

Year 9 - Knowledge Organiser – Aspects of Narrative

The study of narratology is the study of the choices a writer has made about how they tell their stories. Aspects of Narrative translates as ‘ways of telling a story.’

Significance is about what is signified, what meanings arise in terms of values and ideas and how these meanings are produced by what writers do and the methods they use.

Narrative Voice	Genre	Structure	Setting
First person – introspective, extradiegetic or intradiegetic?	Romantic or pastoral – ideal images of the natural world	Chronological or fragmented? Complete or with narrative gaps?	Wider setting – (country, city community)
Third person – focalised, authorial or narrator?	romance – associated with romantic love	Openings and endings? Climatic moments? Anti-climaxes?	Place – precisely where? House, room, seat?
Tense – retrospective (past tense) or present tense immediate?	Gothic – creation of darkness and fear	Narrative frame? Media-res opening?	Time – specified?, unstated, present day, past, present?
Multiperspectivity – a story told from many points of view	Realism – portrays the real world with all its flaws	Flashbacks or flash-forwards?	Historically/geographically accurate or entirely fictional?
Reliable or unreliable (bias)?	Comedy – intention to make people laugh	Resolution or narrative-hook? Deus ex Machina? (ends tied up or ends on a Q)	Setting change - from where to where?
Omniscient (all knowing) or inadequate (doesn't know the whole story)?	Tragedy – solemn and mournful tone	Order of events within the plot	Use of specific languages or place-specific references
Who? Known/unknown? A character?	Detective fiction – contains a crime and a detective who solves it	Change of narrators or use of dialogue or just description?	Use of place names

What not to do with narrative method and useful sentence frames	How to access ‘significance’ in your analysis
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When discussing narrative method it is important to avoid feature spotting. Instead evaluate the impact of the writers choice. Don't see terminology as a point in itself – the analysis of meaning is what makes your writing meaningful. Useful sentence frames The introduction of the new setting at this point in the narrative allows the writer to show that the character has evolved because... The gap in the narrative allows the writer to create a sense of confusion and means the reader is unsure who is the victim and who the villain because... The shift into using typically Romantic generic conventions allows the writer to comment on the importance of the natural world when... By employing a focalised narrator the writer allows the reader access to the character's unspoken thoughts meaning pity is created when... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You could consider an extract's significance in terms of the plot – what has happened earlier to instigate these events? What happens later as a result of these events? You could consider what messages are being endorsed? Are any characters or ideas being given preferential treatment or being side-lined? You could reference any cultural, moral or social contexts that are being endorsed by the book. You could consider authorial intent or approval – is the writer advocating any specific ideologies? You could consider whether a text fits into a traditional genre or whether it borrow from a few and what the effect of that is on the meaning
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Year 9 Of Mice and Men Vocabulary Lists

introspective	contradictory	lynching	regresses
preferential	intimidation	segregation	poignant
jaded	misogyny	serene	liberty
flaws	tangible	seductive	frontier
idyllic	naive	unfulfilled	doomed
exploitation	bitter	impulsive	repression
hostility	disarming	infatuated	mercy
transitory	companionship	inevitable	culpability
vulgar	solitary	anarchic	pessimistic

Year 9 Aspects of Narrative Knowledge Test 1

You must write all your answer in full sentences in your books.

1. What does 'aspects of narrative' actually mean?
2. What does extradiegetic mean?
3. Give a definition of a realist text.
4. What three things could you consider for wider setting?
5. Give two features that you could consider when analysing structure.
6. True or False. Terminology is an end in itself.
7. Give one way that you could access significance in your analysis.

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Year 9 Aspects of Narrative Knowledge Test 2

You must write all your answer in full sentences in your books.

1. What does multiperspectivity mean?
2. What are the four most fruitful aspects of narrative grouped into on your knowledge organiser?
3. Write out a sentence frame to use for narrative voice?
4. What two questions could you ask yourself to consider an extract's significance within the text?
5. What does *deus ex machina* mean?
6. When considering setting you should consider _____ and place.

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Year 9 Aspects of Narrative Knowledge Test 3

You must write all your answer in full sentences in your books.

1. What does opening in media-res mean?
2. What is another word for an unreliable narrator?
3. What should you avoid doing when discussing narrative method?
4. Give a definition for the romance genre.
5. What is the difference between a narrative hook and a resolution?
6. What is the opposite of a climax?
7. What is the opposite of a fictional setting?
8. What is a term for past tense narration?
9. Give two literary genres. /10

Year 9 Aspects of Narrative Knowledge Test 4

You must write all your answer in full sentences in your books.

1. Give a definition for 'significance'.
2. What does an omniscient narrator mean?
3. Give two things that you could look out for when discussing narrative voice.
4. Give a brief definition for the gothic genre.
5. Write out a sentence frame to use for setting.
6. What is another term for a Romantic text?
7. Give a brief definition of a tragic text.
8. Give a way in which you could access significance in your analysis.

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Year 9 Aspects of Narrative Knowledge Test 5

You must write all your answer in full sentences in your books.

1. What three words might be associated with a first person narrator?
2. Give a brief definition for a comedy.
3. Give two things that you might consider when writing about structure.
4. What is meant by an inadequate narrator?
5. Write out a sentence frame to use for genre.
6. Write out a sentence frame to use for structure.
7. What is meant by 'significance'?

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