

CLASS: SENIOR ONE.**COURSE CONTENTS****UNIT I: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY GENRES: FICTION AND NON-FICTION****UNIT II: INTRODUCTION TO PROSE: PLOT, SETTING & CHARACTERS****UNIT III: INTRODUCTION TO POETRY****UNIT IV: THEMES AND MESSAGES IN POETRY****UNIT V: LANGUAGE USE IN POETRY****UNIT VI: INTRODUCTION TO DRAMA****UNIT VII: KEY ASPECTS OF DRAMA**

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UNIT I: INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY GENRES: FICTION AND NON-FICTION**I.1. INTRODUCTON**

The term “Literature” comes from a Latin word *literatura* or *litteratura* which means “*writing formed with letters*”. *Literatura* derived from a Latin root “*littera*” which means “letter or handwriting”, or knowledge of letters.

Literature is a term used to describe written or verbal material. Generally speaking, literature can express anything from creative writing to more technical or scientific work. But, the term “literature” is frequently used to refer to works of the creative imagination which includes poetry, drama, fiction and non-fiction.

In broad sense, literature can be looked at as any symbolic record encompassing everything from images, sculptures, to letters. In a narrow sense we can define literature as a text composed of letters, written on a paper or other material. In everyday life, we perceive literature to mean any written material.

I.2. DEFINITION OF LITERATURE

There are many great thinkers and writers who have given wonderful definitions of literature. Some of them are given below:

- i.** ***Boris Pasternak*** said that it is the art of discovering something extraordinary about ordinary people, and saying with ordinary words something extraordinary.
- ii.** ***Iman Ja’ far al Sadiq*** defined literature as “the garment which one puts on what he says or writes so that it may appear attractive”.

Literature is: - any written material

-a text composed of letters, written on paper or other solid material.

-a kind of art which uses language in a creative and artistic way to comment on society.

-an art that is created out of a language.

-the use of language in creative and artistic way.

The definitions given above consider literature as something that is distinguished by style and beautiful language. Therefore, it involves the use of language but in a more stylistic and artistic manner.

I.3. THE IMPORTANCE OF LITERATURE

- ✓ Literature educates and informs us about our world: By reading literary texts we are able to understand ourselves and other people, and know other places and time periods.
- ✓ Literature is very entertaining: it enables us to share our emotions with the text.
- ✓ Literature satisfies and stimulates our imagination: By making us curious and critical thinkers, we are able to evaluate or judge things. It challenges our minds and enables us to grow both intellectually and socially.
- ✓ It broadens our reasoning.
- ✓ Literature helps us to understand our history and our identities better.
- ✓ It increases our knowledge.
- ✓ It enables us to use language with ease.
- ✓ It sharpens one's intellect and equips one with good communication.
- ✓ Literature humanizes us: we develop sensibility and compassion towards others. We also appreciate what is good and reject what is bad. It makes us better people.
- ✓ It helps us to know other disciplines (religion, psychology, science,...)
- ✓ Literature helps us to better fit in other professions as we can express ourselves creatively in spoken and written forms, and these are the skills learnt by reading literary works.

I.4. FORMS OF LITERATURE

Literature exists in two forms: **Oral literature** and **written literature**.

a. Oral literature: It is literature which is disseminated/transmitted/spread by word of mouth. It is literature which is not written in textbook.

Ex: Poems, songs, riddles, tongue twisters, proverbs, fairy tales....

b. Written literature: It is literature which is written down on a paper or other solid material. It is literature which is written in textbooks.

Ex: Novels, novellas, plays, prose passages, newspapers, journals, ...

Oral literature is carried in the memories of members of different communities and it is passed from one generation to another. This one existed before the invention of writing.

On the other hand, written literature started or came with the invention of writing.

I.5. MAIN GENRES OF LITERATURE

The word "genre" refers to a kind or a category of literature. Written literature is divided into three broad genres or categories based on how or the way words are written and sometimes on the kind of meaning an author wants to portray. Those genres are **prose**, **poetry** and **drama**.

a. Prose

Prose refers to literature which is written in continuous sentences and paragraphs. It comprises of full grammatical sentences which consist of paragraphs.

It practices a natural flow of speech and common grammatical structure rather than a rhythmic formation. Prose also tends to focus on plot and characters.

Main varieties of prose are novels, short stories, journals, novellas, diaries, letters, and non-fiction.

Example₁: I was only ten years when my sister was sold away. That was two years ago. A few days before, the suitors had come. Three ugly women and four men. One of the four men wanted to be the husband of my sister. I disliked the way he looked, but my father and the clan liked him very much. They said he came from a rich family. His father had many herds of cattle and a large flock of sheep.
(From “*They sold my sister*” by *Leteipa Ole Sunkuli*)

Example₂: “The woods look lovely against the setting darkness. As I gaze into the mysterious depths of the forest, I feel like lingering here no longer. However, I have pending appointments to keep and much distance to cover. So, I will not settle in or else I will be late for all of them.”

b. Poetry

Poetry refers to literature which is written in verse form. It is a special kind of writing in which words, pictures and sounds combine making a special emotional effect or spontaneous overflow of powerful emotions.

