Short Fiction III

AP English Literature and Composition · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
character /ˈkærɪktə/	The main **character** is a young doctor.
conflict of values	A **conflict of values** sets love against duty.
narrative	The **narrative** follows one family over fifty years.
circumstances	Poor **circumstances** forced him to leave school.
epiphany /ɪˈpɪfənɪ/	In a sudden **epiphany**, she understands the truth.
plot /plɒt/	The **plot** is the series of events in the story.
realisation	His **realisation** comes too late to save his friend.
exclusion	The poem shows the pain of **exclusion** from a group.
protagonist /ˈprəʊtəgənɪst/	The **protagonist** is the main character.
antagonist /ænˈtægənɪst/	The **antagonist** works against the main character.
setting /ˈsetɪŋ/	The **setting** is a small village in winter.
surroundings /səˈraʊndɪŋz/	The character's dark **surroundings** reflect her mood.
pacing /ˈpeɪsɪŋ/	Fast **pacing** makes the chase scene exciting.
compression /kəmˈpreʃn/	**Compression** makes the file smaller.
syntax /ˈsɪntæks/	**Syntax** is the order of words in a sentence.

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chronology /krəˈnɒlədʒi/	The story's **chronology** jumps back and forth in time.
narrator /nəˈreɪtə/	The **narrator** tells the story.
symbolic /sɪmˈbɒlɪk/	The empty chair is **symbolic** of loss.
abstraction /əbˈstrækʃn/	"Freedom" is an **abstraction**: you cannot see or touch it. "Freedom"
motif /məʊˈtiːf/	Water is a **motif** that appears again and again.
recurring	The **recurring** image of birds suggests freedom.
symbol /ˈsɪmbl/	The green light is a **symbol** of hope.
simile /ˈsɪmɪlɪ/	"As brave as a lion" is a **simile**. "As brave as a lion"
thesis /ˈθiːsɪs/	Your **thesis** states your main argument.
interpretation /ɪnˌtɜːprɪˈteɪʃn/	Give your own **interpretation** of the poem.