**POETIC TERMINOLOGY AWARENESS CHART**

**English 12 Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*On this sheet, together with the short story note-taking forms (on plot, character, point of view, and theme) and the Figurative Language handout from the beginning of the year, are ALL the terms that may come up on a final exam. Put a check mark in the column that applies to each term. Then make sure to STUDY any terms for which you put a check in the second two columns!*

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| **TERM** | **I know this!** | **I recognize this but…** | **Never heard of it!** | **Definition** |
| Allusion |  |  |  | A reference to something the reader is expected to recognize. |
| Allegory |  |  |  | A story in which characters and events are symbols that stand for ideas about life, often with a political or moral meaning. |
| Analogy |  |  |  | Comparing two things in order to better understand one of them. |
| Apostrophe |  |  |  | Addressing an absent person or thing. |
| Blank Verse |  |  |  | Unrhymed iambic pentameter: verse of 10 syllables per line, with iambic meter (emphasis on every second syllable; a pair of unstressed and stressed syllables is one *iamb;* there are 5 iambs per line). Shakespeare’s plays are written primarily in blank verse. |
| Euphemism |  |  |  | A way of saying something in a less offensive or disturbing way. E.g. saying someone “passed away” instead of died; saying people “made love” instead of had sex. |
| Hyperbole  |  |  |  | Over-exaggeration for effect. |
| Imagery |  |  |  | Descriptive language that appeals to any of the five senses. |
| Internal Rhyme |  |  |  | Rhyme that occurs within a line of poetry, rather than at each line’s end. |
| Metaphor |  |  |  | A comparison between two unlike things without using like, as, or than. |
| Paradox |  |  |  | An apparently contradictory statement which is, upon further reflection, true. |
| Personification |  |  |  | Giving non-human things human qualities. |
| Refrain |  |  |  | A line or lines of poetry repeated at intervals throughout the poem (like a chorus in a song). |
| Simile |  |  |  | A comparison between to unlike things using the words like, as, or than. |
| Stanza |  |  |  | Lines of poetry grouped together, separated from other stanzas by spaces between them. |
| Symbol |  |  |  | Something present in literature or art that also represents a greater idea. |
| Symbolism |  |  |  | The use of symbol. |
| Tone |  |  |  | The attitude of the author towards his/her subject matter. |
| Understatement |  |  |  | Representing something as less important than it truly is. |
| Voice |  |  |  | The personality of the author as it comes through in the work. |
| Alliteration |  |  |  | The repetition of initial consonant sounds. |
| Assonance |  |  |  | The repetition of internal vowel sounds. |
| Ballad  |  |  |  | A narrative poem about heroic deeds or events; love and romance, journeys, and hardships are common subjects for ballads. |
| Ballad Stanza |  |  |  | A four-line stanza with the rhyme scheme abcb. |
| Cacophony |  |  |  | The repetition of harsh, clashing sounds used for effect. |
| Chorus |  |  |  | In ancient Greek comedy, a rowdy group of characters who sang, danced, and made comments about the action on stage. |
| Couplet |  |  |  | A two-line stanza, or two lines of poetry that rhyme. |
| Consonance\* |  |  |  | a) the repetition of consonant sounds before and after differing vowels (flip-flop; feel/fill)b) the repetition of consonant sounds at the ends of words only, as in “east-west,” or “hid-bed.” |
| Didactic poetry |  |  |  | Poetry whose purpose is to teach a lesson. |
| Dissonance  |  |  |  | The use of discordant sounds either to create an unpleasant effect or to create an interesting variation from what is rhythmically expected. |
| Epigram |  |  |  | A terse, witty, pointed saying. E.g. “She knew the cost of everything but the value of nothing.” |
| Euphony |  |  |  | The repetition of soft, gentle sounds used for effect. |
| Elegy |  |  |  | A poem or song, usually written in couplets, to mourn or honour someone who is deceased. |
| Free verse |  |  |  | A poem with no set rhyme of meter. |
| Frame story |  |  |  | A secondary story (or stories) within a main story OR a narrative that connects a series of otherwise unrelated stories. |
| Narrative |  |  |  | A piece of literature whose primary purpose is to tell a story. |
| Iambic Pentameter |  |  |  | Verse of 10 syllables per line, with iambic meter (emphasis on every second syllable; a pair of unstressed and stressed syllables is one *iamb;* there are 5 iambs per line, therefore 10 syllables per line). Sonnets are written in iambic pentameter. |
| Octave |  |  |  | The first 8 lines of a sonnet, which, in Petrarchan (Italian) sonnets, often pose a question or present a problem. |
| Onomatopoeia  |  |  |  | Words that sound like their meanings. |
| Pastoral |  |  |  | Literature to do with country (rural) life. |
| Sestet |  |  |  | The last 6 lines of a sonnet. In Italian (Petrarchan) sonnets, often contains an answer or contemplation of the question or problem presented in the octave. |
| Sonnet |  |  |  | A 14-line poem with a specific rhyme scheme written in iambic pentameter. |
| Carpe Diem |  |  |  | A work with the message to “seize the day.” |
| Epic  |  |  |  | A long narrative poem with an exalted style and heroic theme. |
| Epitaph\* |  |  |  | A short text honoring a deceased person (strictly speaking, inscribed on their tombstone or plaque, but also used figuratively).  |
| Idiom |  |  |  | A group of words established by usage as having a meaning that is not clearly related to the meanings of the individual words (e.g., *rain cats and dogs*, *see the light* ). |
| Lyric  |  |  |  | A poem whose primary purpose is to express an emotion. |
| Meter  |  |  |  | The pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables in a poem that give it a certain rhythm. |
| Ode |  |  |  | A poem written to praise someone or something. |
| Parody |  |  |  | A humorous imitation of an original work, usually written to mock the ideas in the original. |
| Quatrain  |  |  |  | A four-line poem or stanza. |
| Rhyme scheme  |  |  |  | The pattern of end- rhymes in a poem. |
| Rhythm |  |  |  | The musical pattern created by the meter of a poem. |