Poetry is regarded as the oldest form of literature. Before writing was invented, oral stories were commonly put into some kind of poetic form. It made them easier to memorize and recite.

It has been generally agreed that all music is poetry. Poetry is meant to be recited because it uses words and sounds to excite us making us dance or nod. Poetry is meant to be recited but often, it is written down. Poetry is almost always written in verses (lines) and stanzas and the one who writes or recite poetry is a **poet**.

Example₁: “The woods are lovely, dark and deep.
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep”

Example₂: **The crack by Sheikha El-Miskery**

Crack the glass
And the crack
Will always remain
The human heart
Has veins;
It’s just delicate
To the strain

Example₃: **Epistle to the World by Leteipa Ole Sunkuli**

Children will bear
On their shoulders
The murderers of their fathers
The murderers of their mothers
In a treacherous embrace.

c. Drama

Drama refers to literature which is written in dialogue form. It is a form of fictional representation through dialogue and performance. It is also an imitation of different actions. Drama should be acted before the audience in order to communicate a message. It includes conflict of characters that perform in front of the audience on stage.

Example₁: **ELISE:** “The woods look more and more beautiful as we go deeper into the forest”.
BETTY: “Yes, but it is late and we have other places that we promised we’ll visit. It’d be better that we keep our promises, before setting down in the woods.”

Any text that is meant to be performed rather than read can be considered as drama. Dramas are also frequently called plays and the one who writes drama/play is called a **dramatist** or **playwright**.

I.6. TYPES OF LITERARY WORKS

We have seen three main genres of literature. All those genres (prose, poetry, drama) have their own sub-genres.

a. Sub-genres of prose

Novel: A novel is a long piece of narrative fiction.

It is a long work of narrative fiction normally in prose, and typically published as a book.

Ex: “Weep Not Child” by Ngugi wa Thiong’o
 “African Child” by Camara Laye
 “A Man of the People” by Chinua Achebe

Short story: It is a fictional work of prose that is shorter than a novel.

It is a brief work of fiction usually written in prose and running 1,600 to 20,000 words in length.

Ex: “They sold my sister” by Leteipa Ole Sunkuli.

Fairy tale: It is a story about magic and legendary deeds.

It is a children’s story about magical and imaginary beings and lands.

It is a story that typically features entities such as dwarfs, dragons, elves, fairies, witches, giants, talking animals, ..

Ex: Cinderella and the Seven Dwarfs, The Frog Prince, ..

Autobiography: It is a story of the author’s own life written by him.

Ex: “Long Walk to Freedom” by Nelson Mandela
 “Family Life at the White House” by Bill Clinton

Biography: An account (story) of someone’s life written by someone else.

Ex: Paul Kagame by Wikipedia

Diary: Diaries are the events documented by an author without any means of publishing them.

A record (originally in handwriting) with discrete entries arranged by date reporting on what happened over the course of the day or other period.

Fable: It is a short story that features animals and conveys a specific moral lesson.

Ex: The Fox and the crow by Aesop
 The Tortoise and the Hare by Aesop

Novella: It is a story that is longer than a short story but shorter than a novel.

It is a short novel or a long short story.

It is a text of written, fictional, narrative prose normally longer than a short story but shorter than a novel

b. Subgenres of drama

Melodrama: A kind of drama having a musical accompaniment to intensify the effects of certain scenes.

Tragedy: A kind of drama with tragic events and having an unhappy ending especially the downfall of the main character.

It is a kind of drama in which a heroic protagonist encounters a crisis and falls from grace to grass

It is a drama with a tragic and an unhappy ending.

Ex: The Iliad by Homer

The Odyssey by Homer

Oedipus the King by Sophocles

} These are the famous Greek tragedies

Comedy: It is a humorous play with a happy ending.

Ex: Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare
Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare

Tragicomedy: It is a drama that combines the elements of a tragedy and a comedy.

You will cry and laugh while watching a tragicomedy.

It can be a tragedy with a happy ending or a tragedy with enough comic elements.

I.6. CHARACTERISTICS OF FICTONAL AND NON-FICTIONAL LITERARY WORKS

Prose as a genre of literature can be divided into two broad categories. **Fiction** and **non-fiction**.

a. Fiction

Fiction refers to literature which is created out of imagination. In a fictional work; the places do not necessarily exist in the real life. They are imagined or they originate in the writer's mind.

Ex: Novels

Novella

Short stories

Fairy tales

b. Non-fiction

Non-fiction refers to literature based on fact. It is literature based on true accounts of the people, events and places. It includes all writings based on true events. It is based on the real people existing in real places.

Ex: Biographies

Autobiographies

Essays

Articles

Fiction	Non-fiction
a. Fiction is created by an author from imagination.	Non-fiction is based on true events and facts.
b. The people, events, places and ideas, are imaginary and invented.	It involves real people, real events, real places and real ideas.
c. Many times, authors use a narrator who is not a real person.	It is narrated by an author who is a real person
d. It is a story with a series of connected events.	It is not necessarily a story.
e. Fiction is entertaining.	It is informative.

