Composition 11 - Ms. Mutama

Short Story Elements

These are some of the short story elements that we will be discussing in the class

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| Setting | Location and time within which a story unfolds. Place (geographical location), Time (when is the story taking place), Weather condition, Social conditions - local colour (speech, dress, mannerisms, customs of a particular place), Mood/Atmosphere - what feeling is created at the beginning of the story |
| Plot | The series of events that make up a story.  Exposition  Rising Action,  Climax  Falling Action  Resolution |
| Conflict | Struggle between two opposing forces - usually a protagonist and an antagonist, man vs self, man vs man, man vs society, man vs nature, man vs machine, man vs fate/supernatural. Typically a challenge that the main character needs to overcome to achieve their goals. |
| Character | These are the actors in the story. Antagonist, protagonist, dynamic, flat, static, round |
| Theme | The theme in a story is its underlying message, or 'big idea.' In other words, what critical belief about life is the author trying to convey in the writing of a novel, play, short story or poem? |
| Point of View | Point of view refers to the “eye” or narrative voice through which you tell a story.  First person - One of the characters is narrating the story - Use of “I”  Second person - Narrator tells the story to another character using the word “you”  Third Person, limited - Narrator only knows the thoughts and feelings of one character  Third Person, omniscient - narrator knows thoughts and feelings of all characters in the story |
| Moral | The lesson that the story intends to impart to its readers |
| Tone | Attitude of the writer towards a subject (formal, informal, serious, comic, sarcastic, sad, cheerful) |
| Literary devices - Symbolism, Foreshadow, Flashback, Suspense, imagery, metaphor, allusion, irony, Personification | Allegory  Allusion  Flashback  Foreshadowing  Imagery  Irony  Suspense  Symbolism  Metaphor  Personification |
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