

## DEFINITIONS OF THE ELEMENTS OF STYLE

1. **Tone** - The author's attitude toward his subject and audience expressed through characters' actions and speech. Tone is implied and is subject to change throughout the work.
2. **Attitude** - Similar to tone, the writer expresses his personal feelings toward the subject, characters, or audience. Often times attitude is revealed through narration.
3. **Diction** - The author's particular word choice used to make a point in the story. Diction deals with both denotation and connotation.
4. **Figurative Language** - An intentional departure from the normal order or meaning of words. Figurative language is not meant to be interpreted literally but is used to intensify the work and satisfy the reader's imaginations.
5. **Figures of speech** - Uses of language that departs from the customary construction, order, or significance. Examples include simile, metaphor, and personification. Sometimes figures of speech create special meanings which emphasize the intention of the passage.
6. **Detail** - The use of detail includes describing or relating an object or scene with complete particulars. Through details very specific information clarifies and makes a more complete picture in the novel. Most details tell who, what, when, where."
7. **Imagery** - The author's use of sensory related words to project an image or picture into the reader's mind. Deals with the five senses--see, touch, taste, feel, and smell. Imagery is used to evoke the reader's emotions.
8. **Point of View** - The perspective or vantage point from which the story is told. There are several types: first-person, third-person limited, and third-person omniscient.
9. **Organization** - The order in which ideas are presented. Types of organization include:
  1. Chronological - the order in which events take place.
  2. Spatial - the physical description of persons and places.
  3. Cause and Effect - one event brings about another.
  4. "In Medias Res" - the author starts in the middle and uses the techniques of flashback and foreshadow.