Place: Where the story is happening.

EX: In a garden, in a sea, inside the house, at Muyumbu, in Rwanda, in Nyungwe Forest, at school,....

Context: It can be set in a social and cultural setting.

Ex: In urban environment as in Kigali, in a traditional African society,...

C. CHARACTERS

A character refers to the fictional human being, animal or thing in a story. The character is any person, animal or figure represented in a literary work. Characters are central figures on which the action of the plot happens.

Types of characters

a. **Main/major/central characters:** They are characters that play a big role in the story. Most of the actions in the story happen around these characters. The plot and resolution of the conflict revolves around them.

Protagonist: A protagonist is a main character who is faced with problem/conflict he must resolve. He is a main character who has good behaviours. He is considered as a **hero**.

Antagonist: An antagonist is a main character who usually challenges the protagonist or tests him/her. He/she is a main character who has bad behaviours. He/she is also considered as a **villain**.

Main characters are well developed which makes us to know more about them and we can relate to them.

b. **Minor characters:** They are characters that do not play a big role in the story. They are characters that support/help or serve to complement the main ones and help move the plot events forward.

Positive characters: They are characters that show positive /good qualities or behaviours. They can be brave, hardworking, caring, humble, peaceful,...

Ex: Protagonist

Negative characters: They are characters that show negative/bad qualities/behaviours. They can be wicked cruel, wicked, brutal, lazy, revengeful,.....

Ex: Antagonist

Characterization

Characterization refers to the author's representation and development of characters in the story. While talking characterization, we should note that:

- **Dynamic character** is a character who changes over time.
- **Static character** is a character who doesn't change over time.
- **Round character** is a character that has a complex personality.
- **Flat character** is a character that is neither conflicted nor contradictory. He//she doesn't change and the story doesn't reveal much about him.

How to identify characters

In studying a short story, novel,...we need to identify and know the characters very well. In order to identify them we look at:

- ✓ The physical description of a character in terms of size, colour, and general appearance.
- ✓ What the character says about him/herself and about other issues affecting the society.
- ✓ The character's actions in his/her interactions with other characters in the society.

- ✓ What other characters in the story say about him/her.
- ✓ The character's thoughts, desires, dreams and wishes.

How to identify characters and explain their behaviours

In order to describe characters, we use adjectives. A character may be described in many ways such as:

- | | | |
|---------|---------------|------------|
| ✓ Good | ✓ Rude | ✓ Careless |
| ✓ Bad | ✓ Hardworking | ✓ honest |
| ✓ Funny | ✓ Polite | ✓ Etc.. |
| ✓ Lazy | ✓ Beautiful | |
| ✓ Ugly | ✓ Kind | |

The author creates different characters and has to show what makes a character behave the way he/she does or why he/she behaves in that way and how his/her behaviours affect others.

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UNIT III. INTRODUCTION TO POETRY

III.1 DEFINITION OF POETRY.

Poetry is the expression of a writer's feelings in rhythmic form. It is also a kind of literature that is written in verses and which uses condensed language to express strong feelings. Poetry is different from prose as it (poetry) uses its own unique structure.

Ex: Dreams by Langston Hughes

Hold fast to dreams
 For if dreams die
 Life is a broken-winged bird
 That cannot fly.
 Hold fast to dreams
 For when dreams go
 Life is a barren field
 Frozen with snow.

Just like music, poetry uses carefully arranged sounds and words, and it also expresses strong emotions. It is also condensed since it uses few words by comparing to other genres.

In poetry, it is where we find songs and poems. **A poem** is a work of literature in which words are arranged to sound pleasant to the ear and to express ideas, emotions and thoughts. The writer of a poem is called **a poet**.

Poetry relies on careful choice of words to relay the best possible meaning. Poetry is the best and most precise way of saying something and a good poet select, arranges and rearranges words until they are able to say what he wants them to say as effectively as possible.

Characteristics of poetry

Listen, Papa by Gachanja Kiai

Listen to me Papa
 I tried as hard as I could
 I wanted to be top in class
 I tried to be top in class
 Others were better than me
 They calculated faster than I could

They spelt better than I could
Listen Papa, I tried.

- ✓ Poetry uses language in an economical way (few words)
- ✓ Poetry expresses strong feelings and emotional expressions.
- ✓ Poetry is arranged in stanzas rather than in paragraphs.
- ✓ Poetry is musical.

Because part of a poem's meaning is contained in its sound, it is advisable to read it aloud in order to enjoy its full meaning. Poems should be read several times in order to get their real meaning.

III.2. TRADITIONAL POETRY IN RWANDA.

Our African societies have their own poetry which is not written in textbooks. Traditional poetry (poems, songs) is the one that is passed down from one generation to the other. Wedding songs and lullabies are also a part of traditional poetry.

a. Folk songs

Folk songs are songs of the inhabitants of a land about their culture, tradition or history.

