

affix	an additional element (such as a prefix or suffix) placed at the beginning, middle, or end of a root, stem, or word to modify its meaning
allegory	in literature, the use of characters, actions, objects, settings, or events to represent ideas and generalities
allusion	in literature or art, a reference in a work to something outside of the work
analogy	a relationship between things or words determined by a comparison based on similar qualities or resemblances
analyze	to carefully examine a text, subject, or event in order to fully understand and appreciate it
anthropomorphic	described or thought of as having a human form or human attributes; giving human characteristics to nonhuman things
antonym	a word that means the opposite of another word
archaic	having the characteristics of language of the past and surviving chiefly in specialized uses
artistic medium	the material or form used by an artist
central idea	in literature, the main focus or aim of a book or story
character development	how characters change throughout a story
character flaw	limitation of or weakness in a character, which often leads to failure or downfall
character motivation	the reasons or feelings that drive a character to act in a certain way
characterization	in literature, the way an author presents and develops characters
classic literature	literature that crosses geographical, time, and cultural boundaries to hold a special place for the

	world's readers
clause	a group of words that has a subject and its predicate
communism	political and economic system with a central authority that controls production, all resources owned by the state, and economic goods equally distributed to all individuals who have no private ownership of land or property
complex character	in literature, a fully developed character who displays a range qualities
conflict	a struggle that occurs in a story (can be struggle between characters; struggle between a character and an external force; struggle within a character)
conflicting motivation	the needs of a character colliding, often as a result of internal conflict or a struggle with external forces
connotation	what a word suggests beyond its dictionary, or literal, meaning
connotative meaning	the meaning implied or suggested by a word, rather than its literal, dictionary meaning
context	the words that surround a word or passage and clarify its meaning
cultural experience	the many aspects and influences of life in a particular culture, including but not limited to art, food, dress, and customs
essay	a nonfiction work about a particular topic
etymology	origin of a word determined by its transmission between languages and the analysis of each word part or component
euphemism	an acceptable or inoffensive word or expression used instead of one that might be offensive or unpleasant
explicit	directly stated; fully revealed; clearly expressed

external conflict	in literature, struggle between characters or between a character and an outside force
fable	a fictional story in which animals talk and act like humans, which intends to reveal the truth about the circumstance the story represents
figurative language	language not intended to be interpreted literally, such as metaphor (comparison of a thing to something unlike it) and irony (a device that usually expresses a difference between the appearance of things and reality)
figurative meaning	implied meaning of a word or phrase based on the image it creates in readers' minds
foreshadowing	hint or indication of something that will occur later in the story
free verse	poetry that does not have a regular rhyme scheme
genre	a category of literature, music, or art that has a specific form or style
historical context	the conditions of a place at a particular time
homonym	a word that sounds the same as another word and has the same or similar spelling but has a different meaning
implicit	not directly stated; understood from something else that is expressed
inference	a conclusion based on information that's directly or indirectly stated in a text
inferred meaning	a definition arrived at from using context clues or other strategies
intelligentsia	educated intellectuals who lead (and perhaps control) others who are less educated
internal conflict	in literature, a struggle a character faces within himself or herself
interpretation	the act of explaining the significance of something in a work of literature

literary nonfiction	a genre of writing that uses literary styles and techniques to create nonfiction
metaphor	a figure of speech or type of figurative language that directly compares two unlike things, without using the words <i>like</i> or <i>as</i>
motive	in literature, the reason a character does or says something
multiple meaning words	words that mean more than one thing
nonfiction	writing that presents information about real people, places, or events
nuance	a subtle distinction or variation; a slight difference
oxymoron	contradictory words combined in a descriptive phrase
pacing	the speed at which a story is told
parallel structure	in grammar, expressing similar or related ideas in the same grammatical pattern
personification	attributing human characteristics to inanimate objects
phrase	a group of words without a subject or verb
plot	the sequence of events in a literary work
point of view	the viewpoint or perspective from which a story is told
proletariat	industrial workers who do not own the means of production, do not profit from the sale of goods, and earn only labor wages
purpose	in literature, why a book is written; what the author wants to accomplish
representation	in literature or visual art, the way a subject is presented; a particular style or point of view
rhetoric	the art of using language effectively and persuasively

<p>rhetorical question</p>	<p>a question that's asked to produce an effect or to make a point, not to elicit a reply</p>
<p>root</p>	<p>a word or word element from which other words are formed, usually by the addition of prefixes and suffixes</p>
<p>satire</p>	<p>literary work intended to scorn or ridicule immoral and foolish human behavior by using ironic humor</p>
<p>setting</p>	<p>the time and place in which a story takes place</p>
<p>simile</p>	<p>a comparison between two unlike things or ideas, using the words like or as</p>
<p>socialism</p>	<p>an economic system based on all individuals given the same means to develop skills used to contribute to labor; individual wealth based on what each person contributes in labor</p>
<p>sound devices</p>	<p>in poetry, techniques such as rhythm, rhyme, and alliteration, that have the effect of making language similar to music</p>
<p>strategies</p>	<p>approaches to understanding words, including examining context, looking at word parts, and consulting reference materials</p>
<p>structure</p>	<p>in poetry, how a poem is grouped into words, single lines, and stanzas (groups of lines)</p>
<p>style</p>	<p>the way in which something is written or spoken</p>
<p>summary</p>	<p>a brief restatement of the central idea and the most important details in a text</p>
<p>symbol</p>	<p>a person, place, thing, or event that represents something else</p>
<p>synonym</p>	<p>a word that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word</p>
<p>textual evidence</p>	<p>words in a text that support an analysis of its meaning, both explicit and implied</p>
<p>theme</p>	<p>the central message in a work of literature</p>

thesaurus	a reference book similar to a dictionary, with lists of word synonyms and antonyms rather than definitions
thesis	central idea of an essay
thesis statement	the sentence in an essay that presents the main point of your writing or the argument you are trying to defend
third-person point of view	telling a story through a narrator that speaks for all the characters and knows what they think and feel
timbre	quality and resonance of sound
tone	an author's attitude toward the subject, characters, or readers of a literary work