

Novel Vocabulary

Genre: A group, type, or classification of Literature. (Novel, Poetry, etc.)

Plot: What happens in a story. Multiple plots and subplots in a novel

Setting: Where the story takes place. Includes description and sensory images. Multiple settings in a novel.

Title: Name of story. Often an important key into the meaning of the story.

Characterization: Drawing of three-dimensional characters including looks, personality, character traits.

Dilemma: A struggle between opposing forces. The conflict can be internal or external. It's often a problem the protagonist needs to solve or a realization that he needs to have.

Climax: That point in the story where you know that the dilemma has been resolved.

Denouement: What happens as a result of the dilemma being resolved.

Antagonists: Forces creating the dilemma. Must have both positive and negative forces or there is no dilemma. They can be a person, thing, situation, or belief.

Theme: A universal truth about people – the things they do, the way they are, that can be applied to your life. Not a dippy moral.

Parable: Short tale that illustrates a universal truth, a belief that appeals to all people.

Foreshadowing: A device where the author gives clues that hint at later events in the story. Makes surprise endings more believable.

Symbol: Something that has meaning in itself and also stands for or represents something else. (American flag – patriotism, Dove – peace, Crucifix – our faith)