Subject Terminology for English Lang and Lit – Standard List

Commonly used Acronyms and terms in English criteria

* **AGONY AUNT**: A – Audience –choose formal or informal language, G – Give Good reasons for following your advice, O – Objective viewpoint – Don’t take sides, N - New paragraphs for new ideas, Y – You – using personal pronouns makes the reader feel you are interested in him, A – Authority – pretend to be an expert on problems, U – Understanding – Show you understand the reader’s situation, N – Never be Negative – Make the read feel like No. 1!, T – Tone – use the right tone, friendly and supportive ***(advice writing reminder)***
* **FATHORSE**: facts, alliteration, triplets, hyperbole, opinion, rhetorical question, statistics and emotive language used to persuade the reader ***(persuasive techniques)***
* **FANBOYS**: For, And, Nor, But, Or, Yet, So are the coordinating connectives used for connecting compound sentences ***(connectives)***
* **HADAFOREST:** Hyperbole, Anecdote, Directive, Alliteration, Facts, Opinions, Rhetorical Questions, Emotive Language & Triplets ***(persuasive devices)***
* **PAFT** – purpose, audience, format and tone, which is an acronym used as a reminder to check how, what, why and who you are writing for ***(writing/reading reminder)***
* **PANIC**: an acronym used to help open sentences in a varied and interesting way – use a preposition, adjective, noun, ing word – a word ending in ing or a connective ***(sentence start reminder)***
* **TIPTOP**: each time the following changes it means a change of paragraph – time, place, topic and person = new paragraph ***(paragraphing)***
* **WET RATS**: self-assessment or peer assessment technique = words (zoom in), effects or embedded quotations, techniques, reader’s reaction, author’s intentions/alternative opinions, themes/topic, structure ***(self-peer assessment)***
* **PEA *–*** Point, evidence and analyse: POINT – (1) What is my simple answer to the question? EVIDENCE – (2) What quote will help me to show this is what I think? (Use a short, precise piece of the original text which supports your point), ANALYSE – (3) How can I explain this is what I mean? (4) What else is suggested by this? (5) Is there a particular word that I can closely examine to show how it answers the question? (6) Is there anything else I can say about the quote or an interlinked quote from the text to show/support what I mean? Or, what might other people suggest? (7) Can I explore the connotations of a particular word? (8) Can I link to another relevant quote Or, Can I explain the effect on the reader? Or, what was the writers’ intention in using the quote in this scene? Or, is there a language or structural technique in the example and how is it creating effect? – this is split into numbered questions to help you build up the different layers of skill ***(reading analysis)***
* **PMEAL *–*** Point, moment from the story, evidence and analyse. Use the PEA guide to help you with PMEAL – the only difference is you may not have a specific quote to analyse ***(reading analysis)***
* **Implicit meaning**: something that is implicit is inferred - it is suggested, but not actually said, meaning the reader needs to read between the lines
* **Explicit meaning**: something that is explicit is obvious or easy to select as the meaning
* **Context**: the social, political and historical importance surrounding a piece of literature
* **Grammar**: the rules which help writing to be technically accurate
* **Tentative Style**: using modal verbs to express a sense of choice

Word Class Analysis

**Adjective**: a word used to describe

**Adverb** – often ly words which describes how things are done

**Modal verbs**: verbs which offer a choice – could, should will etc.

**Connotations:** implied or suggested meanings of words or phrases

**Noun**: the name of something (Proper Noun: people, places, dates & months must have a capital letter at the start)

**Pronoun**: Pronouns are short words like 'it', 'she', 'he', 'you', 'we', 'they', 'us', and ‘them’, used instead of names

**Preposition:** A preposition is a word such as after, in, to, on, and with. Prepositions are usually used in front of nouns or pronouns and they show the relationship between the noun or pronoun and other words in a sentence

**Verb**: a word used to describe an action

Writer’s Techniques

* **Alliteration**: a series of words in a row which have the same first consonant sound.
* **Assonance**: repetition of vowel sounds.
* **Allegory**: extended metaphor in which a symbolic story is told
* **Anecdote**: a short story using examples to support ideas
* **Bias**: inclination or prejudice for or against one person or group, especially in a way considered to be unfair
* **Cliché**: overused phrase or theme
* **Consonance**: repetition of consonant sounds, most commonly within a short passage of verse
* **Caesura**: a break in the middle of a line of poem which uses punctuation (any . , : ; etc…)
* **Connotations**: implied or suggested meanings of words or phrases
* **Dialogue**: speech
* **Directive**: using you we or use
* **Ellipsis**:… using 3 dots as punctuation to express emotion or that something has been omitted from the writing
* **Enjambment**: incomplete sentences at the end of lines in poetry
* **End-Stopping**: punctuation at the end of a line of poetry
* **Emotive Language**: language which creates an emotion in the reader
* **Exclamation mark**: ! punctuation used to express surprise, shock, shouting etc.
* **Extended Metaphor**: a metaphor that continues into the sentence that follows or throughout the text
* **Facts**: information that can be proven
* **First Person**: using I to tell the story
* **Humour**: Provoking laughter and providing amusement
* **Hyperbole**: use of exaggerated terms for emphasis
* **Imagery**: creating a picture in the readers head
* **Juxtaposition**: placing contrasting ideas close together in a text
* **Metaphor**: a comparison as if a thing is something else
* **Motif**: a recurring set of words/phrases or imagery for effect
* **Onomatopoeia**: words that sound like their meaning
* **Opinion**: information that you can’t prove
* **Oxymoron**: using two terms together, that normally contradict each other
* **Pathetic Fallacy**: ascribing human conduct and feelings to nature
* **Protagonist**: the main character who propels the action forward
* **Personification**: giving human qualities to inanimate objects, animals, or natural phenomena
* **Repetition**: when words or phrases are used more than once in a piece of writing
* **Rhetorical question**: asking a question as a way of asserting something. Asking a question which already has the answer hidden in it.
* **Sibilance**: repetition of letter 's', it is a form of alliteration
* **Second Person**: using ‘you’ to tell a story
* **Superlative**: declaring something the best within its class i.e. the ugliest, the most precious
* **Sensory detail imagery**: sight, sound, taste, touch, smell
* **Simile**: comparison between two things using like or as
* **Statistics**: facts and figures
* **Symbolism**: the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities
* **Third Person**: using ‘he, she it & they’ to tell the story
* **Tense**: writing which is in the past, present or future
* **Triplets**: repetition of three ideas, words or phrases close together
* **Tone**: the way a piece of text sounds e.g sarcastic etc.

Sentence Structure information

Sentence structures: **simple** – a short sentence which uses capital letter at the start and full stop at the end and has only one clause in it. **Compound** – two clauses joined by a connective (use the FANBOYS acronym), A **complex** sentence contains one independent clause and at least one dependent clause. Unlike a compound sentence, however, a **complex** sentence contains clauses which are not equal. **Complex** sentences are sometimes called a three part sentence and often use a variety of sentence openings (use the PANIC acronym). **Clause**: a clause is one independent idea which forms part of a sentence