

THE SHORT STORY

A popular form of entertainment.

Unlike the novel, the short story can be read in a short amount of time.

The short story originates from the oral tradition of storytelling.

THE SHORT STORY

One of the keys to the intense impact of a short story is that it is read without interruptions.

Because of technology (television, video clips like Youtube, etc.), the short story's importance is often overlooked.

Most often, short stories are fictional.

THE SHORT STORY

The short story was/is often published in magazines and compiled in book-length printings.

Thirty-minute sitcoms are merely short stories.

A short story is generally four to forty pages long.

THE SHORT STORY

Authors of the short story must be focused and use their words carefully in order to impact the reader with the fewest words necessary – unlike the novelist.

The short story does not require a long attention span.

THE SHORT STORY

“A short story is like the final stages of a bullfight. When the matador brings the bull in closer and closer and finally sets the sword for the kill. The preliminary action may build the suspense but this is the crux of the event; the kernel of genuineness.” ~**Duncan L. Dieterly**

THE SHORT STORY

What makes a great author of short stories?
They are the masters - combining the five key elements that go into every great short story:

Character,

Setting,

Conflict,

Plot, and

Theme.

CHARACTER

- A character is a person, or sometimes even an animal, who takes part in the action of a short story or other literary work.

SETTING

- The setting of a short story is the time and place in which it happens. Authors often use descriptions of landscape, scenery, buildings, seasons or weather to provide a strong sense of setting.

PLOT

- A plot is a series of events and character actions that relate to the central conflict.

CONFLICT

- The conflict is a struggle between two people or things in a short story. The main character is usually on one side of the central conflict.
- On the other side, the main character may struggle against another important character, against the forces of nature, against society, or even against something inside himself or herself (feelings, emotions, illness).

THEME

- The theme is the central idea or belief in a short story.

THE SHORT STORY

Define “Short Story” from your textbook. The definition is found on page 1480 & 1481.

VOCABULARY

Short story

Theme

Conflict

Plot

Setting

Character

More vocabulary to come...

VOCABULARY

Climax

Resolution

Exposition

Symbolism

Irony

Rising action

Falling action

Tone

Mood

Narrator

Point of view