Ms. Mutama

Spoken Language 10

Setting

The setting of a story is generally understood as the location and time in which the narrative unfolds. Depending on the author's purpose for writing the story, the setting may not always be highlighted in the text as an important part of the narrative. Setting, however, whether implicitly or explicitly, does play a significant role in the development of a story as it determines a multitude of aspects - who the characters are, how they interact, and their mannerisms (to name a few). Setting influences the events and themes within the story as well.

Think for a moment about *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen which was written in the 1800s vs the superhero film *Avengers: Endgame* from 2019. Surely the two different time periods and locations of these stories play a central role to the development and progression of these stories.

In our everyday lives, where we live and the generation or time period we are living in comprise such a significant part of our identities - who we are. Think about all the settings in your lives - communities you belong to, clubs, teams, spiritual gatherings, neighborhoods, and digital communities. The communities we belong to and choose to involve ourselves with, build very strongly into our identities whether we realize it or not.

If aspects of where we live - the communities we visit were altered even slightly - would we be different people?

Characteristics of Setting

Place - Geographical Location. Where is the action of the story taking place?

Time - When is the story taking place? (historical period, time of day, year, etc)

Weather Conditions - Is it rainy, sunny, stormy, etc.

Social Conditions - What is the daily life of the characters like? Does the story contain local colour (writing that focuses on speech, dress, mannerisms, customs, etc of a particular place)?

Mood or Atmosphere - What feeling is created at the beginning of the story? Is it bright and cheerful or dark and frightening?

Excerpted from Ms.Tarbuck's Literary Terms

Our Tomorrows: Teenagers Around the World Share their Fears and Dreams/ The Guardian

* Watch the Youtube Video
* Choose two individuals who describe aspects of where they live that are different from your own
* Think about some of the aspects of identity we discussed last day - friends, family, personality, mindset, values, interests, skills, habits, beliefs, etc
* Choose two aspects of your identity (either ones listed above or your own) and note how these characteristics may be altered if you lived in their environments and why (be sure to note the specific characteristic and quotes (what they say) of where they live from which you are drawing your conclusion)

Alfie, 14 - UK

What two aspects did you choose? How might your identity shift if you lived in Alfie's environment?

Alex, 20 - US

What two aspects did you choose? How might your identity shift if you lived in Alex's environment?

Becky, 17 - Indonesia

What two aspects did you choose? How might your identity shift if you lived in Becky's environment?

ZoeyJoy, 18 - Nigeria

What two aspects did you choose? How might your identity shift if you lived in Zoeyjoy's environment?

Fabiola, 19 - Mexico

What two aspects did you choose? How might your identity shift if you lived in Fabiola's environment?

Daniel, 16 - Kenya

What two aspects did you choose? How might your identity shift if you lived in Daniel's environment?

Kaavya 16 - India

What two aspects did you choose? How might your identity shift if you lived in Kaavya's environment?

Alice and Isabel, 14 - Sweden

What two aspects did you choose? How might your identity shift if you lived in Alice and Isabel's environment?

Yassin, 15, - France

What two aspects did you choose? How might your identity shift if you lived in Yassin's environment?