

Mastering Narrative Craft with Pip and Ellie

Learning objective: To identify and apply key literary devices and structural elements in narrative writing to enhance storytelling.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of narrative terminology. Pip the bookworm and Ellie the elephant have provided these definitions to help you craft more sophisticated stories.

Fronted Adverbial

A word or phrase at the beginning of a sentence that describes how, when, or where an action takes place, followed by a comma (e.g., 'Silently, the lion crept...').

Relative Clause

A part of a sentence that adds extra information about a noun, usually starting with words like 'who', 'which', 'where', or 'whose'.

Personification

A literary technique where human qualities, emotions, or actions are given to non-human objects or animals.

Metaphor

A figure of speech that describes an object or action in a way that isn't literally true, but helps explain an idea by stating one thing is another (e.g., 'The stars were diamonds in the velvet sky').

Show, Don't Tell

A writing technique where the author describes a character's actions, feelings, or the setting instead of stating the emotion directly (e.g., 'His hands trembled' instead of 'He was scared').

Atmosphere

The overall feeling or mood of a story created by the author's choice of language, setting descriptions, and sensory details.

Dialogue Punctuation

Using inverted commas to show direct speech, with a comma inside the closing speech mark before the reporting clause (e.g., 'Hello,' said Pip).

Cliffhanger

A dramatic ending to a chapter or scene that leaves the reader in suspense, eager to discover what happens next.

Cohesion

The way a text flows logically, using conjunctions, adverbials, and pronouns to link ideas and paragraphs together smoothly.

Flashback

An interruption in the chronological sequence of a story to describe an event that happened at an earlier time.