# Annotating a Work of Fiction

## Key Elements of a Work of Fiction:

### 1. Characters

The **PROTAGONIST** is the main character and the focus of the story. ...and may be a **HERO** or **ANTI-HERO**, someone who is flawed but still fulfills the role of the hero. There may also be an **ANTAGONIST**, someone who is opposed to the main character.

### 2. Setting

The setting is a **place** and **time** where the story unfolds. The setting may be **current**, **historical**, or **invented**.

### 3. Plot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characters, Setting, Events</th>
<th>Conflict</th>
<th>Conflict</th>
<th>Story</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exposition</td>
<td>Rising Action</td>
<td>Climax</td>
<td>Falling Action</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4. Point of View

As stories, works of fiction have a **narrator** who tells the story from a particular point of view:

- **First-Person** (I or We)
- **Second-Person** (You)
- **Third-Person** (He, She, or They)

### 5. Tone

The narrator’s tone helps establish the **Feeling & Meaning** of the story.

- **Is it** Serious & Tragic
- **Is it** Humorous & Satirical
- **How is it** Emotional & Meaningful

### 6. Themes

A **theme** is a major idea expressed by a story. Every story has one or more themes that it develops, such as:

- Human endeavor is ultimately futile
- Working-class unity leading to successful resistance to oppression

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