



Summerville Union High School
17555 Tuolumne Road, Tuolumne, CA 95379

English Department

"Live as if you were to die tomorrow. **Learn** as if you were to live forever."
Mahatma Gandhi

9TH Grade—Literary Devices, Semester 1

Over these next two terms, you will spend time learning a variety of literary devices that show up in literature. Such devices help us to better understand an author's purpose. Not only will you memorize the definitions, but you will be provided examples of the devices, explore how they are used effectively in literature, and will ultimately use them yourselves, as you create your own voices as writers.

The pre-test is not graded for points, but your participation and honesty taking it will be graded as class points for the day.

Plot	Mood	Syntax	Setting	Characterization
Diction	Point of View	Imagery	Figurative Language	Theme
Detail	Symbolism	Organization	Denotation	Connotation
Metaphor	Personification	Understatement	Hyperbole	Simile

1. _____ The choice of words an author employs.
Example: _____
2. _____ Attention to or treatment of a subject in individual or minute parts
Example: _____
3. _____ The dictionary meaning of a word **Example:** _____
4. _____ A figure of speech employed by writers or speakers to intentionally make a situation seem less important than it really is
Example: _____
5. _____ The arrangement of ideas, incidents, and evidence in a body of literature
Example: _____

6. _____ A figurative use of language in which a comparison is expressed without the use of a comparative term like "as," "like," or "than"

Example: _____

7. _____ A figurative use of language in which a comparison is expressed with the use of a comparative term like "as," "like," or "than"

Example: _____

8. _____ The way an author presents characters

Example: _____

9. _____ Deliberate exaggeration, overstatement

Example: _____

10. _____ A word or group of words in a literary work, which appeal to one or more of the senses

Example: _____

11. _____ The structure of a story. The sequence in which the author arranges events in a story.

Example: _____

12. _____ The emotions that a reader feels while reading or viewing a literary work

Example: _____

13. _____ The implications of a word or phrase, as opposed to its exact meaning

Example: _____

14. _____ The time and place in which a story unfolds

Example: _____

15. _____ The structure of a sentence

Example: _____

16. _____ The main idea or message of a story, poem, novel, or play often expressed as a general statement about life

Example: _____

17. _____ The perspective from which the story is told

Example: _____

18. _____ Something that is simultaneously itself and a sign of something else

Example: _____

19. _____ A figurative use of language which provides the nonhuman (ideas, inanimate objects, animals, abstractions) with human characteristics

Example: _____

20. _____ Writing that uses figures of speech (as opposed to literal language or that which is actual or specifically denoted) such as metaphor, simile, and irony

Example: _____