

# AP Literature Study Guide

From Simple Studies, <https://simplestudies.edublogs.org> & @simplestudiesinc on Instagram

## Unit 7: Short Fiction III

### Epiphany:

- The “Aha!” moment
- Moment in the story where a **character achieves realization or awareness**, after which events are revealed and shown differently
  - A visionary moment that causes the story to be shown in a different way or light
- Epiphany **may affect plot** by causing a character to act on their own realization. They may not think through the situation.
  - Minor characters are usually left unchanged since the narrative is not focused on them.
- **Importance Of Using Epiphany:**
  - Similar to the climax or turning point of a story
  - It provides the narrative with the most exciting events, that are not ordinary
  - Epiphanes are rare, and they are followed by something spiritual and personal
  - Additionally, they provide readers with hope and make them more open minded
    - The readers learn to adapt to new situations and see the story and plot through a different perspective

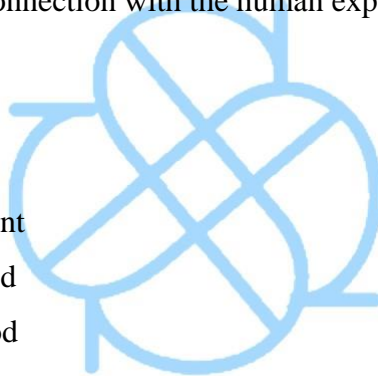
### Relationships:

- The relationships between characters and groups can be determined by race, gender, sexuality, religion, age, socioclass, and ideologies (political, etc.).
- The way the characters interact with one another reveals whether or not the story will be simple.
  - If a character is in a **large group with close friends**, the tension in the story, or conflict, may not be as severe or significant because the character will not be alone, and will have others to confide in.
  - However, on the other hand, if **everyone is against the character and they have no support group**, the tone and mood of the story will be dramatic and tense because the conflict will be very severe and prominent.
- **Sex:**

- Not always the literal meaning of sex
  - Sex can **also describe** the removal of restriction, pleasure, domination, and freedom for a character.
- It is a **changing point** in the story, and connects characters to one another.
- It also reveals more about the main character, or character in act
  - They can end up more independent and brave as a result of the act
  - Or they can become more dependent and vulnerable

## Setting:

- The **geography** of the specific place reveals the **culture** and **history**
- Where characters may develop, due to them moving from place to place, etc.
- Suggests a **theme**: north, south, west, east, up down
- **Seasons:**
  - Seasons are in connection with the human experience
  - **Summer:**
    - Passion
    - Love
    - Fulfillment
    - Childhood
    - Adulthood
    - Rebirth
  - **Winter:**
    - Anger
    - Hatred
    - Old age
    - Resentment
    - Death



## Blind Characters:

- Introducing a blind character is difficult for the author.
  - This means that the author wants to **emphasize other levels of sight**

- If the writer wants the audience to know something important about a character, it will be introduced early in the story.
- **Blind characters can be both physically and emotionally blind.**
  - Some characters (as it will be literally stated) are blind by physical sight.
  - However, other characters are more **figuratively blind**.
    - This means that they are oblivious, ignorant, unaware, or turn a blind side onto issues or situations.
    - This makes them blind because they are unable to see what other characters see and know, causing them to be unaware mentally.

