

## LITERARY CRITICISM

a critic, a book reviewer: *un critique*  
 a criticism: *une critique*  
 to summarise a chapter: *résumer un chapitre*  
 to guess: *deviner*  
 to infer that ... : *en conclure que ...*  
 an analysis: *une analyse*  
 a conclusion: *une conclusion*  
 to comment on a passage: *commenter un passage*  
 the skill of a writer: *le talent d'un écrivain*

to review a book: *faire la critique d'un livre*  
 to criticise: *critiquer*  
 to quote from the text: *citer à partir du texte*  
 to anticipate: *deviner la suite*  
 to induce that: *déduire que...*  
 to analyse: *analyser*  
 to conclude that ... : *conclure que ...*  
 to form an opinion: *se faire une opinion*

## THE DOCUMENT

**WHAT? \* What type of document is this?**

an autobiographical novel: *un roman autobiographique*  
 a historical novel: *un roman historique*  
 a children's story: *une histoire destinée aux enfants*  
 a detective novel: *un roman policier*

a biography: *une biographie*  
 a picaresque novel: *un roman picaresque*  
 a romance: *une histoire d'amour*  
 a thriller: *un roman à suspense*

**WHEN? \* When was the text written?**

in the 20s: *dans les années 20*

at a time when: *à une époque où*

**WHO? \* Who wrote the text?**

a committed writer: *un auteur engagé*

a famous writer: *un auteur connu*

## NARRATIVE STRUCTURE

## THE NARRATION

**\* WHO SPEAKS? WHO SEES?**

the narrator: *le narrateur*  
 first person narrator: *narrateur à la première personne*  
 direct speech: *discours direct*  
 free direct speech: *discours direct libre*  
 the focalizer: *le focaliseur (celui qui voit)*  
 the narrator's viewpoint : *le point de vue du narrateur*  
 the point of view: *le point de vue*

stream of consciousness: *courant de conscience*  
 character-narrator: *personnage-narrateur*  
 indirect speech: *discours indirect*  
 free indirect speech: *discours indirect libre*  
 the focalized: *le focalisé (celui qui est vu)*  
 the scope of observation: *le champ d'observation*  
 shift in point of view: *changement de point de vue*

\* **zero focalization** when the scene and action are shown through the eyes of an **omniscient narrator** who knows everything

\* **internal focalization** when the scene and action are shown through the eyes of a **character-narrator** - (the reader can know the thoughts or feelings of characters )

\* **external focalization** when the reader can only see and hear **what a character sees and hear** - (the reader cannot know the thoughts or feelings of characters )

**\* WHAT DEGREE OF INTIMACY is established between reader and narrator?**

to identify with a character: *s'identifier à un personnage*

to picture to oneself. *se représenter*

## THE DIEGESIS

**\* WHAT?**

a narrative: *un récit*  
an (auto)biographical narrative: *un récit (auto)biographique*  
a first-person narrative: *un récit à la première personne*  
a third-person narrative: *un récit à la troisième personne*  
a dialogue: *un dialogue*  
an interior monologue: *un monologue intérieur*

**\* What is the nature of the passage?**

a description: *une description*  
a soliloquy : *un soliloque*

**\* WHO?**

a character: *un personnage*

**\* Who is/are the main character(s)?**

**\* WHEN?**

the action takes place in 1948: *l'action se déroule en 1948* / at night: *la nuit* / on an autumn day: *un jour d'automne*  
the time span: *le cadre temporel*  
to set a story in the days of :... *situer une histoire à l'époque de*

**\* When does the action take place? How long does it last?**

to span / to last: *durer*

**\* Is it symbolic ?**

to be symbolic of: *être symbolique de*

**\* WHERE?**

the setting: *le cadre dans lequel se situe l'action, le cadre spatial*  
to unfold: *se dérouler*

**\* Where does the action take place?**

indoor: *à l'intérieur* / outdoor: *à l'extérieur*  
to take place: *avoir lieu*

**\* Is it symbolic ?**

a make-believe world: *un monde de faux-semblants*

to create an atmosphere: *créer une atmosphère*

**\* WHAT is the story ABOUT?**

the plot: *l'intrigue*

**\* How does the story unfold?**

the climax: *le point culminant, le moment le plus fort*  
the turning point of the story: *un moment charnière dans l'histoire*  
a clue: *un indice*  
a flashback: *un retour en arrière*  
the outcome, the unravelling: *le dénouement / la fin*

the anti-climax: *la chute*  
a twist in the story: *un retournement de situation*  
a hint: *une allusion*  
a prolepsis: *une prolepse / anticipation*

**NARRATIVE TECHNIQUE**

**CHARACTERS AND CHARACTERIZATION**

**\* DESCRIPTION**

the portrayal of a character: *la façon de décrire un personnage*  
character traits: *des traits de caractère*  
a flat character: *un personnage défini par un seul trait dominant*  
a round character: *un personnage à la personnalité complexe*  
a stock character: *un personnage type*

**\* How is the character described?**

to portray: *faire le portrait de, dépeindre*  
a caricature: *une caricature*  
a stereotype: *un stéréotype*

features: *des traits physiques (ou de caractère)*  
casual clothes: *vêtements de sport*

**\* What does he/she look like? How is he/she dressed?**

physical appearance: *l'apparence physique*  
fancy clothes: *vêtements de luxe*

**\* ATTITUDES**

to be rather inconsistent: *agir de façon inattendue //* to behave with inconsistency: *avoir un comportement imprévisible*  
a straightforward attitude: *un comportement franc/sans équivoque* # an awkward attitude: *un comportement étrange*  
to have a true to life attitude: *avoir une attitude réaliste, plausible*

**\* How does the character act? How does he/she react to others?**

**\* SPEECH**

speech: *la façon de parler, le discours*  
vulgar speech: *parler vulgairement*

**\* What language does he use?**

refined speech: *parler de façon raffiné*

social class: *classe sociale*  
dwelling place: *lieu d'habitation*  
to belong to: *appartenir à*

**\* What does it reveal about him/her?**

family background: *environnement familial*  
profession / job: *profession / travail*  
to be representative of: *être représentatif de*

**\* FEELINGS & THOUGHTS**

a feeling: *un sentiment*  
a thought: *une pensée*  
motivations: *les raisons qui poussent à agir d'une façon particulière*

**\* What does he/she feel and think?**

to feel: *ressentir*  
to think of/about: *penser à*  
goals: *buts poursuivis*

**STYLE**

