

Eight Elements of Fiction

Create Your World and Plot!

Setting (Does it change, or is it constant throughout? What sounds, sights, smells, and textures exist in your setting? List them!)

Characters (Consider the role each of your characters will play. How do they support or antagonize one another? How are relationships formed? List your characters and their role within your plot!)

Point of View (Once you pick your POV, you must stay consistent! First Person can be the most limiting yet also the most intense as you place your reader in the direct perspective of your main character. Third Person lets your reader hear the thoughts of other characters, and Omnipresent allows you to insert your author's voice to directly address the audience with behind-the-scenes information the other characters are unaware of yet)

Conflict (External: An outside force like war, natural disaster, or an evil agency that gets in the way of the protagonist. Internal: The protagonist's own struggles with their self-emotion and/or self-driven abuse or fear. A novel can contain both types of conflicts, and most do!)

External:

Internal:

Plot (Exposition, Inciting Action that Starts Journey, Rising Action Events, Climax, Falling Action Events, Resolution)

Mood/Tone (What will be the overall mood that you want your readers to experience at the end of the book? What tones do you want your character's to carry across?)

Theme(s) (Look Below for More Information)

Literary Devices (Look Below for More Information)

Topic: the subject or issue revealed by the author (explicitly and implicitly); the idea is expressed in a word or phrase

_____ **EX:** *The Great Gatsby* by Scott Fitzgerald

- Wealth, Entitlement, the American Dream, Carelessness

Theme: the complete literary message contains the implied message where the author suggests his or her opinion about the given topic. It will be expressed in the form of a statement where the author conveys his or her idea about the topic in a complete sentence

EX: *The Great Gatsby* by Scott Fitzgerald

- Wealth leads to selfishness, Entitlement fosters impunity, the American Dream is an illusion

Literary Devices: there are over thirty rhetorical and literary devices out there which can enhance your own writing style. Find the ones that appeal to your own style the most and have fun writing more critical literature!

Characterization Chart

Working Title of Your Book:

Name of Character:

Character's Chosen Gender:

Archetype or Role Your Character Plays in Plot (ally, trickster, sage, heroine, etc.):

Theme or Message Your Character Voices (rebellion, fear of unknown, etc.):

Symbols Associated with This Character (objects or style choices):

Setting of Character's Childhood:

Appearance

(clothing, hair style/color, eyes, facial expressions, shoes, purse/bag/wallet, car, house)

Body Language

(hand movements, body posture, walking pace)

Character's Own Thoughts

(Italics, perceptions, attitudes)

Personal Dialogue

(word choice, dialogue tags, voice/tone, accents, swearing/cursing, sarcasm/irony)

Morals/Virtues (opinions on world views/philosophies, behavior towards certain classes/gender/races/neighborhoods)

Other Character's Thoughts/Words about Character
(attitudes, dialogue tags, word choice)