Ex: Among them there is Ruti that aligns corpses
There is Rugurira in Minwi of Mugemanyi
The rooster of Mugenzi of Ngongo
Which was called while being anger-prone
And suddenly there was a commotion everywhere.

b. Wedding songs

They are songs that are sung for the bride and bridegroom. They are usually sung loudly in weddings with many people joining and singing together.

Ex: Go our dear
Love is good
The beautiful woman is taken away
The well-brought up young woman
You've done your parents credit
The beautiful woman is taken away
Oh she is taken away
The beautiful woman is taken away
She goes to her lover's home
The beautiful woman is taken away
May you have children
May be loved by the one you have loved
The beautiful woman is taken away
A home is the one that is visited
We will all visit you
The beautiful woman is taken away
Oh she is taken away
The beautiful woman is taken away
She goes to her lover's home
The beautiful woman is taken away.

c. Lullabies

Lullabies are soft gentle songs sung to make a child go to sleep.

Ex₁: Stop crying my child -Stop crying
Stop crying for I love you- Stop crying

Don't cry yourself hoarse- Stop crying
 Stop crying you immaculate- Stop crying
 Stop crying, my cowry- Stop crying
 Stop crying, listen to this lullaby- Stop crying.

Ex₂: Stop crying

For your father is keeping you company
 Stop crying
 For your brother is keeping you company
 Stop crying
 For your sister is keeping you company
 Stop crying
 For your cousins are keeping you company
 Stop crying -Stop.

III.3 MAIN FEATURES OF POEMS

a. Rhyme

Rhyme is a repetition of similar sounds in two or more words. Rhyme occurs when two or more words sound similarly at their ends. A rhyme is a tool that uses repeating patterns to create rhythm or musicality in poems. A rhyme is used for a specific purpose of giving a pleasing effect to a poem, which makes its recital an enjoyable experience.

Usually, rhyme occurs at the end of lines in a poem, but it can also occur in the middle. If it occurs in the middle, it is called **internal rhyme**.

Ex₁: Mama; don't **worry**

Your son's in no **hurry**
 We will not rush to **marry**
 And there make you **sorry**.

Ex₂: The gaze of the beauty

When I look at **Rwanda**
 I can't help it **wonder**
 How like a phoenix, from ashes this nation is **rising**
 When I look at **Rwanda**, I can't help it but start **praising**.

Ex₃: The choice to believe in power of **togetherness**

The choice to walk hand in hand even through the **darkness**
 The choice to trust the good in **others**
 And the choice to work heart to heart with **others**
 Because we are a summation, one **nation**
 And never shall we betray the **foundation**.

b. Rhythm

Rhythm refers to a strong regular repeated pattern of sound in poetry. It is also the variation of the length and accentuation of a series of sounds or other events. It is what we dance to in a song. It is the regular beat that defines the song. Rhythm that can be measured is called **meter**.

In writing poetry, rhythm acts as a beat in music. Rhythm is used to captivate the readers by giving musical effect to a literary piece.

Rhythm is created by: -repetition

- sound patterns (repetition of certain sounds in a poem).
- length of lines- if of the same length.

c. Line length

A line is a division of a poem. Specifically, a group of words arranged into a row that end for a reason. The lines (verses) are arranged to have a certain number of syllables, stresses, or metrical feet. The line length is determined by the rhythm which the poet wants to achieve. This means that lines can be short or long.

III.4. NURSERY RHYMES

A nursery rhyme is a simple song for children to sing. They are usually short, simple and repetitive. They are enjoyable to sing as they are full of funny and rhyming words. Nursery rhymes also heavily rely on word play which creates a playful effect, hence giving an opportunity to young children to learn something new in a playful and enjoyable manner.

Ex₁: Baa, baa black sheep

Baa, baa black sheep
Have you any wool,
Yes sir, yes sir,
Three bags full.
One for my master.
One for my dame.
But none for the little boy,
Who lives down the lane.

Ex₂: Old MacDonald had a farm

Old MACDONALD had a farm
E-I-E-I-O
And on his farm he had a cow
E-I-E-I-O
With a moo moo here
And a moo moo there
Here a moo, there a moo
Everywhere a moo moo
Old MacDonald had a farm
E-I-E-I-O

UNIT IV. THEMES AND MESSAGES IN POETRY**IV.1. DEFINITION OF A THEME**

A theme can be explained as follow:

- ✓ A theme is an opinion expressed on the subject.
- ✓ It is what a poet is saying about a certain subject.
- ✓ It is the central/ main idea of the poem.
- ✓ It is the poet's opinion or perspective about a certain issue in society.
- ✓ It the controlling idea which is continuously developed throughout the poem.

Themes can be about friendship, love, good vs bad, loneliness, grief,.....

IV.2. DEFINITION OF A MESSAGE

A message can be explained as follow:

- ✓ A message is what a poet what a poet wishes the society to learn from his/her poem.
- ✓ It is the kind of a lesson that the reader learns after reading the poem.

- ✓ It is the moral in the poem.
- ✓ It is something the poem aims to teach the reader.
- ✓ It is the lesson the poet wishes the society to learn from his/her poem.

