**Glossary of Literary Terms and Questions for Discussion**

**Structures of a text**

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|  | **DEFINITION** | **QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION** |
| **Point of View** | **1st person**-narrated by “I”: reader can see into the heart and mind of the one character that is telling the story and can only gather information about the other characters from the narrator’s point of view.  **2nd person-**The narrator tells the story using the word “you”. A story told from this point of view allows the reader to feel implicated in the story.  **3rd person-**“He/She”: reader gathers information about the hearts and minds of all characters from a narrator who is not necessarily central in the story. | Discuss which point of view was used and the impact on the narrative. How would a different point of view have changed the text? |
| **Conflict** | The situation creating tension or a problem for the key character.  **Character vs Character**  **Character vs Self**  **Character vs Society**  **Character vs Nature** | How did the writer develop conflicts?  How did the situations get worse?  How were sub-conflicts constructed? |
| **Overall Message** | What lesson was learned or truth was revealed by this story?  What is the central message of the story?  What commentary is the author making about life, society or the human condition? | How did the author use the characters to communicate a message about life to you and the audience? Think about what the character might say s/he learned from her experiences. |
| **Characterization** | **Characterization:** The construction or representation of a character in a film, drama, or text.  **Protagonist:** The lead character or one of the major characters in a film, drama, novel, fictional text or real situation.  **Antagonist:** A person, several people or an organization who actively opposes or is hostile towards the protagonist.  **Motivation:** The reasons why the characters choose to act or react to situations. | What are you able to infer about the character(s)? What motivates each character to make the choices that they do?  What role does each character play in the development of the plot or the understanding of other characters? |
| **Setting** | Time and place that affect the reader’s understanding of the events of the novel.  The mood you feel while reading the story which can change over time. | Look at each significant time and place. What mood was created by the words in the text?  What was the impact on your understanding? Does the setting create or deepen a conflict for the protagonist? |
| **Plot** | **Exposition/Initial conflict**: The introduction to the setting, characters and to the initiating conflict.  **Rising action**: The “and then” moments.  A series of events that build from the initial conflict.  Begins with initial conflict and ends with climax.  The moments that cause the plot to thicken.  **Climax**: The result of the crisis.  The moment of highest interest or emotion. The point at which the outcome can be predicted.  The moment of the crucial realization.  **Falling action**: The events after the climax.  **Resolution**: Rounds out and concludes the action.  Answers questions and/or leaves questions unanswered. | Use the plot diagram to analyze how the plot was developed.  Use all the key terms in the diagram. |

**FEATURES**

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|  | **DEFINITION** | **QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION** |
| **Alliteration** | Two words next to each other that begin with the same letter or sound. Typically an adjective or adverb next to a noun or verb. Never prepositions and articles, like “to the” or “then the”. Used to draw the reader’s attention to the subject. | Why did the author want your attention drawn to the moment where alliteration is used? |
| **Hook** | The way a writer draws a reader into the story and captures their attention | How did the writer attempt to capture your attention?  What was the impact of this hook? |
| **Hyperbole** | Exaggerated statements or claims that are not meant to be taken literally. “It is so hot that you could fry an egg on the sidewalk.” | What is being exaggerated? Why do you think the author wanted to draw your attention to this? |
| **Metaphor**  **& Simile** | Comparing an object to something unusual in order to create a new meaning. Simile uses “like and as”; metaphor does not. | What two unusual things are being compared? How does the comparison create a deeper meaning for the text?  How does it reappear in the text? |
| **Onomatopoeia** | Words that phonetically imitate the sound that it describes. “WHAM! BOOM!” | How does the author use sounds to impact the text? What is the impact? |
| **Personification** | Human characteristics, qualities or abilities are given to inanimate objects. | How did the author use this feature to create strong images for the reader?  What impact did they have? |
| **Suspense** | Makes the reader uncertain or tense about the outcome of events.  **Foreshadowing**: Hints like symbols or scenes that help us to predict the plot. This feature is often revealed at the end of reading a text.  **Action sequences**: Scenes when characters are challenged in some physical way (threatened, overcoming obstacles, natural disaster). | How did the author use action sequences or foreshadowing to create suspense?  How did this feature impact your reading? |
| **Symbol** | An object, colour, or image that represents an important idea to the text | Name the symbol. What idea does it represent?  What role does it play in the text?  How does it impact your reading? |

**CONNECTIONS**

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|  | **Definition** | **Connect** | **Questions for Discussion** |
| **Feelings** | List the predominant feelings experienced by the characters | Choose one of these feelings that you have felt. | How does your feeling help you to understand the feeling of the character in the text? Explain how you can relate. |
| **Dilemmas** | List all of the dilemmas faced by the characters | Choose one of these dilemmas that is similar to a dilemma you have faced. | How does your dilemma help you to understand the dilemmas faced by the character in the text? |
| **Choices** | List the choices that the character has made and how they have had an impact. | Choose one of the choices that is similar to a choice you have made. | How does your choice help you to understand the choice made by the character in the text? |
| **Text to Text** | List other texts that share an element with your text. | Choose one of the texts that you have read, heard or viewed. | Explain what is similar between this text and the other text that you have read, heard or viewed? Is there a similar message? |
| **Text to**  **World** | List issues, events, situations that are shared between the world we live in and the world of the text. | Choose one of the issues, events or situations that you are most aware of in our world. | How does this text connect to issues or events that you have read or heard about in the news? |

**JUDGEMENT**

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|  | **QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION** |
| **Significance of a Text** | *Why is this text important:*  i) to me personally?  ii) to my community?  iii) to society?  *Why is this text an example of great writing?* |
| **Impact of the Text** | *How did you react to the text?*  *How could reading, viewing or listening to this impact others?*  *Who do you think the author intended this text for? Why do you think the author thought this message was important for others?* |