Zoom Meeting 1c

Reading Seminar 1: Short Fiction

The meeting will begin soon.

Zoom Meeting Information

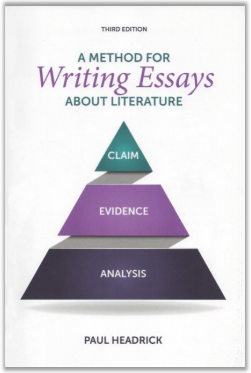
- Zoom Meetings are about 60 minutes long and are recorded.
- Recordings and PowerPoints are posted on onQ (under "Content" > "Zoom Meetings").
- Participate in the discussion by using the "Chat" window or by raising your hand under "React."
- Attendance will be taken at a random point in the meeting; your camera may be on or off.

Zoom Meetings

Please see the Course Syllabus for specific dates and times

Informational	Writing Seminars	Reading Seminars
Intro to the Course	**1b. Writing Seminar 1** (Crafting an Effective Thesis Statement)	**1c. Reading Seminar 1**
1a. Academic Integrity		
2a. Midcourse Exam Info Session	**2b. Writing Seminar 2** (Structuring an Analytical Essay)	**2c. Reading Seminar 2**
3a. TA Check-In	**3b. Writing Seminar 3** (Claim, Evidence, and Analysis)	**3c. Reading Seminar 3**
4a. Final Exam Info Session	**4b. Writing Seminar 4** (Some Notes on Grammar and Style)	**4c. Reading Seminar 4**

🕮 Headrick, *A Method for Writing Essays About Literature*



Close Reading

- **Chapter 5: Types of Literary Analysis Essays**
  - Close Readings

1. Paraphrase the literal content.
2. Identify significant words, phrases, and formal features.
3. Describe the sentences and sentence structures.
4. Identify significant patterns in the manner of expression, along with exceptions to these patterns.
5. Make observations about the significance of the details and patterns you have identified. (Headrick 56-59)

The Elements of Fiction

🕮 Gilman, "The Yellow Wallpaper"
🕮 Joyce, "Araby"
🕮 Woolf, "Kew Gardens"
🕮 Mansfield, "The Garden Party"
🕮 O'Connor, "Good Man Hard to Find"
🕮 Achebe, "Dead Men's Path"
🕮 Munro, "Friend of My Youth"
🕮 Atwood, "Happy Endings"
🕮 Murakami, "100% Perfect Girl"
🕮 Lahiri, "Interpreter of Maladies"
🕮 Simpson, "Big Water"

Introduction to the Study of Literature
Introduction to Short Fiction

plot	*organized narrative*
conflict	*tensions and oppositions*
character	*people or entities*
setting	*when and where*
viewpoint	*identity of narrator*
language	*rhetorical devices*
tone	*attitude of narrator*
theme	*abstract concept*

Review of Short Fiction

Leanne Betasamosake Simpson (1971-)

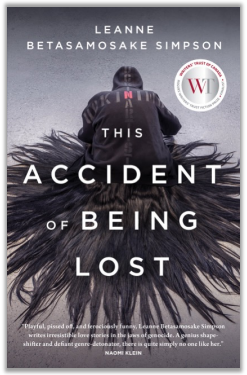


- Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg writer, scholar, and musician; distinguished Visiting Professor of Sociology at TMU
- addresses Canadian colonialism in several media: fiction, poetry, non-fiction, music, teaching, activism, etc.
- a recurring motif in her work is the power of the land to resist the racist colonial narrative
- a major influence in her creative work is traditional Indigenous fiction (*SF* 308)

theme

"Properly speaking, the theme of a work is not its [general] subject [matter or broad topic,] but rather its central idea, which may be stated directly or indirectly."	"A theme is an idea about the world, expressed by a literary text, of general importance to people … in general, not just to a small select group…. The topic of a text is not a theme."	"… an abstract concept that is made concrete through [an analysis of the Elements of Literature that] must go beyond naming the concept … and assert what the work is saying about it…."	"A salient abstract idea that emerges from a literary work's treatment of its subject matter … [that] may be announced explicitly, but more often it emerges indirectly…."
(Cuddon 721)	**(Headrick 26-28)**	**(*SF* 3-4)**	**(Baldick 358)**

