**KEEP IN YOUR ENGLISH BINDER!**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Elements of Fiction**

The following terms will be used in all literature throughout the year.

**1. setting-** the time and place of the action in story.

**mood-** the feeling or atmosphere that a writer creates for the reader. (ex. Joyous, horrifying, melancholy)

**2. characters-** the people in the story.

**protagonist-** the main character, or “hero,” of the story.

**antagonist-** a character who works against the protagonist of the story.

**3. point of view-** the vantage point from which the story is told.

**narrator-** the person or voice telling the story.

**first person-** a character within the story tells the story (I, me, my, our)

**third person-** a character outside the story tells the story (he, she, they)

**4. plot-** the sequence of events or happenings in the story.

**exposition-** the exposition introduces characters, setting and background information at

the beginning of the story.

**conflict**- the major problem or struggle within the story that moves the plot forward.

**rising action-** the events of the story that occur while the protagonist attempts to solve

the conflict. These events lead to the climax.

**climax-** the turning point or high point of the story.

**falling action-** the events of the story that occur after the climax. Conflicts are resolved and mysteries are solved.

**resolution-** the outcome of the story.

**5. theme-** the author’s message or underlying meaning of the story. Themes are expressed in phrases rather than just one word. **(hint- the me|ssage)**

The following terms will be introduced in specific literature texts throughout the year. Once we learn a term, it may show up in future texts.

**1. characterization-** the methods used to present the personality of a character in a narrative.

* physical description
* the character’s speech, actions, thoughts and feelings reveal their own personality
* other characters’ speech, actions, thoughts and feelings describe the character
* direct comments about the character by the narrator

**2. round character-** a character who shows varied and sometimes contradictory traits and usually undergoes a significant change in the story. Protagonists are generally round characters.

**3. flat character-** an uncomplicated character who remains relatively unchanged throughout the story.

**4. irony-** a contrast between what is stated and what is really meant, or between what is expected to happen and what actually happens.

**5. foreshadowing-** the use of hints or clues in a story to suggest what action is to come. Foreshadowing can be used to create suspense.

**6. suspense-** the quality in a story that makes the reader or audience uncertain or tense about what is to come next.

**7. omniscient narrator**- an all-knowing third person narrator.