Messages can be about respecting elders, not fighting, caring for your loved ones,...

IV.3. TYPES OF THEMES AND MESSAGES

The two types of themes and messages are: - Hidden
- Fully stated

a. Hidden themes/messages

Hidden themes or messages are the ones which are hidden. They are implied or communicated indirectly or suggested. To get them, the reader has to use his/her intelligence and analysis. They are also called **implicit** messages/ themes.

b. Fully stated themes/messages

These are the themes or messages which are stated or communicated directly or clearly. The reader does not have to analyze the poem to find them. They are fully and clearly expressed leaving nothing implied. They are also called **explicit** messages/themes.

The following steps can help you to discover the theme and messages:

- ✓ Take the name of the poem (title) into account.
- ✓ Try to understand the subject matter of the poem
- ✓ Summarize the poem in few words.
- ✓ Find the topic or big idea of the poem.
- ✓ What the poet is telling you by writing that poem
- ✓ Which things does the topic tell you that are important to learn about life.

UNIT V. LANGUAGE USE IN POETRY

V.1. POETIC DEVICES

Poetic devices are literary techniques that are used in poetry to create sounds and mental pictures within a poem. They are also tools that a poet uses to create rhythm, enhance a poem's meaning, or deepen a mood or a feeling. Poetic devices make poems pleasant to listen to.

a. Repetition

It is the repeating of a word, a phrase, line, stanza or idea in a poem. Repetition not only creates rhythm in a poem but also establishes unity in the poem as well as helping the poet to emphasize certain ideas.

Ex: Smile by Mark Chetambe

They say she smiled at me
I will not slaughter my only cock
I will not throw a party
I will not bring down my flute
I will not compose a song
I will not change my walking style
I will not go to the barber for a box
 haircut...

Ex: Freedom song by Marjorie Macgoye

Atieno washes dishes,
Atieno plucks the chicken,
Atieno gets up early,
 Beds her sacks down in kitchen,
Atieno eight years old,
Atieno yo.

Ex: To the swinging and the ringing
Of the bells, bells, bells-
Of the bells, bells, bells, bells
Bells, bells, bells-
To the rhyming and the chiming of the bells!

V.2. FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

We usually use two different kinds of expressions while speaking: the literal and the figurative. Literal statements mean exactly what they say while the figurative one means other beyond the accepted definitions.

Figurative language includes simile, metaphor, personification, hyperbole, paradox, onomatopoeia, symbolism, ...

a. Simile

It is a comparison between two unlike things by using the words '**like**', '**as**' or '**than**'. It is a figure of speech which uses the words '**like**', '**as**' or '**than**' to show the resemblance between two things which are different. Sometimes the verbs 'appear' or 'seem' are also used to compare.

Ex1: *The day was as hot as the sun*
He could swim like a fish
Her sneeze was as loud as a train whistle
I felt like a fish out of water

Ex2: *Friends are like chocolate cake*
You can never have too many.
Chocolate cake is like heaven-

Ex3: *Love is like a painting*
Filled with all colours and shades
Love is like a bleeding heart
Cut with many sharp blades.

b. Metaphor

Metaphor is a figure of speech which compares two unlike things without using 'as', 'like' or 'than'. It says that one thing is another. A metaphor can be **implicit** or **explicit**.

Explicit metaphor: It is a metaphor which is clear about the two things being compared.

Ex: The stars were diamonds in the sky.
Her smile was a ray of sunshine.
He couldn't stand because his legs were rubber.
She is a peacock.
The classroom was a zoo.
My teacher is a dragon
He is a night owl
Jamal was a pig at dinner
The snow is a white blanket
You are my sunshine
The sun is a golden ball
Books are the keys to your imagination

Implicit/implied metaphor: It is a metaphor which compares two unlike things without mentioning one of them.

Ex: Philip's anger grew until it **erupted**. (compares anger to a volcano)
John **barked** at the girl. (compare John to a dog)
She **fliers** at him. (compares her to a bird)
The ants **orbited** the snail before attacking it. (they are being compared to planets)

c. Personification

It is a figure of speech which gives human traits or qualities to animals or thing. It is when the non-humans are given human characteristics.

Ex₁: Lightning danced across the sky.

The wind howled in the night.

The car complained as the key was roughly turned in its ignition.

My alarm clock yells at me to get out of bed every morning.

The door protested as it opened slowly.

The moon played hide and seek with the clouds.

The approaching car's headlights winked at me.

The camera loves her since she is so pretty.

The stairs groaned as we walked on them.

My flowers were begging for water.

The thunder was grumbling in the distance.

The wildfire ran through the forest at an amazing speed.

The moon smiled at the stars in the sky.

The leaves waved in the wind.

Ex₂: *Pregnant clouds*

Ride stately on its back,

Ex₄: The cow jumped over the moon;

The little dog laughed

To see such sport,

And the dish ran away with the spoon.

Ex₃: *The wind whistles by*

And trees bend to let it pass.

d. Hyperbole/overstatement

It is a deliberate exaggeration which is not intended to deceive but rather to create a special effect. It involves the exaggeration of ideas. Hyperbole is used to create a strong impression and add emphasis.

