

Santiago High School 9th Grade ELA Honors Summer Assignment

To help students prepare for the rigor and complexity of honors English, students will:

1. Create flashcards for and study the given list of literary devices (see pages 2-5)
 - a. Prepare for a 25-question assessment on literary terms within the first two weeks of school.

2. Read the novel *The Alchemist*, by Paulo Coelho. It will be our first unit of study. It is recommended that you purchase a copy of your own. It is also available online in digital format at <https://shorturl.at/fhGNU>
 - a. Prepare for a 25-question assessment of the plot and characters.

Literary Devices

Be prepared for a test on these terms during the first two weeks of school. You will be expected to know *the definition* and *the effect* of each term as well as be able to identify them in a textual excerpt. Thus, you may want to prepare by going beyond the examples provided for you by looking for multiple examples of each term on the internet to ensure a strong familiarity and understanding of the terms. Helpful resources are www.literarydevices.net. **You will need to bring your flashcards with you to class.**

Device	Definition	Example	Function
Allusion	<p>A reference to a mythological, literary, or historical person, place, or thing.</p> <p>Allusions to Greek mythology, the Bible, historical events, legends, geography, or earlier literary works are common in Western literature.</p>	<p>“He met his Waterloo.” (Alludes to the defeat of Napoleon at the battle of Waterloo)</p> <p>“He was a real Romeo with the ladies.” (Alludes to Shakespeare’s play <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>)</p>	Makes an association with something the audience knows to help clarify an idea or concept.
Denotations of Diction	The literal or “dictionary definition” of a word.	<p>The name “Hollywood” denotes an area of Los Angeles, worldwide known as the center of the American movie industry.</p> <p>The denotative meaning of “snake” is “any of numerous scaly, legless, sometimes venomous reptiles having a long, tapering, cylindrical body and found in most tropical and temperate regions.”</p>	Denotations are generally restricted meanings. Writers, therefore, generally utilize the connotations of a word to convey their messages.
Connotations of Diction	Individual words within a passage that carry cultural and emotional associations or meanings in addition to their literal meanings or denotations (also called “heavy diction” or “loaded words”)	<p>The name “Hollywood” connotes such things as glitz, glamour, tinsel, celebrity, and dreams of stardom.</p> <p>Connotations for the word “snake” would include evil or danger.</p>	Adds additional meaning to a piece of writing. Creates emotional associations in the audience. Establishes the speaker’s attitude (tone).
Dramatic Irony	When the writer engages the reader with information that the character(s) don’t have.	<p>In <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>, the audience knows Juliet isn’t dead, but Romeo doesn’t.</p> <p>In the story <i>Snow White and the Seven Dwarves</i>, the audience knows the apple Snow White will eat is poisoned, but she doesn’t.</p>	<p>Can create contrast, tension, and suspense, especially as the audience sees how the characters are acting.</p> <p>Can be for comedic effect, as the audience is let in on the “joke.”</p> <p>Can also work as a form of foreshadowing.</p>
Foil Character	A character that shows qualities that are in contrast with the qualities of another character. The characters may be enemies or friends in the story.	<p>Draco Malfoy is a foil character to Harry Potter in the <i>Harry Potter</i> series.</p> <p>Mater is a foil to Lightning McQueen in the <i>Cars</i> series.</p> <p>Hans Solo and Luke Skywalker are foil characters in <i>Star Wars</i>.</p>	<p>Uses contrast to highlight the traits of the characters.</p> <p>Develops the characters and helps the reader understand their personalities and importance in the literary work.</p>
Hyperbole	A deliberate emphasis or de-emphasis of an idea, object, or action.	<p>“I’m so hungry, I could eat a horse!”</p> <p>“I’d walk to the end of the earth for you.”</p>	Can be used for either serious or comic effects. Develops tone and mood.

