

1. abstract	(n.) An abbreviated synopsis of a longer work of scholarship or research. (adj.) Dealing with or tending to deal with a subject apart from a particular or specific instance.	18. apostrophe	A locution that addresses a person or personified thing not present.
2. active voice	(refers to the use of verbs) A verb is in this when it expresses an action performed by its subject. Stylistically, this leads to more economical and vigorous writing.	19. arch	(adj.) Characterized by clever or sly humor, often saucy, playful, and somewhat irreverent.
3. ad hominem	Directed to or appealing to feelings or prejudices instead of to intellect or reason.	20. archetype	An abstract or ideal conception of a type; a perfectly typical example; an original model or form.
4. adage	A saying or proverb containing a truth based on experience and often couched in metaphorical language.	21. argumentation	to prove a point or to persuade
5. allegory	A story in which a second meaning is to be read beneath the surface.	22. assonance	The repetition of two or more vowel sounds in a group of words in prose or poetry.
6. alliteration	The repetition of one or more initial consonants in a group of words or lines in a poem.	23. bard	A poet; in olden times, a performer who told heroic stories to musical accompaniment.
7. allusion	A reference to a person, place, or event meant to create an effect or enhance the meaning of an idea.	24. bathos	Insincere or overdone sentimentality.
8. ambiguity	A vagueness of meaning; a conscious lack of clarity meant to evoke multiple meanings or interpretations.	25. belle-lettres	A French term for the world of books, criticism, and literature in general.
9. anachronism	A person, scene, event or other element that fails to correspond with the appropriate time or era.	26. bibliography	A list of works cited or otherwise relevant to a particular subject.
10. analogy	A comparison that points out similarities between two dissimilar things; a passage that points out several similarities between two unlike things is called an extended analogy.	27. bombast	Inflated, pretentious language.
11. anecdote	A brief explanation, summary, or evaluation of a text or work of literature.	28. burlesque	A work of literature meant to ridicule a subject; a grotesque imitation.
12. annotation	A brief explanation, summary, or evaluation of a text or work of literature.	29. cacophony	Grating, inharmonious sounds.
13. antagonist	A character or force in a work of literature that, by opposing the protagonist, produces tension or conflict.	30. canon	The works considered the most important in a national literature or period; works widely read and studied.
14. antecedent	A word to which a pronoun refers.	31. caricature	A grotesque or exaggerated likeness of striking qualities in persons and things.
15. antithesis	A rhetorical opposition or contrast of ideas by means of a grammatical arrangement of words, clauses, or sentences.	32. carpe diem	Literally, "seize the day"; "enjoy life while you can," a common theme in life and literature.
16. aphorism	A short, pithy statement of a generally accepted truth or sentiment.	33. circumlocution	Literally, "talking around" a subject; i.e., discourse that avoids direct reference to a subject.
17. Apollonian	In contrast to Bionysian, it refers to the most noble, godlike qualities of human nature and behavior.	34. classic	A highly regarded work of literature or other art form that has withstood the test of time.
		35. classical, classicism	Deriving from the orderly qualities of ancient Greek and Roman culture; implies formality, objectivity, simplicity, and restraint.
		36. clause	A structural element of a sentence, consisting of a grammatical subject and a predicate.
		37. climax	The high point, or turning point, of a story or play.

38. comparison and contrast	A mode of discourse in which two or more things are compared and contrasted. Comparison often refers to similarities, contrast to differences.	57. Dionysian	As distinguished from Apollonian, the word refers to sensual, pleasure-seeking, impulses.
39. complex sentence	an independent clause plus one or more dependent clauses	58. dramatic irony	A circumstance in which the audience or reader knows more about a situation than a character.
40. compound sentence	two or more independent clauses joined by a conjunction	59. elegy	A poem or prose selection that laments or meditates on the passing or death of someone or something of value.
41. conceit	A witty or ingenious thought; a diverting or highly fanciful idea, often stated in figurative language.	60. ellipsis	Three periods (...) indicating the omission of words in a thought or quotation.
42. concrete detail	A highly specific, particular, often real, actual, or tangible detail; the opposite of abstract.	61. elliptical construction	A sentence containing a deliberate omission of words.
43. connotation	The suggested or implied meaning of a word or phrase.	62. empathy	A feeling of association or identification with an object or person.
44. consonance	The repetition of two or more consonant sounds in a group of words or a unit of speech or writing.	63. epic	A narrative poem that tells of the adventures and exploits of a hero.
45. critique	An analysis or assessment of a thing or situation for the purpose of determining its nature, limitations, and conformity to a set of standards.	64. epigram	A concise but ingenious, witty, and thoughtful statement.