Ex₁: **“As I walked One Evening” by W.H Auden**

I'll love you, dear, I'll love you

Till China and Africa meet,

And the river jumps over the mountain

And the salmon sing in the street,

I'll love you till the ocean

Is folded and hung up to dry

Ex₂: She's as thin as a toothpick.

He was skinny enough to jump through a keyhole.

That mall is large enough to have its own zip code.

I ate so much on Thanksgiving; I weigh more than a whale.

His stomach is a bottomless pit.

If I can't get a smartphone, I will die.

My mom is going to kill me.

These dress shoes are killing me.

This is so boring, just kill me now!

It was so cold I saw polar bears wearing jackets

It feels like my birthday will never come.

I had a ton of chores to do.

I'm so hungry I could eat a horse

You could have knocked me over with a feather.

The church was decorated with a million flowers.

He's got tons of video games.

Grandpa is older than dirt.

My dad is always working.

I've told you a million times not to do that.
 We waited for centuries for the latest game to be released.
 It will only take me two seconds to get there.
 You're walking slower than a snail.
 Carrie never stops talking.

e. Paradox

Paradox is a phrase/statement that appears to be self-contradictory but which is actually expressing some truth when it is closely examined. Paradox is used to attract attention or secure emphasis. Paradox is a statement which seems untrue at first sight but proves valid on closer inspection. I

Ex: You can save money by spending it.
 I know one thing; that I know nothing.
 This is the beginning of the end.
 "I can resist anything but temptation."
 Here are the rules: Ignore all rules.
 I only message those who do not message.

He was glad to finally be punished for his crimes.
 War is peace
 Freedom is slavery
 Love puts in when friendship is gone
 It was the best mistake he ever made
 Good fences make good neighbours

f. Oxymoron

It is a combination of two contradictory/opposite words. Most of them are made by adjectives preceding nouns with contrasting meanings.

Ex:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| ✓ Sad joy | ✓ Unpopular celebrities |
| ✓ Wise fool | ✓ Hell's angels |
| ✓ Cruel kindness | ✓ Old news |
| ✓ Open secret | ✓ Living dead |
| ✓ Foolish wisdom | ✓ Free trade |
| ✓ The ugly beauty | ✓ Nice death |
| ✓ Tragic comedy | ✓ Student teacher |
| ✓ Original copies | |
- ✓ Parting is such a **sweet sorrow** (in Romeo and Juliet),
 - ✓ There was a **love-hate** relationship between those neighbours.
 - ✓ **Paid volunteers** were working for the company.
 - ✓ All the politicians **agreed to disagree**.
 - ✓ There was a **deafening silence**.

g. Metonymy

It is a figure of speech in which a thing or concept is referred to by the name of something which is closely associated with that thing or concept. It is a figure of language where instead of using the actual name of something, we use the name of something else which is closely related to it or which resembles it. A metonymy is a substitution where a word or phrase is used in place of another word or phrase.

Ex: "The crown" can be used to mean king, queen or government.

The **chair** has called of the meeting. Chair=person

The bench usually refers to the judges

Suits to mean business people

Heart to refer to love or emotion

Dish to refer to an entire plate of food

Washington to refer to the US government

Hollywood to refer to film industry

Hand to mean help

Tongue to mean language

Ears to refer to giving attention, listening

“The pen is mightier than the sword.” The word “pen” substitutes for written work.

The word “sword” substitutes for violence or warfare

h. Synecdoche

Synecdoche occurs when a part of something is used to refer to the whole or the whole for the part.

A synecdoche may use **part of something to represent the entire whole**.

Ex: Bread can be used to represent food in general or money (

Sails is often used to refer to a whole ship.

Hired hands can be used to refer to workmen.

Wheels refers to a vehicle

It may use an entire **whole thing to represent a part of it**.

Ex: The “**world**” is not treating you well.

The word “**society**” is often referred to a specific sector of society.

“**Police**” can be used to represent one or several officers.

“**Rwanda**” attended the UN conference in New York. Rwanda: president

- ❖ Synecdoche and metonymy resemble one another because they both use a word or phrase to represent something else. They are both considered metaphors because the word or words used are not taken literally.

i. Symbolism

It is the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities. A literary symbol is something that stands for something else other than itself. This symbol does not exist for itself but rather points to something different from itself.

Ex: The dove is a symbol of peace

The cross symbolizes Christianity

A ring on a finger can mean marriage

A red rose stands for love/romance

White represents life and purity

Black is a symbol of evil or death

Red can symbolize blood, danger,...

A chain may mean union or imprisonment

A broken mirror may symbolize separation

Smile symbolizes friendship

Smiling at you symbolizes the feeling of affection to you

Snow refers to winter symbol

Dust symbolizes death in the Bible.

A literary symbol is a thing/event/person/quality/relationship which functions in two ways:

-as itself

- as a sign of something else

Ex: “blood” may mean just that, but it may also mean war.

j. Onomatopoeia

This includes words that sound like their meaning or imitations of sounds. It is referred to a word which duplicates the natural sounds of objects. They help the readers to hear the sounds of the words they reflect.

