



## English I: Reading: Module 3: Practice 5: Section 5

### Literary Terminology

### Literary Fiction Terms

**Instructions:** Use a highlighter or other tool to mark terms you need to review further.

#### Literary Fiction Terms

climax	the most exciting and important part of a story, play, or movie that occurs usually at or near the end
conflict	<p>in literature, the opposition of persons or forces that brings about dramatic action central to the plot of a story</p> <p>Conflict may be internal, as a psychological conflict within a character, or external (e.g., man versus man, man versus nature, or man versus society).</p>
denouement	the final resolution of the intricacies of a plot
diction	choice of words in speaking or writing for clear, effective expression
exposition	a setting forth of the meaning or purpose (as of a writing)
falling action	the part of a literary plot that occurs after the climax has been reached
flat character	Coined by E.M. Forster, a <i>flat character</i> is a term referring to a character who boasts no mental or emotional development during the story.
inciting incident	the conflict that begins the action of the story and causes the protagonist to act
irony	<p>a literary technique used to create meaning that seems to contradict the literal meaning or events</p> <p><b>Verbal irony</b> is the use of words in which the intended meaning is contrary to the literal meaning (e.g., <i>I could care less</i>). <b>Situational irony</b> is a literary technique for implying, through plot or character, that the actual situation is quite different from that presented. <b>Dramatic irony</b> is a dramatic device in which a character says or does something that he or she does not fully grasp but which is understood by the audience.</p>
linear plot	involving ideas or events that are directly connected and follow one after the other
omniscient	all knowing
plot	<p>the basic sequence of events in a story</p> <p>In conventional stories, plot has three main parts: rising action, climax, and falling action.</p>
rising action	a related series of incidents in a literary plot that build toward the point of greatest interest
round character	a character in fiction whose personality, background, motives, and other features are fully delineated by the author
sarcasm	a bitter form of irony; intended to taunt or hurt
theme	<p>the central or universal idea of a piece of fiction or the main idea of a nonfiction essay</p> <p>A <b>universal theme</b> transcends social and cultural boundaries and speaks to a common human experience. A theme may be explicit or implicit. In a work with an <b>explicit theme</b>, the author overtly states the theme somewhere within the work. <b>Implicit theme</b> refers to the author's ability to construct a piece in such a way that through inference, the reader understands the theme.</p>