

Name _____

Date _____

Voyager
ELA 7
Miss Brown

Literary Elements Chart

Title _____ Author _____

Literary Element	Definition	Example
Plot elements	Exposition, conflict, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution ***See other notes for definitions and plot chart.	
Protagonist	Main character	Rikki-tikki
Antagonist	Character who is in opposition (going against) to the main character Opposing force	
Point of View	Perspective from which story is told	
First-person pt. of view	I, me, my, etc. ...	
Second-person pt. of view	You, your, etc. ... (directions, recipes, ...)	
Third-person pt. of view	He, she, they, names, ...	
3 rd -person LIMITED	Narrator knows and tells audience thoughts/feelings of ONE character	
3 rd -person OMNISCIENT (all-knowing)	Narrator knows and tells thoughts/feelings of ALL characters	

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Literary Element	Definition	Example
Characterization	Study of characters	
Direct Characterization	Author just comes out and describes the character; audience does not need to figure anything out	
Indirect Characterization	Audience needs to piece together author clues to figure out what a character is like, based on character's words, actions, other characters' words to character, other characters' actions towards character	
Metaphor	Two things are being compared without using the words "like" or "as"	
Simile	Two things are being compared using the words "like" or "as"	
Flat/static Character	Does not change; one-sided; not true to life, not real life	
Round/dynamic character	Changes; many-sided; true to life, real life	
Symbol	Anything that stands for or represents something else	
Personification	Giving human characteristics to something that is NOT human	
Tone	The author's attitude toward the story; examples: formal, informal, serious, playful, bitter, humorous, ironic	

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Literary Element	Definition	Example
Theme	Central message that comes through; can be expressed as a general statement about human beings or life	
Oxymoron	Combines two opposing or contradictory ideas	
Onomatopoeia	Words that imitate sounds	
Mood/ atmosphere	Feeling created in the reader by the literary work or particular passage	
Irony	Opposite of what one expects to happen happens	
Imagery	Appeals to five senses: sight, sound, taste, touch, smell	
Flashback	Sequence of story gets interrupted with a look back at something that happened earlier	
Foreshadowing	Something early in the story hints at something that will happen later in the story	