46. cynic	One who expects and observes nothing but the worst of human conduct.	65. epithet	An adjective or phrase that expresses a striking quality of a person or thing; Can also be used to apply to vulgar or profane exclamations.
47. deductive reasoning	A method of reasoning by which specific definitions, conclusions, and theorems are drawn from general principles.	66. eponymous	A term for the title character of a work of literature.
48. denotation	The dictionary definition of a word.	67. euphemism	A mild or less negative usage for a harsh or blunt term.
49. dénouement	The resolution that occurs at the end of a narrative or drama, real or imagined.	68. euphony	Pleasing, harmonious sounds.
50. dependent clauses	are used as nouns or modifiers, are incomplete sentences and cannot stand alone grammatically; they are sometimes called subordinate clauses; those that function as adjectives, nouns, or adverbs are known, respectively, as adjective, noun, and adverbial clauses	69. exegesis	A detailed analysis or interpretation of a work of prose or poetry.
51. description	to recreate or present with details	70. explication	The interpretation or analysis of a text.
52. descriptive detail	Graphic, exact, and accurate presentation of the characteristics of a person, place, or thing.	71. exposé	A factual piece of writing that reveals weaknesses, faults, frailties, or other shortcomings.
53. deus ex machina	In literature, the use of an artificial device or gimmick to solve a problem.	72. exposition	The background and events that lead to the presentation of the main idea or purpose of an essay or other work; setting forth the meaning or purpose of a piece of writing or discourse.
54. diction	The choice of words in oral and written discourse.	73. exposition	to explain, analyze, or discuss an idea
55. didactic	Having an instructive purpose; intending to convey information or teach a lesson, usually in a dry, pompous manner.	74. extended metaphor	When several characteristics of the same objects are compared
56. digression	That portion of discourse that wanders or departs from the main subject or topic.	75. extended metaphor	A series of comparisons between two unlike objects.
		76. external POV	an observer uses this
		77. fable	A short tale, often with nonhuman characters, from which a useful lesson or moral may be drawn.

78. fallacy, fallacious reasoning	An incorrect belief or supposition based on faulty data, defective evidence, false information, or flawed logic.	100. irony	A mode of expression in which the intended meaning is the opposite of what is stated, often implying ridicule or light sarcasm; a state of affairs or events that is the reverse of what might have been expected.
79. fantasy	A story containing unreal, imaginary features.	101. kenning	A device employed in Anglo-Saxon poetry in which the name of a thing is replaced by one of its functions or qualities.
80. farce	A comedy that contains an extravagant and nonsensical disregard of seriousness, although it may have a serious, scornful purpose.	102. lampoon	A mocking, satirical assault on a person or situation.
81. figure of speech, figurative language	In contrast to literal language, figurative language implies meanings.	103. litotes	A form of understatement in which the negative of the contrary is used to achieve emphasis or intensity.
82. frame	A structure that provides a premise or setting for a narrative or other discourse.	104. loose sentence	A sentence that follows the customary word order of English sentences, i.e., subject-verb-objects. The main idea of the sentence is presented first and is then followed by one or more subordinate clauses.
83. genre	A term used to describe literary forms, such as novel, play, and essay.	105. lyrical prose	Personal, reflective prose that reveals the speaker's thoughts and feelings about the subject.
84. harangue	A forceful sermon, lecture, or tirade.	106. malapropism	A confused use of words in which the appropriate word is replaced by one with a similar sound but inappropriate meaning.
85. homily	A lecture or sermon on a religious or moral theme meant to guide human behavior.	107. maxim	A saying or proverb expressing common wisdom or truth.
86. hubris	Excessive pride that often affects tone.	108. melodrama	A literary form in which events are exaggerated in order to create an extreme emotional response.
87. humanism	A belief that emphasizes faith and optimism in human potential and creativity.	109. metaphor	A figure of speech that compares unlike objects.
88. hyperbole	Overstatement; gross exaggeration for rhetorical effect.	110. metaphorical allusion	A metaphor referring to a particular person, place, or thing
89. idyll	A lyric poem or passage that describes a kind of ideal life or place.	111. metaphysical	A term describing poetry that uses elaborate conceits, expresses the complexities of love and life, and is highly intellectual. More generally, it refers to ideas that are neither analytical nor subject to empirical verification; that is, ideas that express an attitude about which rational argument is impossible.
90. image	A word or phrase representing that which can be seen, touched, tasted, smelled, or felt.	112. metonymy	A figure of speech that uses the name of one thing to represent something else with which it is associated.
