

| Element                    | Definition  | Analysis Questions   |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Setting                    | Setting is a description of where and when the story takes place.   | <p>How is the setting created?<br/>           What role does the setting play in the story?<br/>           When was the story written?<br/>           Does it take place in the present, the past, or the future?<br/>           How does the time period affect the language, atmosphere or social circumstances of the short story?</p>  |
| Characterization           | Characterization deals with how the characters in the story are described.  | <p>Who is the main character?<br/>           Has the author described the characters by physical appearance, thoughts and feelings, and interaction?<br/>           Are they static/flat characters who do not change?<br/>           Are they dynamic/round characters who DO change?<br/>           What type of characters are they? What qualities stand out? Are they stereotypes?<br/>           Are the characters believable?</p>  |
| Plot and Structure         | The plot is the main sequence of events that make up the story.   | <p>What is the most important event?<br/>           How is the plot structured? Is it linear, chronological or does it move around?<br/>           Is the plot believable?</p>   |
| Narrator and Point of View | The narrator is the person telling the story. Point of view means from whose eyes the story is being told. Short stories tend to be told through one character's point of view. | <p>Who is the narrator or speaker in the story?<br/>           Does the author speak through the main character?<br/>           Is the story written in the first person "I" point of view?<br/>           Is the story written in a detached third person "he/she" point of view?<br/>           Is there an "all-knowing" third person who can reveal what all the characters are thinking and doing at all times and in all places?</p> |
| Conflict                   | Conflict or tension is usually the heart of the short story and is related to the main character.   | <p>How would you describe the main conflict?<br/>           Is it an internal conflict within the character?<br/>           Is it an external conflict caused by the surroundings or environment the main character finds himself/herself in?</p>  |
| Climax                     | The climax is the point of greatest tension or intensity in the short story.  | <p>Is there a turning point in the story?<br/>           When does the climax take place?</p>  |
| Theme                      | The theme is the main idea, lesson, or message in the short story.  | <p>How is the theme expressed?<br/>           Are any elements repeated and therefore suggest a theme?<br/>           Is there more than one theme?</p>  |
| Style                      | The author's style has to do with the his or her vocabulary, use of imagery, tone, or the feeling of the story.   | <p>Is the author's language full of figurative language?<br/>           What images are used?<br/>           Does the author use a lot of symbolism? Metaphors (comparisons that do not use "as" or "like") or similes (comparisons that use "as" or "like")?</p>  |