

Elements of a Play

Aside

A remark, comment, or small speech given by a character (usually) directly to the audience

- Think of it like thinking out loud
- Often ties into dramatic irony

Sonnet

A poem made up of fourteen lines

- 3 quatrains
- 1 couplet

Monologue

A speech delivered by one character *to the audience*

Soliloquy

A speech delivered by one character *to him/herself*

- Again, like thinking out loud

Verbal Irony

Occurs when a person *says* the opposite of what they mean

- Saying, “Oh, fantastic!” when a situation is really bad

Dramatic Irony

Irony that is implied in a play

- Understood by the audience, but not by the characters

Situational Irony

A situation in which actions have the opposite effect from what was intended

Prologue

An introduction or preface to a play

Foreshadowing

A literary device with which an author hints at what is to come in a story

Other words to know...

- Moral: a lesson concerning right or wrong behavior
- Simile: a comparison of two things using the words “like” or “as”
- Metaphor: a comparison of two things **not** using the words “like” or “as”

Other words to know...

- Onomatopoeia: a word that sounds like its meaning
- Theme: the overall subject or meaning of a play