**Tone:** the writer's or speaker's attitude toward a subject, character, or audience, and it is conveyed through the author's choice of words and detail. Tone can be serious, humorous, sarcastic, indignant, objective, etc.

**Diction:** word choice intended to convey a certain effect.

**Imagery:** the use of words or phrases that appeal to the 5 senses to create

vivid pictures in the reader's mind.

**Details:** the facts revealed by the author or speaker that support the

attitude or tone in a piece of poetry or prose.

**Mood:** the emotional atmosphere produced by an artistic work.

**Connotation:** the suggested or implied meaning of a word or phrase.

**Denotation:** the strict, literal, or factual meaning of a word or phrase.

**Theme:** a central message of a literary work. It is not the same as a subject, which can be expressed in a word or two: courage survival, war, pride, etc. The theme is the idea or ideas the author wishes to convey about that subject. It is expressed as a sentence or general statement about life or human nature. The reader must think about all the elements of the work and use them to make inference, or reasonable guesses, as to which themes seem to be implied. An example of a theme on the subject of pride might be that pride often precedes a fall.