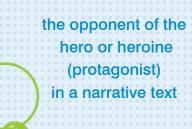


antagonist



relates to the order of events in a story; indicates the disruption of the natural chronology (flashback and flash-forward)



the story is told by an overt narrator who is not present as a character in the story and usually omniscient; in addition to narrating the story, s/he often comments on the action and the characters







the composition of a character; we differentiate between flat characters (with only a few character traits) and round characters (large, complex selection of character traits)

refers to the relationships between characters and their attitudes towards one another

the agents in a story,
usually classified
according to their
complexity (flat or round
characters) and their
roles within the plot
(protagonist, antagonist,
witness, helper,
confidant etc.)



closed ending





the narrated events occur in the same sequence as in their temporal chronology form of conveying information at the end of narrative texts which generally comprises the resolution of all conflicts

narrator who is not present as a speaker and recounts the action in a detached manner



discourse





narrative mode in which the narrator introduces a character or describes a setting structure of the narrative;
complementary
term to story:
'story' refers to the 'what',
'discourse' to the 'how'
of a narrative

the former self of a narrating I, presented as a character in the fictional world fictional world

figural narrative situation

first-person narrative situation

the world represented in a narrative text, which is subject to its own rules and laws one of the typical narrative situations; the story is presented by a covert narrator and through the eyes of one or more characters who function as focalisers

one of the typical narrative situations; events are related by a 'narrating I', who takes part in the action in the fictional world as a character or 'experiencing I'

flashback

flash-forward



relates to the order
of events; a sequence
of a narrative that goes
back in time to show
what happened earlier
in the story

relates to the order of events; a sequence of a narrative that recounts a future event of the story

a one-dimensional character who has few individual characteristics







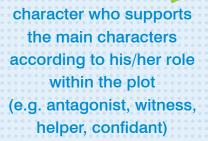
refers to the perception of the fictional world; includes internal processes such as thinking, feeling and remembering centre of orientation from whose perspective the fictional world is perceived; to find out who the focaliser is, one has to answer the questions who sees? who feels? who remembers?

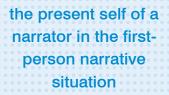
the representation of a character's mental processes, e.g. his or her thoughts, feelings, perceptions, dreams, memories, visions











the way in which textual elements are presented; we differentiate between report, description, comment and direct speech



narrator



refers to the way
in which events are
narrated; there are three
'narrative situations':
authorial narrative
situation, figural narrative
situation, first-person
narrative situation

fictional textual speaker who narrates a story; answer to the question 'who is speaking?' has the privilege of knowing everything about both the characters' thoughts and feelings and the course of the action, and of being present at different places at the same time. This usually excludes first-person narrators



order





form of conveying information at the end of a text which does not offer final solutions

refers to the possibilities
of organising the
temporal sequence of
events (flashback,
flash-forward)

concrete, individualised
narrator who is clearly
recognisable as a
speaker, who may
analyse and evaluate the
characters and events,
offer personal comments
and directly address the
reader







refers to the structure of the action, i.e. the causal and temporal sequence of events; complementary term to 'story'

main character whose plans and intentions are often blocked by an antagonist a factual, frequently temporally compressed account of events by the narrator







a multidimensional character displaying a complex selection of character traits that change as the action progresses



refers to the specific location of an event in space and/or time

(1) sequence of events
in their 'natural'
temporal chronology;
complementary term to 'plot';
(2) totality of elements that
constitute the level of fictional
action; complementary term
to 'discourse' ('story' refers to
the 'what', 'discourse' to the
'how' of a narrative)