THE ART OF READING NOVEL

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Novels can open up new worlds.

They can take you to –

- places you've never been
- times long ago
- times in the future
- into the hearts and minds of others

Novels can do many things

- **Keep you company on a boring day**

- **Make you laugh or cry**

- **Help you understand your own life through the lives of others**

What is a Novel?

- **Characteristics:**
- a fictional prose work
- usually divided into chapters
- relatively long and often complex plot
- story traditionally develops through the thoughts and actions of its characters

- **The purpose of reading a Novel**:

- who is telling the story (point of view)

- where and when the story takes place

- who are the main characters

- what the characters are like

- what happens (plot)

When reading a novel

- **You should also understand:**

- **the author's central idea or message (theme)**

- **how the author expresses his or her ideas (style**

It's good to preview before reading

Preview checklist:

- ✓ the title and author
- ✓ the front and back covers
- ✓ summaries or excerpts from book reviews
- ✓ information about author
- ✓ introductory material – dedication
- ✓ foreword, or introduction
- ✓ chapter names and illustrations

Setting- A Literary Element

Setting is the environment in which a story unfolds.

- **It includes –**
- the time and period in history
- the place
- the atmosphere
- the clothing
- the living conditions
- the social climate

Understanding the Setting

A story can be set in an imaginary place, such as an enchanted castle, or a real place, such as New York or Africa.

The time can be the past, the present, or the future

Literary Element

Mood is the feeling, or atmosphere, that the writer creates for the reader.

The author can use the setting to create a mood, which is happy, sad, exciting, or boring

Literary Element: Point of View

- **The narrative perspective from which events in a story or novel are told**

THE NARRATOR IS YOUR GUIDE

Literary Element: Point of View

When you determine who is telling the story, you've discovered the narrative point of view.

This is important because the narrator controls:

- what and how much is told
- the kind of information given to the reader
- even the shape of the work itself

First Person Point of View

This means that the narrator –

- is a character in the story
- describes the action in his or her own wor...

What's shown is limited to th character's observations an thoughts

Third Person Point of View

- **Events and characters described**
- **by a character <u>outside</u> the action**

- **Third person limited point of view**:
- **The narrator tells the story from the**
- **perspective of only one character.**

- **The reader only learns what this**
- **person feels and experiences**

Third Person Omniscient Point of View

- **Narrator is all-knowing**

- **Can see into the mind of more than one character**

- **Gives reader access to all characters**

Literary Element: Character Development

Authors describe them carefully.

You learn -

- **how they look**
- **what kind of people they are**
- **how they act in different situations**
- **how they change during the story**

- **Main characters** - characters who the story revolves around the most.

- **Minor characters** - interact with the main characters and help move the story along.

- **Static characters** - stay the same over the entire course of the story, even though their situation may change.

- **Dynamic characters** - evolve as individuals, learning from their experiences and growing **emotionally**

Literary Element

Plot

Literary Element: Plot

The plot is the sequence of events or what happens in a story.

Many plots contain a central problem – something that goes wrong

Writer's Style

Writer's style involves these elements:

- Word choice

- Tone

- Sentence structure and length

- Literary devices, such as figurative language, symbols, dialogue, and imagery

Literary Devices

- **Imagery is the use of words and phrases that create pictures in the reader's mind.**
  - **Details that appeal to your senses – sight, hearing, smell, taste, and touch – make the writing   come alive.**

Literary Element: Tone

- **Tone expresses a writer's attitude.**
- The tone of a literary work may be one of:
  - anger
  - approval
  - joy
  - sadness
  - hum

Types of Novels

- *Realistic Novel*
- *Picaresque Novel*
- *Historical Novel*
- *Epistolary Novel*
- *Bildungsroman*
- *Gothic Novel*
- *Autobiographic Novel*
- *Satirical Novel*
- *Regional Novel*