Irony

When one thing is expected to happen or be, and the exact opposite happens.

Example: Scrooge becoming a VERY generous man.

Tone

The writer’s attitude or feeling toward a person, thing, place, event or situation.

Example: From Obama’s speech to students: Optimistic and Inspired about the future of our country and the success of today’s youth.

Flashback

An interruption of the sequence of a narrative to relate an action that happened at an earlier point in time

Suspense

The quality of a literary work that makes the reader uncertain or tense about the outcome of events.

Example: Music in JAWS.

Symbolism

Representing things by means of symbols or of attributing symbolic meanings or significance to objects, events or relationships.

Example: Red rose for love, eagle for USA, etc.

Foreshadowing

Hints or clues throughout a story that suggest that something is about to happen.

Example: From *Rikki-Tikki-Tavi*: "He’ll do no such thing," said the father. "Teddy’s safer with that little beast than if he had a bloodhound to watch him. If a snake came into the nursery now--"

Theme

Overall meaning that the author conveys through events and character experiences. A lesson or message about life.

Example: From “All Summer in a Day”: Don’t let your emotions control your actions.