

Literary terms

Literature



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1. verse

William Stafford uses a style of short verses in his poem entitled "Ask me."

2. paraphrase

Within John Updike's story entitled "A&P," the narrator paraphrases when he calls one of the girls "Queenie" which is a simpler restatement of her regal and snobby characteristics.

3. summary

A summary of "My Last Duchess" would be: the Duke of Ferrara spends time recalling several painting sessions of his late wife, the Duchess, which brings up a myriad of emotions within the man.

4. subject The subject of the short story entitled "A Rose for Emily" is Miss Emily Grierson and her mysterious, yet bizarre life.

5. theme

The main theme that permeates Poe's "The Tell-Tale Heart" is guilt.

6. lyric poem

In many respects "The Lake Isle of Innisfree" would be considered a lyric poem due to its length and the song-like quality of the verses.

7. narrative poem

"The Tell-Tale Heart" is a narrative poem as it presents a complete story to the reader from the point of view of the narrator by way of a poem.

8. dramatic monologue

"Batter my heart, three persons God" could be utilized or categorized as a dramatic monologue as the speaker bares their inner soul or character to the audience.

9. didactic poem

"This Is Just To Say" is somewhat of a didactic poem as it presents a moral

lesson of not taking what is not yours as well as the concepts of apologies and forgiveness.

10. tone

There is a distinct tone of sadness and darkness within the poem entitled "Love Calls Us to the Things of This World."

11. persona

Although the character of Emily in "A Rose for Emily" remains mysterious throughout the story, she has a very distinct and strong persona that is obvious to the other characters in the story as well as the reader.

12. irony

The poem "My Papa's Waltz" displays extreme irony in that the narrator describes the physical abuse he endured from his father as that of a beautiful dance, which is essentially opposites in actuality.

13. verbal irony

"My Papa's Waltz" utilizes verbal irony in that the narrator is saying one thing, but the audience is able to interpret what he or she says in another way. For example, when the narrator states "You beat time on my head/With a palm caked hard by dirt" it sounds as if the narrator might be talking about music or the dancing, but the reader is able to infer that the narrator is actually talking about being beaten by his father (Roethke).

15. fable

"My Last Duchess" would be considered a fable because it is based on the true story of the Duke of Ferrara, but is an imagined situation that is not based on any particular facts.

16. parable

Robert Frost's "Fire and Ice" is a parable as the author presents a

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philosophical truth about human nature by way of an analogy between the destructive forces of fire and ice.

17. in medias res

"A Rose for Emily" is a story in media res because the story does not begin at the beginning. Instead, the story begins at the end with Emily's funeral.

18. fairy tale

"The Lake Isle of Innisfree" might be considered a fairytale as Innisfree itself is a mythical village in Ireland. Since this poem takes place in this imaginary land, it has the potential to be classified as a fairy tale.

19. epiphany

The narrator, Sammy, in "A&P" experiences an epiphany or sudden insight when he decides to quit his job because of those girls, but then realizes that he may have made a mistake, and that life is not so black and white.