91. imagery	the use of images in speech and writing.	113. Middle English	The language spoken in England roughly between 1150 and 1500 A.D.
92. imperative mood	give commands	114. mock epic	A parody of traditional epic form.
93. independent clauses	sometimes called main clauses, they stand on their own as complete sentences	115. mock solemnity	Feigned or deliberately artificial seriousness, often for satirical purposes.
94. indicative mood	used for statements of fact	116. mode	The general form, pattern, and manner of expression of a piece of discourse.
95. indirect quotation	A rendering of a quotation in which actual words are not stated but only approximated or paraphrased.		
96. inductive reasoning	A method of reasoning in which a number of specific facts or examples are used to make a generalization.		
97. inference	A conclusion or proposition arrived at by considering facts, observations, or some other specific data.		
98. internal POV	A matter discussed in the first person has this		
99. invective	A direct verbal assault; a denunciation; casting blame on someone or something.		

117. montage	A quick succession of images or impressions used to express an idea.	134. paradox	A statement that seems self-contradictory but is nevertheless true.
118. mood	The emotional tone or prevailing atmosphere in a work of literature or other discourse. In grammar, it refers to the intent of a particular sentence.	135. parallel structure	The structure required for expressing two or more grammatical elements of equal rank. Coordinate ideas, compared and contrasted ideas and correlative constructions call for parallel construction.
119. moral	A brief and often simplistic lesson that a reader may infer from a work of literature.	136. paraphrase	A version of a text put into simple, everyday words or summarized for brevity.
120. motif	A phrase, idea, or event that through repetition serves to unify or convey a theme in an essay or other discourse.	137. parody	An imitation of a work meant to ridicule its style and subject.
121. muse	(n.) One of the ancient Greek goddesses presiding over the arts; the imaginary source of inspiration for an artist or writer. (v.) To reflect deeply; to ponder.	138. passive voice	(refers to the use of verbs) A verb is in this when it expresses an action performed upon its subject or when the subject is the result of the action.
122. myth	An imaginary story that has become an accepted part of the cultural or religious tradition of a group of society.	139. pastoral	A work of literature dealing with rural life.
123. narration	to relate an anecdote or story	140. pathetic fallacy	Faulty reasoning that inappropriately ascribes human feelings to nature or nonhuman objects.
124. narrative	A form of verse or prose (both fiction and nonfiction) that tells a story. A storyteller may use any number of narrative devices, such as skipping back and forth in time, ordering events chronologically, and ordering events to lead up to a suspenseful climax.	141. pathos	That element in literature that stimulates pity or sorrow.
125. naturalism	A term often used as a synonym for realism; also a view of experience that is generally characterized as bleak and pessimistic.	142. pedantic	Narrowly academic instead of broad and humane; excessively petty and meticulous.
126. non sequitur	A statement or idea that fails to follow logically from the one before.	143. periodic sentence	A sentence that departs from the usual word order of English sentences by expressing its main thought only at the end. In other words, the particulars in the sentence are presented before the idea they support.
127. objective	(adj.) Of or relating to facts and reality, as opposed to private and personal feelings and attitudes.	144. persona	The role or facade that a character assumes or depicts to a reader or other audience.
128. ode	A lyric poem usually marked by serious, respectful, and exalted feelings toward the subject.	145. personification	A figure of speech in which objects and animals are given human characteristics.
129. Old English	The Anglo-Saxon language spoken from approximately 450 to 1150 A.D. in what is now Great Britain.	146. plot	The interrelationship among the events in a story
130. omniscient narrator	A narrator with unlimited awareness, understanding, and insight of characters, setting, background, and all other elements of the story.	147. plot line	the pattern of events, including exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution
131. onomatopoeia	The use of words whose sounds suggest their meaning.	148. point of view	The relation in which a narrator or speaker stands to a subject of discourse.
132. oxymoron	A term consisting of contradictory elements juxtaposed to create a paradoxical effect.	149. predicate	the part of a sentence that is not the grammatical subject. It often says something about the subject
133. parable	A story consisting of events from which a moral or spiritual truth may be derived.	150. predicate nominative	A noun that provides another name for the subject
		151. prose	Any discourse that is not poetry
		152. prose poem	a selection of prose that, because of its language or content, is poetic in nature

153. proverb	A short pithy statement of general truth that condenses common experience into memorable form.	171. sentence structure	The arrangement of the parts of a sentence. A sentence may be simple, compound, or complex. Sentences may also contain any of these structures in combination with each other. Each variation leaves a different impression on the reader, and along with other rhetorical devices, may create a countless array of effects.
