

AP Literature Study Guide

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

Unit 9: Longer Fiction/Drama III

Character's Response To Resolution Of A Narrative:

- When the narrative comes to an end, a character may respond differently:
 - **They can respond in:**
 - Anger
 - Surprise
 - Humiliation
 - Happiness
 - Vengeance
 - Hope
- These **emotions** and **feelings** explain some ways characters respond to the resolution
- Furthermore, towards the end of a narrative, the character's **true colors** shine
 - They may be revealed as phony, as they suddenly changed personalities towards the end, in order to go against popular beliefs.
- Their response can also lead to **drama** and **tension**
 - If their response and reaction is contradictory to other characters, they can be shunned, causing more conflict to arise.
- However, if the character's response is **positive**, the narrative has a "**happy ending**"
 - This is most commonly seen in children's books or Disney movies, where the princess and the prince lived happily ever after.

Narrative Inconsistencies And Contrasting Perspectives:

- **Multiple perspectives** can occur within a single text
 - This contributes to the complexity of the literary piece
- A narrator may change as a result of their acts and interactions with the setting or other characters.
- **Irony** is also found where inconsistencies in the narrator's perspective is revealed
 - It may almost be humorous because of how different and sudden the behavior and mentality of a character changed
 - Sarcasm may also be evident
- **Minor characters** often remain unchanged.

- This is because the narrative is not focused on them; they are not the main character.
- They may only be part of the narrative or be significant when interacting with the protagonist.
- When a narrative is **inconsistent**, the **readers' interpretations of the text will be affected**, too.
 - Since the reader's knowledge of the situations occurring in the text is determined by what is revealed to them by the narrator or speaker, having an inconsistent narrative will make it difficult for the reader to understand what is occurring, since they usually follow the main character diligently.
 - However, when the narrative keeps changing, it may become difficult understanding, agreeing with, and keeping up with the narrator.
 - May become confusing and misleading

Character's Choices and Actions Reveal Complexities in That Character:

- A character's response to the resolution or ending of the narrative, reveals their **values**.
 - Their newly found values can be inconsistent or contradictory to the perspectives and behaviors of that same character.
 - They may become hypocrites and contradict themselves and what they once believed in.
- Such **inconsistencies** and **sudden developments** in a character will also affect the way readers' interpret that character.
 - Other external things such as:
 - Plot
 - Other characters
 - Setting
 - Conflicts
 - Will also help determine the perspective and opinions of the readers.

Thesis Statement:

- Writing a **strong** thesis statement is very important.
- It communicates with the reader on arguments, ideas, and themes that are present

within the text.

- A **great prompt** to start writing a thesis statement in a longer fiction or dramatic piece of literature is:
 - *Using literary devices/techniques such as [device/technique] and [device/technique], [author's last name] develops/conveys/describes [answer to primary question of prompt—probably using “but/although/however” for complexity].*
 - **Example:**
 - Using literary devices such as figurative language and a naïve tone, the author conveys the child’s fragile affection for his environment, although in reality it is a place of isolation and dread.

Topic Sentences:

- Topic sentences help **organize** your writing and are **sub-arguments** of your central argument (thesis).
- They should have **similar concepts, words, and phrases** as your thesis, but be a little more **specific**.
 - Usually focus on just one section of the text
- **Plan these out** before writing.