Device	Definition	Example	Function
Foreshadowing	An advance hint of what is to come later in the story. A writer may use character dialogue to hint at what may occur in the future. In addition, any event or action in the story may throw a hint to the readers about future events or actions. Even the title of a work or a chapter title can act as a clue that suggests what is going to happen.	<p>In the movie, <i>Frozen</i>, a troll says, “Listen to me, Elsa. Your power holds beauty, but also great danger. You must learn to control it, or fear will be your worst enemy.” This gives the audience the idea that Elsa’s powers will get out of control due to her fears.</p> <p>In <i>Harry Potter and The Sorcerer’s Stone</i>, we learn that Harry and Voldemort’s wands are brother wands from Ollivander. Later we learn in <i>The Goblet of Fire</i> that because of the twin status, the wands have a special connection, and so do Harry and Voldemort.</p>	Creates an atmosphere of suspense in a story so that the readers are interested to know more.
Imagery	Consists of words or phrases a writer uses to represent persons, objects, actions, feelings, and ideas descriptively by appealing to the senses. Can utilize figurative language and diction with strong connotations.	<p>“The slope of the bars of honey-colored sunlight decreased; they slid up the bushes, passed over the green candle-like buds, moved up toward the canopy, and darkness thickened under the trees.”</p> <p>(Descriptive words, personifications, and metaphors of the movement and disappearance of sunlight create a creepy feeling (mood) in this scene from <i>Lord of the Flies</i>.”</p>	Illustrates an idea, a feeling, or the particular qualities of something.
Metaphor	A comparison of two unlike things not using “like” or “as”	<p>“Time is money” (time is compared to money—it can be spent well or wasted. Once it’s gone, you can’t get it back)</p> <p>“The typical teenager’s room is a disaster area” (a teenager’s room is compared with a disaster area. It’s messy, and unorganized, you could get hurt walking around in it, you can’t easily find things, etc.)</p>	Creates a new meaning or understanding for an object. Develops tone and mood.
Mood	<p>The atmosphere/vibe of the work evokes emotion from the audience.</p> <p>Developed through diction, imagery, figurative language, and grammatical structure.</p>	<p>A depressing, melancholy mood is created in Bronte's <i>Wuthering Heights</i>:</p> <p>There was no moon, and everything beneath lay in misty darkness: not a light gleamed from any house, far or near all had been extinguished long ago: and those at Wuthering Heights were never visible.</p>	Helps convey the author’s message. Is developed across larger sections of text.

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Paradox	Contradictory sentences, phrases, or themes that seem illogical or impossible at first. Upon thoughtful consideration, they have a coherent meaning that reveals a truth.	<p>“I must be cruel to be kind.” (sometimes the truth hurts a person, but they need to hear it to help them)</p> <p>“I am nobody.” (One can’t be “nobody” since they are someone, but one can feel unimportant in the grand scheme of things—feel like they are no one of importance)</p> <p>“Freedom is not free.” (Free gives the idea of something without cost, but people, militaries, and groups around the world invest time, money, and lives in securing freedoms for themselves or others.)</p>	Makes an audience slow and think: reevaluate their knowledge, expectations, and/or understanding. Can also communicate a tone of irony.
Personification	A kind of metaphor that gives objects or ideas human characteristics	<p>“The wind cried in the dark.” (The wind’s sound is compared to that of a person crying in darkness—a sad and lonely image)</p> <p>“Time grabs you by the wrist, directs you where to go.” (Time is compared to a person who might grab your wrist and point you in a direction—gives the idea that you don’t have a lot of control over time, and that often you are put into situations during the course of time that you have no control over.)</p>	Creates a new meaning or understanding for an object. Develops tone and mood.
Simile	A kind of metaphor that is a comparison of two unlike things using “like” or “as”	<p>“Love is as delicate as a rose.” (Love is compared to a rose. Like a rose, love is beautiful, but also fragile and takes work to care for).</p> <p>“The town square was buzzing like a beehive (the activity at the town square is compared to the activity of a bee hive. Like bees in a bee hive, the people in the town square must be moving busily around--selling things, working, shopping, etc.)</p>	Creates a new meaning or understanding for an object. Develops tone and mood.
Situational Irony	When the writer engages the audience by surprising them with the opposite of what they expect.	<p>A shark who is a vegetarian in <i>Finding Nemo</i>. (One wouldn’t expect a shark to be a vegetarian)</p> <p>Olaf, a happy snowman from <i>Frozen</i>, is obsessed with the idea of summer, despite the fact that the sun is a snowman’s worst enemy. (One wouldn’t expect a snowman to wish for summer)</p>	<p>Allows readers to see the difference between appearance versus reality.</p> <p>This gives the readers a better understanding of the purpose or theme of the text.</p>

Device	Definition	Example	Function
Symbolism/ Symbol	A literal object, action, or subject in a text that represents an abstract idea or emotion, similar to metaphor. However, rather than explicitly comparing two subjects, the reader has to search for the meaning themselves.	<p>“I hear leaves drinking rain; I hear rich leaves on top Giving the poor beneath Drop after drop; Tis a sweet noise to hear These green leaves drinking near.”</p> <p>(The poet, William Davies uses the symbol of rain falling on leaves to show the different classes of society. He does this by describing the way the upper leaves benefit from the rain first, and then hand down the rest to the lower leaves. In the same way, rich people should pass on the leftover benefits to the poor people.)</p>	<p>Creates an additional layer of meaning: the literal meaning of the object, and the figurative meaning which is more profound and thoughtful.</p> <p>*Do not confuse with metaphor, whose meaning is created through comparison, not context.</p>
Tone	<p>The speaker's or narrator's attitude towards the subject or topic of the text.</p> <p>Developed through diction, imagery, figurative language, and grammatical structure.</p>	<p><i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> by Anne Frank is written in a youthful, optimistic tone— In retrospect, the reader knows that things ended tragically for Anne Frank. Her diary, however, is full of hope, even as she deals with an incredibly difficult situation.</p>	<p>Helps convey the mood and message of the piece. Unlike mood, tone is developed across shorter sections of text.</p>