Subject Terminology for English Lang & Lit: slightly more specialist terms

* **Abbreviation**: a shortened form of word eg. LOL
* **Acronym**: an abbreviation formed from the initial letters of other words and pronounced as a word
* [**Anaphora**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anaphora_(rhetoric)): repetition of the same word or set of words in a paragraph.
* [**Anti-climax**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anti-climax_(figure_of_speech)): it is when a specific point, expectations are raised, everything is built-up and then suddenly something boring or disappointing happens.
* [**Antithesis**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antithesis): juxtaposition of opposing or contrasting ideas.
* [**Allusion**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allusion): covert reference to another work of literature or art
* [**Ambiguity**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Circumlocution): phrasing which can have two meanings
* [**Analogy**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Analogy): a comparison
* [**Apostrophe**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Apostrophe_(rhetoric)): directing the attention away from the audience to an absent third party, often in the form of a personified abstraction or inanimate object.
* [**Archaism**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archaism): use of an obsolete, archaic word (a word used in olden language, e.g. Shakespeare's language)
* **Ballad:** a poetic form which is traditionally oral and rhythmic
* [**Bathos**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bathos): pompous speech with a ludicrously mundane worded [anti-climax](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anti-climax_(figure_of_speech))
* **Bildungsroman**: a novel dealing with one person's formative years or spiritual education.
* **Blank-verse**: unrhymed verses often used by Shakespeare
* [**Cacophony**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cacophony): words producing a harsh sound
* **Characterisation**: vivid description of a character
* **Colloquial**: non formal language – everyday expressions
* **Denotation**: the specific, direct or obvious meaning of a sign rather than its associated meanings: those things directly referenced by a sign
* **Dramatic monologue**: a format of poetry which allows the character to speak their thoughts and feelings
* **Dramatic irony**: irony (humour) that is evident in the characters speech or actions which is revealed to the audience but not to the character
* [**Elision**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elision): omission of one or more letters in speech, making it colloquial
* **Epistolary** – writing in the form of a letter
* [**Euphony**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euphony): opposite of cacophony – i.e. pleasant sounding
* **Figurative Language**: whenever you describe something by comparing it with something else, you are using figurative language
* [**Half rhyme**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Half_rhyme): partially rhyming words
* [**Innuendo**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Innuendo): having a hidden meaning in a sentence that makes sense whether it is detected or not
* [**Irony**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Irony): use of word in a way that conveys a meaning opposite to its usual meaning
* [**Internal rhyme**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Internal_rhyme): using two or more rhyming words in the same sentence
* **Inter-textuality**: the relationship between texts, especially literary ones
* **Mock-heroic**: Imitating the style of heroic literature in order to satirize (make fun of) an unheroic subject
* **Monosyllabic**: words consisting of one syllable
* [**Neologism**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neologism): the use of a word or term that has recently been created, or has been in use for a short time. Opposite of [archaism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archaism)
* **Octave:** An eight line stanza
* **Omniscient narrator**: all knowing narrator
* **Octave**: an eight line stanza
* [**Parable**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parable): extended [metaphor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metaphor) told as an anecdote to illustrate or teach a moral lesson
* [**Paradox**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paradox_(literature)): use of apparently contradictory ideas to point out some underlying truth
* [**Parody**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parody): humorous imitation
* **Pathos**: To evoke pity or sadness
* **Persona**: the speaker within a poem – an aspect in the poem which reveals thoughts and feeling
* [**Proverb**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proverb)**:** often metaphorical, an expression of wisdom commonly believed to be true
* **Perspective**: point of view in a text
* [**Pun**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pun): play on words that will have two meanings
* **Quatrain**: A four line stanza (verse)
* **Rhyme scheme:** the way rhymes within a poem are organised
* **Rhyming couplets**: two lines following one another which rhyme
* **Rhythm**: the arrangement of words to form a regular beat through a pattern of stresses
* **Rhetoric**: effective persuasion
* **Staging**: presentation of a play
* [**Satire**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Satire)**:** humorous criticism of society
* **Sestet**: six line stanza
* **Stream of consciousness**: character’s thought process
* **Syntax**: the word order of phrases which create coherent and well-structured sentences
* [**Synesthesia**](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Synesthesia): description of one kind of sense impression by using words that normally describe another.
* **Tragic hero**: a great or virtuous character in a drama or poem who is heading for a downfall
* **Unreliable narrator**: a narrative voice which cannot be trusted