🕮 Simpson, "Big Water"

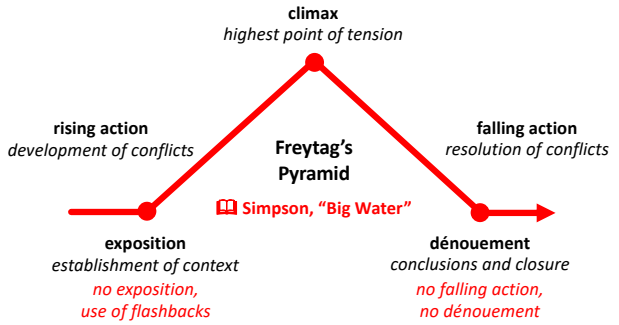


- first published in *This Accident of Being Lost: Song and Stories* (Anansi, 2017), Simpson's fifth fiction collection

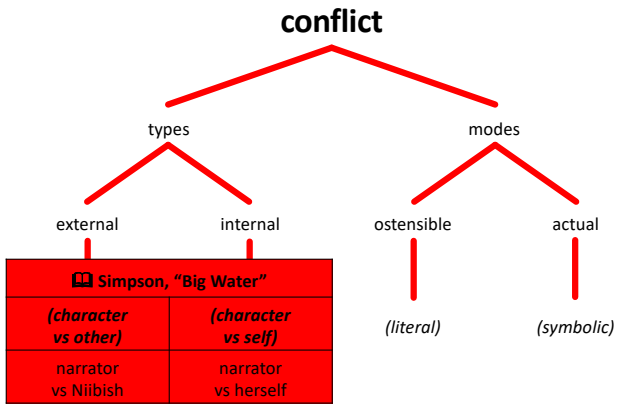
Theme

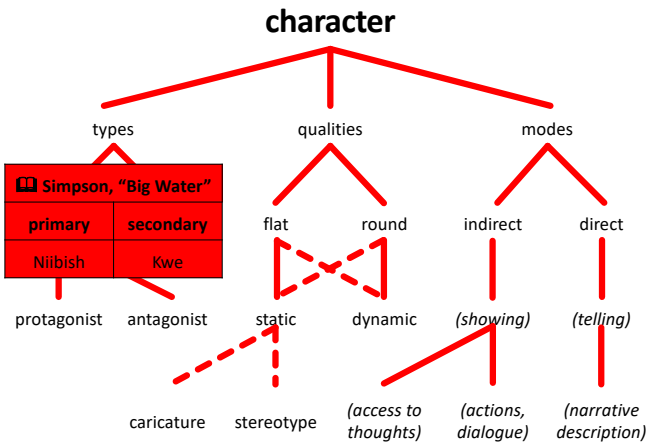
An enduring solution to the global climate crisis must involve a wholesale reconsideration and re-creation of humankind's relationship with the natural world, and an abandonment of politically and ideologically driven half measures.

