

Elements of Fiction

Part 2

Point of View (P.O.V.)

- The vantage point from which the author presents a story
- Told through a narrator—the person who tells the story
- First-person: narrator is a character in the story. Content limited to what narrator knows. These stories use *I, me, our, we, or my*.
- Third-person: These stories use *he, she, and they*. narrator is not part of the story.
 - limited: only know what some characters are thinking
 - omniscient: knows what everyone is thinking

Characterization

- The process of bringing a character (imaginary person) to life through description
- Physical appearance and personality
- Speech, thoughts, feelings, actions, and desires
- Interactions with other characters
- Personal history or other background information

Flashback

- An interruption in the narrative to show something that occurred in the past

Foreshadowing

- Provides hints or clues early in the story that anticipate what is to come.
- Helps contribute to mood
- Increases suspense

Irony

- The contrast between what seems to be and what really is....
 - Example: your friend “Slim” is 5’7” tall and weighs 290 lbs.
 - Example from “Indian Education” by Sherman Alexie
- “The farm town high school I play for is nicknamed the “Indians,” and I’m probably the only actual Indian to play for a team with such a mascot.”