

VOCABULARY- English 3B, Unit 1

accomplices	those associated with someone engaged in wrongdoing
aesthetic impact	the lasting impression a text makes upon a reader
alliteration	Repeated consonant sounds in a string of words (Ex: Peter Piper Picked a Peck)
allusion	a reference in one literary work to another literary or historical work or character
analogy	a comparison emphasizing the relationship between two things
Anaphora	the repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses.
anticlimax	an unexpected shift from an important idea or situation to one that is trivial or humorous
assonance	Repeating vowel sounds inside of a string of words (Ex: We shall see what we may be.... The e sound is repeated)
blackguarding	abusing with words
burlesque	in literature, absurd instances of exaggeration, used to highlight human failings
capering	leaping or prancing around
censorship	the act of suppressing something, such as speech or writing, based on a perception of the content
characterization	the way in which an author presents a character and then develops him or her throughout the novel
characters	people depicted in a narrative
character traits	the qualities of a character
climax	the moment of greatest emotional tension in a story
clustering	a prewriting activity in which the writer starts with an idea and associates other ideas from it (also known as brainstorming)
colloquial	reflecting the informal spoken language peculiar to a place and time

colloquialism	language that is standard but informal
coming-of-age story	a story that traces a character's growth from childhood to maturity
conflict	a struggle between characters or situations
connotation	a suggestion; in literature, the meaning of a word that goes beyond its literal meaning
connotative	associated meanings beyond the explicit meaning of words
context	a group of words that, taken together, create meaning in a text
cowardice	lack of courage to face danger, difficulty, opposition, or pain
cravat	a tie worn around the neck (here used sarcastically to refer to the hangman's noose)
denotation	the literal definition of a word
dialect	the speech patterns of a specific region or group of people
dialogue	conversation between characters in a narrative
denouement	the resolution that usually occurs near the final stages of the plot
disposition	mood or temperament; the condition of something
elegy	a poem expressing sorrow for the dead
explicit	stated directly and clearly; unambiguous
explicit meaning	the obvious or stated meaning of a text
expository	assisting in an explanation of something
expository essay	informative or explanatory writing that requires research and analysis of a subject, explaining information, examining causes, or comparing one point of view to another in order to state and support the writer's interpretation of the subject
feminist literature	works of fiction or nonfiction that address women's issues, often dealing with the fact that women's roles in society are unequal to those of men
freewriting	an exercise in which the writer fills the blank page, without editing, in order to stimulate his or her thoughts for more formal writing
foot	two or three syllables making up one unit of poetic verse
foreshadowing	a writing technique that offers hints of what is going to happen in a story

greenhorns	country bumpkins; unsophisticated, unworldly rural people
historical context	the setting of a particular time period or event in terms of its social, political, cultural, and economic characteristics
hyperbole	an exaggeration; not something to be entirely believed
iambic	a foot of poetic verse in an unstressed-stressed combination
implicit meaning	the meaning of a text that is suggested but not directly stated
inductive reasoning	a line of thought that uses a specific example to make a claim that it is true in all cases
infer	deduce or conclude
inference	conclusion about something formed or presented based on an idea, facts, or evidence
irony	an event that is the opposite of what the reader expected; expressing something that is the opposite of the literal meaning, often used humorously
local color	the presentation of the features and peculiarities of a particular locality and its inhabitants
metaphor	a figure of speech that directly compares one seemingly unrelated thing to another
meter	a recurring pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables
morality	personal and social principles of right and wrong
narrative	telling a story; presenting an account of something
narrative point of view	the perspective from which a story is told
narrative voice	the way in which an author tells a story
obsequies	funeral rites, such as eulogies and prayers
omniscient narrator	a narrator who knows everything about the characters in a story and relates the characters' thoughts, feelings, and actions to the reader
paradox	a statement that contradicts another statement or fact and often points to a larger truth
personification	a figure of speech that gives nonhuman objects human qualities
persuasive	having the ability to influence thought or action

persuasive essay	an essay that uses logic to win a reader over to a point of view
point of view	the viewpoint of the storyteller of a work
prediction	an informed guess about events that will occur later in a text
rapscallion	a rascal; a mischievous person
Realism	a literary movement in America that began in 1865 and flourished until approximately 1890; the movement stressed the importance of defining realistic characters, settings, and situations in literature
realism	the tendency to view or represent things as they really are
reference material	informational materials that can be used for academic purposes
regionalism	emphasis on a geographic area and its characteristics in art or literature
regional realism	depiction of a specific region in a realistic manner
reminiscing	remembering and talking or writing about past experiences
rhetoric	persuasive communication in speech or writing
rhyme	similar sounds at the ends of lines of poetry
sarcasm	using biting or ironic language to scorn or ridicule something, especially human behavior
satire	in literature, making fun of a human failing in an effort to bring it to light for the reader; satire is often used by authors in an effort to address a social injustice or inequality
semi-autobiographical	an autobiographical work that is in large part fiction but is modeled on the life of the author
seminal text	original writing that has a significant impact on historical events or other elements of life
sentimentality	the quality or state of being marked or governed by feeling, sensibility, or emotional idealism, especially to excess
setting	the place, time, and social context of a text
simile	a figure of speech that compares two things using the words <i>like</i> or <i>as</i>
situational irony	something that happens that contradicts expectations
slang	language that is very informal and not considered standard

slavery	the condition of a slave; bondage
sockdolager	something final or decisive, such as a heavy blow
social context	circumstances in public environments or groups that affect the way people live and behave
source	something that supplies information, such as a text, film, or photograph
stereotype	a belief about an entire group of people, determined by commonly held ideas
style	the way an author uses language to create his or her unique voice
subject	the topic of a novel or story
subtext	implied or implicit ideas, thoughts, or motives embedded in the story or plot of a narrative text
summary	a short restatement of the main points of a text or speech
symbol	attaching a deeper meaning, beyond the literal definition, to a person, object, or place
symbolism	using objects, actions, or ideas as representations for something beyond their literal meaning
textual evidence	information found in a work of literature that can be used to support an argument or position
theme	a message about a particular topic being communicated through the text; literary works often have multiple themes
thesis	a position taken or a main idea stated in a text
tone	in writing, the feeling created by the words and structure of the text
understatement	something that is described as being less than it is
universal theme	a fundamental, meaningful idea explored in a literary work that applies to all cultures and people
vernacular	local or regional speech, including pronunciation and vocabulary
word choice	the way a writer chooses specific words in a text