Ex₁: “Hark,hark!

Bow-wow.

The watch-dogs bark!

Bow-wow.

Hark, hark! I hear
 The strain of strutting chanticleer
 Cry, '**Cock-a-diddle-dow!**'" *From "The Tempest" by William Shakespeare.*

Ex₂: "I'm getting married in the morning!
Ding dong! The bells are gonna chime."
 The bees were **buzzing**

Ex₃: bang, ping, buzz, boom, slurp, hiss, squish, vroom,....

Use/importance of figures of speech in poetry

- ✓ They create images that make abstract statements appear real.
- ✓ They communicate more concretely and vividly.
- ✓ They convey judgements.
- ✓ They communicate feelings so as to influence our attitude towards the subject.

V.3. RHYME PATTERNS OF RHYTHM

Rhyme is a repetition of similar sounding words (or the same sounds) in two or more words, most often in the final syllables or lines in poems and songs.

Types of rhymes

The poet who wishes to write a rhyming poem has several different sorts of rhyme from which to choose. Some are strong, some more subtle, and all can be employed as the poet sees fit. The following are some of the main types:

a. End Rhymes: Rhyming of the final words of lines in a poem.

Ex₁: Under my window, a clean rasping **sound**
 When the spade sinks into gravelly **ground**
From Seamus Heaney's "Digging"

Ex₂: Tyger Tyger, burning **bright**
 In the forest of the **night**
From William Blake's "The Tiger"

b. Internal Rhymes: Rhyming of two words within the same line of poetry.

Ex₁: **Double, double** toil and **trouble**
 Fire burn and cauldron bubble
From William Shakespeare's "Macbeth"

Ex₂: Once upon a midnight **dreary**, while I pondered, weak and **weary**,
 Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore,
From Edgar Allan Poe's "The Raven"

c. Slant Rhymes: Rhymes in which two words share just a vowel sound (assonance) or in which they share just a consonant sound (consonance).

Ex₁: Between **my** finger and **my** thumb
 The squat pen rests; **snug** as a **gun**
From Seamus Heaney's "Digging"

d. Rich Rhymes: Rhymes using two different words that happen to sound the same (homonyms) – like "raise" and "raze".

Ex₁: And breathe the true poetic **vein**,
 This page should not be fill'd in **vain!**
From Thomas Hood's "A First Attempt in Rhyme"

- e. Eye Rhymes:** Rhyme on words that look the same but which are actually pronounced differently— as “bough” and “rough”.

Ex₁: Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day?
 Thou art more lovely and more **temperate:**
 Rough winds do shake the darling buds of May,
 And summer’s lease hath all too short a **date:**
From Shakespeare’s ‘Sonnet 18’

Here, “**temperate**” and “**date**” look as though they rhyme, but they are pronounced differently.

- f. Identical Rhymes:** It is simply using the same word twice.
 An example is in (some versions of) *Emily Dickinson’s “Because I Could not Stop for Death”*

Ex: We paused before a House that seemed
 A Swelling of the **Ground**—
 The Roof was scarcely visible—
 The Cornice—in the **Ground**—

In the above lines, the word “*ground*” is repeated twice for rhyming effect; and this make it an identical rhyme.

UNIT VI. INTRODUCTION TO DRAMA

VI.1 DEFINITION OF DRAMA

Drama comes from a Greek word “dran” which means “to do” or “to act”/perform. It is understandable because in a play, on stage, we are always presented with dialogue and actions. A play is a story that is written for actors to perform on stage. A play usually has a dialogue that is spoken by characters.

Drama is a genre of literature which uses dialogue and actions to tell a story. It is the visual representation of literary works. It is performed for audience in theatres, on radio or television. Therefore, *drama is a performance in which actors represent characters and act out a story.*

In order to understand and appreciate drama you must know the following terms and their meanings:

- a. Theatre:** - It is a building or outdoor area in which plays and other dramatic performances take place.
 -It is a building/room/area where dramas are performed. It has a raised platform (stage) for performance and a seating arranged for the audience to sit.
- b. Audience:** It refers to the people who watch a play when it is being acted or performed.
 Audience refers to assembled spectators or listeners who watch the performance.
- c. Playwright/dramatist** is a person who writes or composes plays.
- d. Actors:** -They are the ones who perform the written play. He/she is a person who portrays a character in performance.
 - An actor is also a person who represents one of the characters in a play and performs the actions of that character on stage.
- e. Script:** It is the written text of a play. The script is used by actors to prepare for performance.

VI.2. KEY ELEMENTS OF DRAMA

A drama has the following key elements:

- a. Act:** It is a major division of a play. Most plays usually have between three and five acts. While performing on stage, the change from one act to another may be indicated by the drawing of the curtains or by the switching off of the lights. Moving from one act to another in a play may mean that the location of the action has changed or the time has shifted.
- b. Scene:** It is a sub-division of an act. The place and time stay fixed in a scene. A play can move from one scene to another without any change of place or time. A scene refers to the activities of a group of actors at a particular time. If one actor joins or leaves the group; a new scene is introduced.
- c. Stage directions:** They are descriptions written by a playwright to indicate the actions of the characters or to describe the setting. Stage directions are usually written in brackets. They help us to realize the right mood for each scene and enables the actor to use non-verbal expressions (gestures, smile, frown...) and movement on the stage.

