



Dramatic Elements

Student Name _____ Date _____

Setting	The time and place of the action. Time can include historical period or specific year, season, or time of day. Place may include geographical place and social, economic, or cultural environment.
Characters	The persons taking part in a literary work. The main character often changes in some significant way as a result of the story's events.
Types of Characters	Round=many traits, faults as well as virtues Flat= one dimensional Dynamic= develops and grows over the course of the story Static= never changes Foil= a character who is contrasted with another character
Exposition/Situation	Introduces the characters, setting and the basic situation. Often the opening scene.
Plot	The sequence of events in a literary work.
Conflict	The struggle between opposing forces. It drives the play and gives the play its energy.
Dialogue	Conversation between characters. It reveals character and advances the action.
Monologue	A speech by one character in a play.
Soliloquy	A long speech expressing the thoughts of a character alone on a stage. The audience senses they are overhearing a character talk to himself or herself.
Figurative Language	Can include such examples as: irony, simile, metaphor, hyperbole.
Stage Directions	Dramatist's instructions, describing how the work is to be performed or staged.
Theme	The message(s) about the nature of people or about life.