**2014 7th Grade ELA/Pre-AP/GT Semester Exam Study Guide**

**Directions:** Use all resources (literature book, dictionary, thesaurus, Internet) to define the following terms. In your literature book, the Glossary of Literary Terms can be found on p. R100. You may use the examples from the book to place in chart below.

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| Term | Definition | Example |
| 1. Setting (R107) | The time and place of the action. | The setting for The Outsiders is Oklahoma during the late 1960s. |
| 2. Sequential Order **OR** Order of Events (R113)  Chronological Order (R110) | A pattern of organization that shows the order of steps or stages in a process.  Chronological order is the arrangement of events by their order of occurrence. | First, you take the bread out. Second, you slab some jelly on one slice and then some peanut butter on the other. Finally, put the slices together, eat, and enjoy!  This type of organization is used in fictional narratives and in historical writing, biography, and autobiography. |
| 3. Conflict (R101) | Internal: a struggle between a character and his/her self.  External: a struggle between a character and an outside force (i.e. man, nature, society, physical illness) | Ponyboy struggles with himself in understanding Darry and his odd way of showing love.  The rumble between the greasers and the Socs is an example of external conflict (man vs. man). |
| 4. Plot (R106) | The series of events in a story | Plot begins with exposition and ends with resolution (or the optional denouement). |
| 5. Exposition (R102) | The first stage of a typical story plot; it provides background information and introduces the setting and the important characters. | In “Three Skeleton Key,” the narrator introduces all the characters (Le Gleo, Itchoua) and gives background information about his job as a lighthouse keeper. |
| 6. Inciting Incident (class notes) | This stage introduces the main conflict and starts the rising action. | In “Three Skeleton Key,” the inciting incident occurs when the ship crashes on the island (and all of the rats overrun the key). |
| 7. Rising Action (R107) | The stage of the plot that develops the conflict, or struggle. During this stage, events occur that make the conflict more complicated. The events in the rising action build toward a climax. | All of the minor attacks on Renshaw build the rising action of King’s “Battleground.” |
| 8. Climax (R101) | The “turning point” of the story. Usually occurs when a main character makes a big decision that alters the events of the story, or it could be one of the most intense moments in a story. | In “Three Skeleton Key,” the climax occurs when the lighthouse keepers decide not to light the lantern. |
| 9. Falling Action (R103) | The stage of the plot in which the story begins to draw to a close. The falling action comes after the climax and before the resolution. Events in the falling action show the results of the important decision or action that happened at the climax. Tension eases as the falling action begins; however, the final outcome of the story is not yet fully worked out. | In *The Outsiders*, Ponyboy is ill and has difficulty with life after Johnny and Dally’s deaths. |
| 10. Resolution (R107) | This stage occurs when the conflict is resolved. | In “Three Skeleton Key,” the meat barge lures the rats off of the island and is set aflame in order to kill the rats. |
| 11. Denouement (class notes) | This stage is not always present in a story, but it occurs when the author ties up loose ends for the reader. | In “Three Skeleton Key,” the narrator lets the reader know what became of the three lighthouse keepers. |
| 12. Cause-and-Effect (R110) | Two events are related by cause and effect when one event brings about, or causes, the other. The event that happens first is the cause; the one that follows is the effect. Cause and effect is also a way of organizing an entire piece of writing. It helps writers show the relationship between events. | Johnny has a haunted, lost look because he had been beaten badly by Bob and the other Socs. |
| 13. Point-of View (p. R106)   * refers to how a writer chooses to narrate a story | 1st person: the narrator is the character in the story uses first-person pronouns.  3rd person, limited: the narrator knows the thoughts and ideas of one character.  3rd person, omniscient: the narrator knows the thoughts and ideas of two or more characters. | 1st person: *I, me,* and *we.*  3rd person, limited: *he, she, it,* and *they.*  3rd person, omniscient: *he, she, it,* and *they.* |
| 14. Inference (R112) | A logical guess that is made based on facts and one’s knowledge and experience. | I could infer that the new boy was not from Dripping Springs by his Australian accent. |
| 15. Characterization (R101) | Direct:  When a writer TELLS rather than SHOWS  Indirect:  When a writer SHOWS rather than TELLS | The writer may describe their physical appearance.  The writer may present thoughts, speech, and actions of other characters |
| 16. Predict (p. R113) | A reading strategy that involves using text clues to make a reasonable guess about what will happen next in a story. | What can you predict about Nat and his family’s fate in *The Birds*? (They all are attacked and killed by the birds!) |
| 17. Draw Conclusions (p. R111) | To make a judgment or arrive at a belief based on evidence, experience, and reasoning. | Because du Maurier gives detail on the bird’s real intentions at the end of her story *The Birds*, the reader can draw the conclusion that all mankind was destroyed by their ominous attack. |
| 18. Author's Purpose (p. R100) | A writer usually writes for one or more purposes: to express thoughts or feelings, to inform or explain, to persuade, and to entertain. | In his “Remarks at the Dedication of the Aerospace Medical Health Center,” Pres. John F. Kennedy’s purpose was to persuade Americans that the U.S. should lead the world in space research. |
| 19. Narrator (R105) | The voice that tells the story. Sometimes the narrator is a character in the story. The narrator is NOT the same as the writer. | Ponyboy is the narrator of *The Outsiders.* |
| 20. Symbol (R109) | A person, place, object, or activity that stands for something beyond itself. | A flag is a colored piece of cloth that stands for a country. A white dove is a bird that represents peace. |
| 21. Character Traits (p. R101) | The qualities shown by a character. | Nat from *The Birds* is instinctual, protective, and methodical. |
| 22. Theme (R109) | A message about life or human nature that the writer shares with the reader. In many cases, readers must infer what the writer’s message is. One way of figuring out a theme is to apply the lessons learned by the main characters to people in real life. | For example, a theme of “A Crush” by Cynthia Rylant is the simple acts of kindness can make a positive difference in people’s lives. |
| 23. Punctuating Dialogue (R50) | The purpose is to set off a speaker’s exact words. | Sara said, “I’m finally ready.” “I’m ready,” Sara said, “finally.” Did Sara say, “I’m ready”? Sara said, “I’m ready!” |
| 24. Revising Sentences for Clarity (to demonstrate certain emotions) | I was happy about making an A+ on the history test. | I shouted to the rooftops about my A+ on the history test. |