Ex: BOSS: Boss will support you. Keep in touch

NASIRUMBI: (*Puts the money into her handbag*) Our treasurer will send you a receipt for this donation.

- d. Dialogue:** It is a conversation between two or more characters in a play. Dialogue brings characters to life by revealing their personalities and showing their thoughts and feelings.

Ex: GATARE: When will you be back?

KABATESI: I will not come back ever.

GATARE: But why?

KABATESI: Because you have hurt me deeply.

UNIT VII. KEY ASPECTS OF DRAMA

VII.1. INTRODUCTION

As we have seen it, drama is presented through dialogue and actions. Like a short story or a novel, drama has also plot, setting and characters as key aspects but the way they are presented is different because the short story or the novel are intended to be read unlike the play which meant to be performed in front of the audience.

VII.2. KEY ASPECTS

a. Plot

It is the arrangement of events and actions of a play in terms of cause and effect. Plot is how the events are connected leading to conflict. The conflict is either internal (in the mind of the character) or external (between individuals). The plot is a carefully designed, logical series of events having a beginning, a middle and an end.

The following are the parts/elements of a plot:

Exposition/introduction: It is the opening/beginning of a drama where the characters and setting are introduced to the audience. The main conflict is also introduced here. It may involve some foreshadowing, which is a hint of what is likely to happen.

Rising action/conflict/complication/development: This is where the events in the play become complex and the conflict rises. A lot of tension and suspense are built in this part.

Climax/crisis: It is the turning point and highest point of interest, tension and suspense. It is when the main character has to make a decision that must resolve the main conflict of the play.

Falling action: At this stage the events and conflicts/complications begin to lead to the conclusion/end. The main character either loses or wins against the problem.

Resolution/denouement/conclusion: It is where the conflict is resolved. There is a sense of finality and conclusion. It is the end of the story. The character(s) might live happily ever after.

b. Setting

Setting refers to the social circumstances in which the events of a play occur, the historical time and the geographical location of the events. It is the point in time and location in which a play takes place.

The drama's setting may include:

Time: It not only includes the historical period (past, present, or future) but also the specific year, month, time of day...

Ex: In Antiquity, during the 19th century, in 2019, by the end of December, on 2nd May 1992, at 7:00 P.M, ...

Place: Place may involve not only the geographical place (a region, country, state, or town) but also the social economical or cultural environment.

Ex: In Africa, in Rwanda, at South-East Coast of California, in Kigali/Tokyo/Moscow, in a traditional African society, in urban environment...

Weather conditions: In the scene, the weather can be rainy, sunny or stormy.

In a play, setting is established in several ways:

✓ *Notes from the playwright:* The playwright might state clearly the setting.

Ex: The action takes place in a coastal town in southern Norway.

✓ *Through the characters' dialogues, costumes and behaviours.*

✓ *The stage sets:* This is what the set designer arranges on stage.

Ex: The set may suggest that the characters are poor, or that is a palace or that it is a sea shore.

During the performance, the set may also include props and stage lighting.

✓ *Through the stage directions:* The playwright may use stage directions to let the readers or audience know where the action is taking place.

c. Characters

Characters are the people, animals or things that play a part or that are portrayed in a play. When characters are animals or things; they are personified (given human traits). In a drama, some characters might be referred to, but never seen on stage.

Characterization is the playwright's presentation and development of the characters in a text. It is made better by use of suggestive/symbolic/revealing costume, suggestive names, manners of walking, dialect...and sometimes masks are used to enhance characterization.

The most important tool for the development of characters in a drama is dialogue (what they say and what is said about them).

Characters in a drama are of these types:

Major characters: Those are the characters that get the maximum stage time and dialogues. The plot’s conflict and resolution revolve around them.

Protagonist: A character that fights for something and that portrays good qualities

Antagonist: A character that opposes/challenges the protagonist.

Minor characters: They are characters that get less stage time and dialogues. They usually serve a smaller purpose than the major characters and serve to complement them.

Positive characters: These ones portray positive/good qualities like kindness, care, generosity, courage, honesty, compassion, empathy...in a drama

Negative characters: They portray negative/bad qualities like cruelty, hate, selfishness, shyness, greed...in a drama.

Usually, the playwright provides a list of characters in a play. He/she says who they are and therefore actors are assigned roles using that list. That list is called **“cast of characters”**.

Ex: Characters

PROPRIETOR: The proprietor of Masomo Academy

PRINCIPAL: The principal of Masomo Academy.

MR. CHRIS: The senior examination master.

MR BRAMUEL: The assistant examination master

CLEOPHAS: A pupil

AMANI: A pupil

INSPECTOR: A school inspector.

STUDENTS

TEACHERS

..... **The End**