story opening that gives setting and background details
pronoun-antecedent	a combination of a pronoun and the person or thing it is taking the place of; the person or thing should come before the pronoun, making it the antecedent
prose	ordinary speech with no set syllable count and no rhyme

protagonist	the main character whose decisions push the story forward
pun	humorous play on words
reflexive pronoun	pronoun used to point back to the subject of a clause or sentence for emphasis
relative pronoun	pronoun used to link phrases or clauses
Renaissance	literally translates as "rebirth"; refers to a period of great cultural change and renewal with origins in Italy
revision	reading over and rewriting a piece of work to make the arguments stronger, the grammar more correct, and the writing more interesting
rising action	the series of conflicts and complications that lead to a plot's climax
root word	the core word before prefixes and suffixes are added
simile	an indirect comparison between two things using "like" or "as"
soliloquy	long speech by one character alone onstage
sonnet	14-line poetic form featuring a defined structure and strict rhyme scheme
specialized vocabulary	words and phrases that are content, subject, or topic specific; not used in everyday communication
static character	one who doesn't change and acts as expected
stichomythia	a technique with ancient Greek origins, where characters speak in single alternating lines, giving the dialogue a rapid rhythm
subplot	secondary plot that may reveal more about characters or contrast with the main plot
suffix	a word part that attaches to the end of a root word and modifies its meaning
summary	a shortened version of events

suspense	anxiety over what is going to happen
symbol	something that represents or stands for something else
synonym	a word that means the same or something similar to another word
tension	the build-up of conflict and suspense
theme	the central message, or insight, conveyed through a work of art
thesis	a sentence that sets out an essay's objective
tiring house	multi-story structure found in Elizabethan theatres, containing prop and dressing rooms, a musicians' gallery, a balcony, and more
tragedy	play in which the noble main character suffers and is brought low
tragic flaw	an error or weakness that causes the protagonist's downfall
trait	a characteristic or quality of a person or thing