

DRAMA 3

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DRAMATIC TERMS

- **Parable – short, descriptive story that illustrates a particular belief or moral.**
- **Paradox – a statement that seems contrary to common sense yet may in fact be true. “The coach considered it a good loss.”**
- **Parody – form of literature that mocks a particular purpose. A comic effect is intended.**

- **Pathos - a Greek root meaning suffering or passion. Describes the part in a play that is intended to elicit pity or sorrow from the audience.**
 - **Poetic justice - a term that describes a character “getting what he deserves” in the end, especially if what he deserves is punishment.**
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- **Pun – a word or phrase that is used in such a way as to suggest more than one possible meaning.**
 - **Quest – features a main character who is seeking to find something or achieve a goal. The person must encounter and overcome a series of obstacles. They return with new wisdom as a result of their journey.**
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- **Realism - literature that attempts to represent life as it really is.**
 - **Resolution - same as denouement**
 - **Romance – a form of literature that presents life the way we would like it to be – great adventure, love, and excitement**
 - **Romanticism – a literary movement with an emphasis on the imagination and emotions**
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- **Sarcasm - the use of praise to mock someone or something.**
 - **Satire - literary tone used to ridicule or make fun of a human weakness.**
 - **Setting - time and place of a story**
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- **Soliloquy** – a speech delivered by a character when he or she is alone on stage
 - **Stereotype** - a pattern or form that does not change.
 - **Script** - is the piece of writing that an actor reads from and memorizes lines. The original writing from the author.
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- **Total effect - is the general impression a literary work leaves on the reader.**
 - **Tragedy - a literary work in which the hero is destroyed by some character flaw and by forces beyond his or her control.**
 - **Playwright/Dramatist - is the writer of a play**
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- **Sequence - is the order of events in which something happens during the story.**
 - **Fade in - where the lights slowly come up and the scene is before the audience.**
 - **Fade out - usually at the end of a scene the lights usually dim and the acting space goes dark.**
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- **Act** – a main division of a drama. Shakespeare's consist of five acts with each act subdivided into scenes.
 - **Scene** – a small unit of a play in which there is no shift of locale or time
 - **Rhetoric** – the art of persuasion, used by speakers to add emotion to their words.
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Malapropism – a type of pun, or play on words, that results when two words become jumbled in the speaker's mind.

Naturalism – extreme form of realism – author shows the relationship between character and the environment

- **Oxymoron** – a combination of contradictory terms such as “tough love”.
 - **Pathetic Fallacy** – a form of personification giving human traits to nature – howling wind
 - **Slapstick** – a form of low comedy that often includes exaggerated, sometimes violent action.
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