Literary Terms Diagnostic

Each term will be used only once, so cross out the words as you go!

alliteration  allusion  antagonist  climax  conflict
denouement  first person  foreshadowing  metaphor  mood
onomatopoeia  personification  plot  protagonist  setting
simile  symbol  theme  third person limited
third person omniscient  tone

1. The _________________ is the most exciting point in a story.

2. The time and place of the action in a literary work is called the ____________.

3. _________________ is a struggle between opposing forces, such as two people fighting or the problem in the story.

4. The _________________ is any events that occur after the resolution in a story.

5. _________________ is the use of clues that suggest or predict what will occur later in the story.

6. A writer’s attitude toward his or her subject is called the _________________.

7. _________________ is the feeling created in the reader by the literary work.

8. The _________________ is the central message of a literary work. It is a generalization about human beings or about life.

9. A/an _________________ is a reference to a well-known person, place, event, literary work, or work of art.

10. Anything that stands for or represents something else is called a/an _________________.

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11. ________________________ is the repetition of initial consonant sounds. An example is: “What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun?”

12. ________________________ is the use of words that imitate sounds. Examples are: crash, bang, clang.

13. ________________________ is a type of figurative language in which a non-human subject is given human characteristics. An example is: “Sorrow walked through my door and sat down next to me.”

14. A/an ______________________ is a figure of speech in which two things are compared without the use of “like” or “as.” Example: “On the football team, the defensive line was a concrete wall.”

15. A/an ______________________ is a figure of speech in which two things are compared with the use of “like” or “as.” Example: “On the football team, the defensive line was as solid as a concrete wall.”

16. The ________________________ is the main character in a literary work.

17. The ________________________ is the character or force in conflict with the main character in a literary work.

18. The ________________________ point of view is when a character tells the story, and the reader knows only what this character feels and sees.

19. The ________________________ point of view is when a voice outside of the work tells the story, and the reader can tell what any character thinks or feels.

20. The ________________________ is the sequence of events, or what happens, in a story.