

LANGUAGE AND STRUCTURE TECHNIQUES

LANGUAGE TECHNIQUES

A: DESCRIPTION AND IMAGERY		
1	Adjectives	Words which describe what something is like
2	Adverbs	Words which describe how something is done
3	Lexical choices	Words chosen for a specific effect
4	Metaphors	A non-literal comparison using the word 'is'
5	Personification	Giving human characteristics to inanimate things
6	Sensory description	Using words or phrases that appeal to the senses
7	Similes	A non-literal comparison using the words 'as' or 'like'
8	Verbs	Doing words

STRUCTURE TECHNIQUES

B: WHOLE TEXT		
1	Climax	The highest point of tension
2	Narrative	The beginning, middle & end of a text
	a) Cyclical	When the narrative starts and ends in the same place
	b) Linear	When the narrative is chronological
	c) Non-linear	When the narrative is not chronological
3	Narrative voice	The person telling the story (1 st or 3 rd person)
4	Repetition	When events or actions reoccur
5	Shifts	Changes in mood, time, perspective, focus, or ideas

B: ATMOSPHERE AND MOOD		
1	Dramatic language	Language used for shock or impact
2	Emotive language	Language used to make the reader feel something
3	Tone	The feel of a piece of writing eg, angry, peaceful etc

D: CHARACTER		
1	Antagonist	The character who causes conflict
2	Archetype	A familiar or typical sort of character
3	Protagonist	The main character

LANGUAGE OR STRUCTURE TECHNIQUES.

E LITERARY (STORY TELLING) DEVICES		
If you write about the intended effect these have on the reader, you are analysing LANGUAGE .		
If you link the effect of these techniques to the techniques in boxes C or D, you are analysing STRUCTURE		
1	Cumulative effect	When something gets bigger & better, better & better, worse & worse, etc
2	Foreshadowing	Clues about what will happen later in the story
3	Juxtaposition	Contrasts between settings, moods, characters, etc
4	Pathetic fallacy	When the weather or nature is used to reflect the mood of a scene or character
5	Symbolism	When objects or images are used to represent something (eg doves = peace)

F SENTENCE TYPES		
If you write about the intended effect these have on the reader, you are analysing LANGUAGE .		
If you link the effect of these techniques to the techniques in boxes C or D, you are analysing STRUCTURE		
1	Sentence structures	The length & construction of a sentence
	a) Short simple	A sentence which focuses on one thing for impact or emphasis; speeds up the pace
	b) Long descriptive	A sentence which goes into a lot of detail ; slows the pace
2	Sentence functions	The job a sentence does
	a) Declarative	Statement – to make something sound strong, true, or definite
	b) Exclamative	Exclamation – to show emotion such as shock, surprise, anger etc
	c) Imperative	Order – to make something sound as if it cannot be questioned or must be done
	d) Interrogative	Question – to encourage a response (either from a character or from a reader)
3	Lists	Lots of examples (of adjectives, adverbs, ideas, emotions, problems, etc)
	a) asyndetic	A list with commas but no connectives - it makes the list seem long and unfinished
	b) syndetic	A list with connectives but no connectives – as above, but sounds more child-like

G PUNCTUATION					
If you write about the intended effect these have on the reader, you are analysing LANGUAGE .					
If you link the effect of these techniques to the techniques in boxes C or D, you are analysing STRUCTURE					
1	Dash	A break or a pause	3	Colon	An arrow in the text
2	Ellipsis	Missing text, break, or pause	4	Semi-colon	Connects linked ideas