

# ENGLISH 12

## TERMS AND DEVICES

### A

active voice  
allegory  
alliteration  
allusion  
analogy  
antagonist  
anti-climax  
antithesis  
apostrophe  
argumentative essay  
anecdotal evidence  
archaic language  
aside  
assonance  
atmosphere  
audience  
autobiography

### B

ballad  
ballad stanza  
bias  
biography  
blank verse

### C

cacophony  
caricature  
case study  
catastrophe  
cause and effect  
character  
characterization  
character foil  
chorus  
chronological order  
cliché  
climactic order  
climax  
colloquialism  
colloquial language

comedy  
comic relief  
compare and contrast  
comparison  
conflict  
connotation  
consonance\*  
contrast  
couplet

### D

denotation  
dénouement  
descriptive essay  
dialect  
dialogue  
diary  
diction  
didactic  
dilemma  
direct presentation  
dissonance  
drama  
dramatic irony  
dramatic monologue  
dramatic form  
dynamic character

### E

editorial  
elegy  
emotional appeal  
epic  
epilogue  
epiphany  
epigram  
epitaph  
euphemism  
euphony  
expert testimony  
exposition  
expository essay

extended metaphor  
external conflict

### F

fable  
falling action  
fantasy  
farce  
figurative language  
first person point of view  
flashback  
flat character  
foil  
foreshadowing  
form  
formal essay  
formal language  
frame story  
free verse

### G

genre  
graphic text

### H

hero  
historical reference  
hyperbole

### I

iambic pentameter  
idiom  
image  
imagery  
indeterminate ending  
indirect presentation  
informal essay  
informal language  
interior monologue  
internal conflict  
internal rhyme  
irony

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\* *consonance* is defined in two ways:

1) the repetition of consonant sounds before and after differing vowels, such as “flip-flop,” “feel-fill.”

**OR**

2) the repetition of consonant sounds at the ends of words only, as in “east-west,” or “hid-bed.”

*Literary Terms: A Dictionary 3rd ed.* (Karl Beckson, Arthur Ganz, 1989)

**J**

jargon  
juxtaposition

**L**

legend  
limited omniscient  
point of view  
literal language  
lyric

**M**

melodrama  
metaphor  
metre  
monologue  
mood  
mystery  
myth

**N**

narrative  
narration  
narrator

**O**

objective (language tone etc.)  
objective point of view  
octave  
ode  
omniscient point of view  
onomatopoeia  
oxymoron

**P**

paradox  
parallelism  
parody

passive voice  
pastoral  
pathos  
personal essay  
personification  
persuasive essay  
persuasive technique  
plot  
point of view  
pro and con argument  
prologue  
propaganda  
protagonist  
proverb  
purpose  
pun

**Q**

quatrain  
question and answer

**R**

refrain  
repetition  
research  
resolution  
rhetorical question  
rhyme  
rhyme scheme  
rhythm  
rising action  
round character

**S**

sarcasm  
satire  
sestet

setting  
simile  
slang  
soliloquy  
sonnet  
speaker  
stanza  
stream of consciousness  
statistical evidence  
static character  
stereotype  
stock / stereotyped character  
story within a story  
style  
stylistic technique  
subjective (language tone etc.)  
surprise ending  
suspense  
symbol  
symbolism

**T**

theme  
thesis  
thesis statement  
third person point of view  
tone  
tragedy

**U**

understatement

**V**

voice

**W**

wit