

Literary Terminology

KS3 English · Follows the national curriculum

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

1. Worked example

Label the word classes: 'The exhausted runner finally crossed the line.'

Step 1 · Determiners

The, the

Step 2 · Adjective

exhausted (describes the runner)

Step 3 · Nouns

runner, line

Step 4 · Adverb and verb

finally (adverb), crossed (verb)

Answer: The (determiner) exhausted (adjective) runner (noun) finally (adverb) crossed (verb) the (determiner) line (noun).

Check: Every word has a job.

2. Now try one with the steps

Use a term precisely in analysis: 'The wind screamed through the trees.'

Step 1 · Name the technique

Step 2 · Name the word class

Step 3 · Explain the effect

Answer:

3. Practice

Show your working. The marks tell you how much is expected.

1. What word class is 'beneath' in 'The cat slept beneath the table'? [1]

2. What type of sentence ends with a question mark? [1]

3. How many modal verbs are in 'You could go, but you must be back by six.'? Write the number. [1]
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-
4. What is an oxymoron? Give an example. [2]
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-
5. What is a semantic field? [1]
-
-
6. Rewrite in the active voice: 'The trophy was won by our team.' [1]
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-
7. What is the difference between tone and mood? [2]
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-
8. What is a motif? [1]
-
-
9. Name the type of irony: a lifeguard who cannot swim. [1]
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10. Name the type of irony: the audience knows a character's drink is poisoned, but the character does not. [1]
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11. What is the difference between personification and pathetic fallacy? [2]
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12. Write one sentence of analysis on 'The classroom was a zoo' using the correct term. [2]
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13. Why is a precise term on its own not enough for a good analysis? [2]
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14. Explain how a writer might use the passive voice to hide responsibility. Give an example. [2]

4. Before you hand it in

'The writer uses lots of language techniques.'

Name the exact technique and quote it: 'The verb "screamed" personifies the wind...'

Calling every comparison a metaphor.

Check for 'like' or 'as' before you choose the term.

Using irony to mean 'coincidence' or 'bad luck'.

Irony involves a gap between what is said or expected and what is meant or happens.

Using a term you are unsure of.

If unsure, describe what the writer does in plain words. Accuracy beats ambition.