

# English IV

## *Elements of Literature*

### Napoleon Dynamite Assignment

*Understand and be able to define and give examples of the following:*

#### **Plot**

Sequence of events of any story. Conflict-based.

#### **Characterization**

Dynamic vs. Static Characters. A well-rounded, dynamic character has many dimensions and adds interest to the plot. It also partly determines *motivation*.

#### **Point of View**

The voice of the *narrator*. Not often literal but implied - inferred from the reader. Know 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> for now.

#### **Conflict**

There may be more than one type of conflict in any story. For now know: Man versus Man, Man versus Nature, Man versus Society and Man versus Self. There is always a main conflict and sometimes others with other characters.

#### **Foreshadowing**

Anything that predicts or suggests what is to come. Always be alert for this as sometimes it's subtle but mostly you will remember it after the foreshadowed event. It helps drive suspense and the plot as a result. It helps us "suspend our disbelief" in the story.

#### **Irony**

Something that happens that was not expected. The contrast between what IS and what ISN'T is the irony.

#### **Tone/Mood**

Tone is the atmosphere the author suggests revealed through word choice and details. Think GENRE or overall "feel" of the work.

But Mood is what you, the reader, infer or feel about the atmosphere, usually revealed through setting and characterization. Mood can shift from scene to scene.

#### **Symbolism**

Something that represents something else.

### **Theme**

Think the “moral” of the story. The message - NOT THE PLOT. The author suggests it. Often it’s “reading between the lines” as it can be either stated or implied.

### **Imagery**

Any language, dialog, details that appeal to the senses. Think about it this way: can you see it? Hear it? Feel it? Smell it? Taste it?

### **Figurative Language**

Symbolism - anything that goes beyond the **literal**, into the **figurative**. For now, know the difference between **metaphor** and **simile**.