**List of Terms**

absurd

action: the events in a story, play, etc. (OED)

adaptation: a film, television drama or play that is based on a particular book or play but has been changed to suit the new medium (OED)

alienation effect

alliteration

allusion

ambiguity

analysis: the detailed study or examination of something in order to understand more about it; the result of the study (OED)

anapaest

anthology: ​a collection of poems, stories, etc. that have been written by different people and published together in a book (OED)

apocrypha:  Christian religious texts that are related to the Bible but not officially considered to be part of it (OED)

appendix: a section giving extra information at the end of a book or document

archaism

assonance

Augustan age

author: 1. a person who writes books or the person who wrote a particular book 2. the person who creates or starts something, especially a plan or an idea

autobiography: ​the story of a person’s life, written by that person; this type of writing

ballad

ballad metre

bibliography

biography: ​the story of a person’s life written by somebody else; this type of writing

blank verse

caesura

canon

catharsis

character

comedy

conceit

conflict: a situation in which people, groups or countries disagree strongly or are involved in a serious argument

context: 1. the situation in which something happens and that helps you to understand it 2. the words that come just before and after a word, phrase or statement and help you to understand its meaning

copyright: ​if a person or an organization holds the copyright on a piece of writing, music, etc., they are the only people who have the legal right to publish, broadcast, perform it, etc., and other people must ask their permission to use it or any part of it

couplet

dactyl

deconstruction

dialogue

drama

dramatic monologue

edition

elegy

enjambment (run-on line)

epic

epigram

epistle

epitaph

essay

feminism: the belief and aim that women should have the same rights and opportunities as men; the struggle to achieve this aim

fiction

figure

focalization

foot

foregrounding

formalism

free verse

gender: the fact of being male or female, especially when considered with reference to social and cultural differences, not differences in biology; members of a particular gender as a group

genre

gospel: one of the four books in the Bible about the life and teaching of Jesus

heroic couplet

hexameter

iamb

iambic pentameter

intertextuality

manuscript: a copy of a book, piece of music, etc. before it has been printed

medium

mediaeval: connected with the Middle Ages (about AD 1000 to AD 1450)

metaphor

metonymy

mimesis

modernism

monologue

monotheism: the belief that there is only one God

morality play

motif

motto: a short sentence or phrase that expresses the aims and beliefs of a person, a group, an institution, etc. and is used as a rule of behaviour

mystery play

myth

narrator

neoclassicism

New Criticism

new historicism

New Testament: the second part of the Bible, that describes the life and teachings of Jesus Christ

novel

ode

oeuvre

Old Testament: the first part of the Bible, that tells the history of the Jews, their beliefs and their relationship with God before the birth of Christ

onomatopoeia

paradox

pastoral

pentameter

personification

Petrarchan sonnet

plagiarism

plot

poetry

polytheism: the belief that there is more than one god

point of view

postcolonial literature

postmodernism

prose

protagonist

quatrain

reference: a note in a book that tells you where a particular piece of information comes from

Renaissance

Restoration comedy

review: a report in a newspaper or magazine, or on the internet, television or radio, in which somebody gives their opinion of a book, play, film, product, etc.; the act of writing this kind of report

rhyme

rhythm

Romanticism

Shakespearean sonnet

short story

simile

soliloquy

sonnet

Spenserian sonnet

spondee

stage: a raised area, usually in a theatre, etc. where actors, dancers, etc. perform

stanza

stock character

stream of consciousness

stress

subplot

subtext

symbol

synaesthesia

synecdoche

tenor and vehicle

tercet

tetrameter

text

textual criticism

tragedy

trochee

trope

utopia

verse paragraph

Victorian: ​connected with the period from 1837 to 1901 when Queen Victoria was queen in the UK