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| Abstract |  |  |  | Not physical. Both ideas and emotions are abstract, as are things like love, justice, and honour. |
| Anachronism |  |  |  | A person, place, thing or event that appears out of order, or in the wrong time sequence. E.g. Flashback |
| Anecdotal Evidence |  |  |  | Evidence based on *anecdote-* a brief story from personal experience or observation of events that has not been tested. |
| Antecedent Action |  |  |  | Action that takes place before the story line begins. |
| Apathy |  |  |  | A lack of interest. |
| Archaic Language |  |  |  | Words, phrases, or style of language that is no longer in everyday use but is sometimes used to give an old-fashioned flavour. |
| Catastrophe |  |  |  | The ending or denouement of a drama; often tragic and causes great suffering or damage. |
| Climactic Order |  |  |  | An order in a story or essay where a series of events, thoughts, or statements is arranged in order in order of increasing importance, with climax at the end. |
| Deduction |  |  |  | A conclusion reached by logic or reasoning. |
| Discrepancy |  |  |  | Distinct difference between two things that should not be different, or that should correspond. |
| Dramatic Form |  |  |  | Something structured as a play. |
| Editorial |  |  |  | An article expressing the editor’ s opinions. |
| Epiphany |  |  |  | A moment of significant illumination or insight. |
| Epitaph |  |  |  | An inscription on a tombstone, or a short poem in memory of someone who has died. |
| Farce |  |  |  | A type of comedy based on ridiculous situations, aften with stereotyped characters. |
| Graphic Text |  |  |  | Text and text inserts that use visual art or specialized lettering. |
| Imitative Harmony |  |  |  | A **series** of words that imitate the sounds to which they refer. E.g. “The crash, hiss and whisper of the rolling sea…” |
| Interior Monologue |  |  |  | Conversation-like thoughts of a character. |
| Melodrama |  |  |  | A drama containing stereotyped characters, exaggerated emotions, and a conflict that pits an all-good hero or heroine against an all-evil villain. |
| Metamorphosis |  |  |  | A significant alteration in appearance or character. |
| Metrical Poetry |  |  |  | Written in regular, repeated rhythms, and, if rhyming, has regular rhymes usually at the end of each line. |
| Parable |  |  |  | A short, often simple story that teaches or explains a lesson, often moral or religious. |
| Parallelism |  |  |  | The arrangement of similarly constructed clauses, verses, or sentences suggesting some correspondence between them. |
| Pathos |  |  |  | The quality in a work that arouses the reader or listener’s feelings of pity, sorrow, or compassion for a character. |
| Precedent |  |  |  | Something that serves as an example or justification for later, similar situations. |
| Prologue |  |  |  | An introduction to a play given by a character who has nothing to do with the following action. |
| Proverb |  |  |  | A short, well-known saying that states a general truth or piece of advice. |
| Soliloquy |  |  |  | A speech by a character who is alone on stage or whose presence is unrecognized by the other characters. |
| Stream of Consciousness |  |  |  | A style of writing that imitates the natural flow of thought. Often ignores conventions of grammar and punctuation to do so. |
| Syllogism |  |  |  | A form of logical argument that derives a conclusion from two premises. E.g. *All men will die. Fred is a man. Therefore, Fred will die.* |
| Syntax |  |  |  | The way the words in a sentence are organized and arranged. |
| Wit |  |  |  | Cleverness. |

Turn over the page for the short story terms you should also know…

**Short Story Terminology (see note-taking forms)**

Active voice

Antagonist

Anti-climax

Character

Characterization

Character foil

Dialogue

Dilemma

Direct Presentation

Dramatic irony

Dynamic character

Epiphany

External conflict

Flashback

Flat character

Foreshadowing

Indeterminate ending

Indirect presentation

Internal conflict

Irony

Mystery

Narration

Narrator

Protagonist

Round character

Setting

Static character

Stereotyped/Stock character

Surprise ending

Suspense

Tragedy

**Stages of Plot:**

Exposition

Conflict

Rising Action

Climax

Falling action

Denouement

Resolution

**Four narrative points of view:**

First person POV

Third person limited (or *limited omniscient)* POV

Omniscient POV

Objective POV