154. pseudonym	A false name or alias used by writers.	172. sentiment	A synonym for view or feeling; also a refined and tender emotion in literature.
155. pulp fiction	Novels written for mass consumption, often emphasizing exciting and titillating plots.	173. sentimental	A term that describes characters' excessive emotional response to experience; also nauseatingly nostalgic and mawkish.
156. pun	A humorous play on words, using similar-sounding or identical words to suggest different meanings.	174. setting	An environment that consists of time, place, historical milieu, and social, political, and even spiritual circumstances.
157. realism	The depiction of people, things, and events as they really are without idealization or exaggeration for effect.	175. simile	A figurative comparison using the words like or as.
158. rebuttal/refutation	The part of discourse wherein opposing arguments are anticipated and answered.	176. simple sentence	one subject and one verb
159. reiteration	Repetition of an idea using different words, often for emphasis or other effect.	177. stream of consciousness	A style of writing in which the author tries to reproduce the random flow of thoughts in the human mind.
160. repetition	Reuse of the same words, phrases, or ideas for rhetorical effect, usually to emphasize a point.	178. style	The manner in which an author uses and arranges words, shapes ideas, forms sentences, and creates a structure to convey ideas.
161. retraction	The withdrawal of a previously stated idea or opinion.	179. stylistic devices	A general term referring to diction, syntax, tone, figurative language, and all other elements that contribute to the "style" or manner of a given piece of discourse.
162. rhetoric	The language of a work and its style; words, often highly emotional, used to convince or sway an audience.	180. subject complement	The name of a grammatical unit that is comprised of predicate nominatives and predicate adjectives.
163. rhetorical mode	A general term that identifies discourse according to its chief purpose. Includes exposition, argumentation, description, and narration.	181. subjective	(adj.) Of or relating to private and personal feelings and attitudes as opposed to facts and reality.
164. rhetorical question	A question to which the audience already knows the answer; a question asked merely for effect with no answer expected.	182. subjunctive mood	used to express doubt or a conditional attitude
165. rhetorical stance	Language that conveys a speaker's attitude or opinion with regard to a particular subject.	183. subtext	The implied meaning that underlies the main meaning of an essay or other work.
166. rhyme	The repetition of similar sounds at regular intervals, used mostly in poetry but not unheard of in prose.	184. syllogism	A form of deductive reasoning in which given certain ideas or facts, other ideas or facts must follow. (think transitive property)
167. rhythm	The pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables that make up speech and writing.	185. symbolism	The use of one object to evoke ideas and associations not literally part of the original object.
168. romance	An extended narrative about improbable events and extraordinary people in exotic places.	186. synecdoche	A figure of speech in which a part signifies the whole or the whole signifies the part. When the name of a material stands for the thing itself, that, too, is this.
169. sarcasm	A sharp, caustic attitude conveyed in words through jibes, taunts, or other remarks; differs from irony, which is more subtle.		
170. satire	A literary style used to poke fun at, attack, or ridicule an idea, vice, or foible, often for the purpose of inducing change.		

187. syntax	The organization of language into meaningful structure; every sentence has a particular this, or pattern of words.
188. theme	The main idea of meaning, often an abstract idea upon which an essay or other form of discourse is built.
189. thesis	The main idea of a piece of discourse; the statement or proposition that a speaker or writer wishes to advance, illustrate, prove, or defend.
190. tone	The author's attitude toward the subject being written about. This is the characteristic emotion that pervades a work or part of a work -- the spirit or quality that is the word's emotional essence.
191. tragedy	A form of literature in which the hero is destroyed by some character flaw or by a set of forces that cause the hero considerable anguish.
192. transition	A stylistic device used to create a link between ideas. These often endow discourse with continuity and coherence.
193. trope	The generic name for a figure of speech such as image, symbol, simile, and metaphor.
194. understatement	A restrained statement that departs from what could be said; a studied avoidance of emphasis or exaggeration, often to create a particular effect.
195. verbal irony	A discrepancy between the true meaning of a situation and the literal meaning of the written or spoken words.
196. verisimilitude	Similar to the truth; the quality of realism in a work that persuades readers that they are getting a vision of life as it is or could have been.
197. verse	A synonym for poetry; also a group of lines in a song or poem; also a single line of poetry.
198. voice	The real or assumed personality used by a writer or speaker.
199. whimsy	An object, device, or creation that is fanciful or rooted in unreality.
200. wit	The quickness of intellect and the power and talent for saying brilliant things that surprise and delight by their unexpectedness; the power to comment subtly and pointedly on the foibles of the passing scene.