Collection 5 Literary Elements

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| Irony | Difference between what we expect or what seems suitable and what actually happens |
| Verbal Irony | When someone says one thing but means the opposite |
| Situational Irony | An event that is different from what we expect |
| Dramatic Irony | Where the reader knows more than the characters in the story |
| Surprise Ending | Dramatic and ironic ending |
| Ambiguity | Mixed signals; a quality that allows something to be interpreted in several different—sometimes even conflicting--ways |
| Allusion | Reference to historical, literary or religious person, event or idea |
| Diction | Word choice: elevated, colloquial, technical |
| Inference | Educated guess based on evidence or clues in the text |
| Motivation | Character’s reasons for behaving in a certain way |
| Contradiction | When two statements or situations have opposite meetings |
| Context Clues | Help explain the meaning of a new word; synonyms (restate meaning), antonyms (contrast the word), examples, words or phrases that define the word |
| Argument | A series f statements designed to convince you of something |
| Issue | Topic of the argument |
| Position | Author’s view on how to solve the issue; what they advocate |
| Credible | Whether the author’s argument is believable |
| Claim or Opinion | What the author is trying to prove |
| Bias | Preconceived ideas about the issue |
| Generalization | Broad statement that covers many situations |
| Support | How the author uses logical appeals, evidence, analogies or emotional appeals to prove their point |
| Logical Appeals | Statements that explain why the author holds an opinion |
| Ethical Appeals | Addresses readers’ sense of right and wrong and may rely on a reader’s belief that the writer is ethical |
| Emotional Appeals | Win readers over to their opinions by appealing to readers’ emotions rather than their reason |
| Loaded Words | Words with strong emotional connotations |
| Evidence | Facts, statistics, examples, quotations from or opinions of experts |
| Analogy | Type of comparison in which writers usually explain something complex or unfamiliar in terms of something familiar |
| Anecdotes | Brief stories |
| Case Studies | Examples from scientific research |
| Commonly Accepted Beliefs | Ideas that most people share |
| Examples | Specific instances or illustrations of a general idea |
| Expert Opinions | Statements made by a recognized authority on the subject |
| Facts | Statements that can be proven true |
| Intent | Purpose of the writer |
| Tone | Attitude towards the topic, towards the reader, and word choices |
| Counterclaims | Arguments against your position |
| Addressing the Counterargument | Addressing the evidence or arguments of opposing views |

Vocabulary

“The Gift of the Magi”

instigates v.: urges on to some action, usually negative, or sets something in motion; here, gives rise to.

agile adj.: moving with ease.

depreciate v.: make something seem less important; lower the value of.

cascade n.: waterfall.

ransacking v.: searching thoroughly.

discreet adj.: showing good judgment in what one says or does; especially being silent or careful.

scrutiny n.: close inspection.

nimble adj.: quickly moving.

coveted v. used as adj.: longed-for.

singed v. used as adj.: slightly burned

“The Lady, or the Tiger?

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| exuberant adj.: elaborate; extreme; also, high-spirited.  genial adj.: cheerful and friendly.  impartial adj.: fair; unbiased.  allegiance n.: loyalty.  procured v.: gotten; obtained.  dire adj.: terrible.  retribution n.: punishment.  fervent adj.: passionate.  aspiring v. used as n.: seeking to gain; desiring.  deliberation n.: careful thought, especially in making a decision. |

“A Defense of a Jury System”

irrational adj.: not based on reason or logic.

superficial adj.: not deep or thorough; shallow.

obscure v.: conceal; cover up.

advocates v.: supports; argues in favor of.

conscientiously adv.: carefully and thoughtfully.

affluent adj.: wealthy.