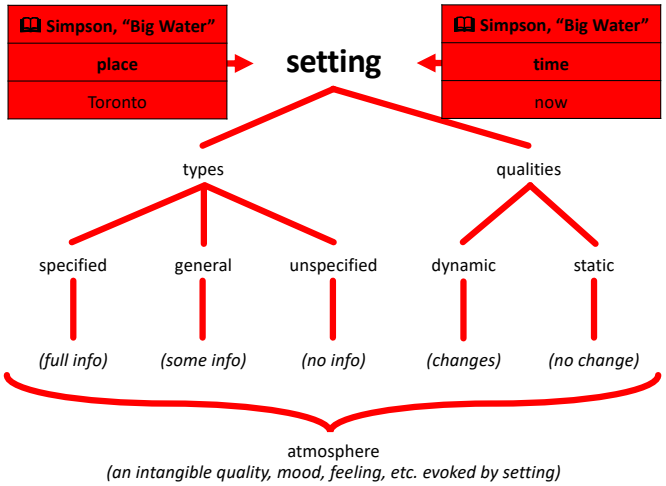
plot

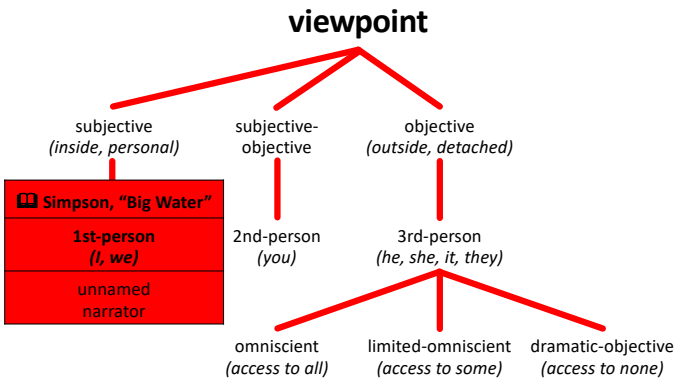


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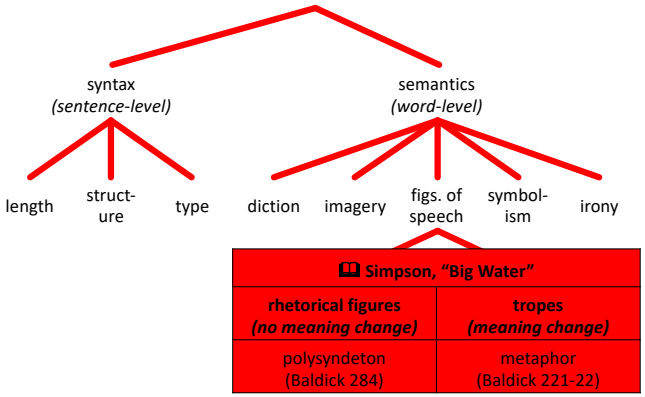








language



language

creation myth

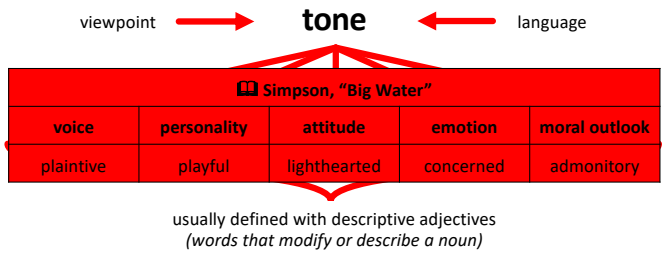
- also known as a *cosmogonic myth*
- a symbolic narrative about the origins of the world and/or humankind
- connected to Indigenous spiritual traditions and oral narratives
- often elaborately plotted, but include mnemonic devices to aid in memorization and oral transmission

The Earth Diver Myth

- creation myth associated with numerous Indigenous traditions
- in most versions, a deity awakens and sends an animal—the Earth Diver—from the primordial realm into primal waters to seek mud or sand with which to build habitable land for humankind—the Earth
- often include accounts of failed attempts by the animal to create land, before a successful solution

language

	rhetorical figure	trope
definition	an artful arrangement of words to achieve a certain effect (Baldick 140)	use of one word or phrase to represent another word or phrase (Baldick 366-67)
effect	*does not* change the meaning(s) of word(s)	*does* change the meaning(s) of word(s)
example	polysyndeton (Baldick 284)	metaphor (Baldick 221-22)
📖 Simpson, "Big Water"	"… and she's right and I promised … and that we'll still do things the right way…" (309)	"… *a Braxton Hicks warning* …" (310)



usually defined with descriptive adjectives
(words that modify or describe a noun)

For More Information

The Purdue Online Writing Lab
https://owl.purdue.edu/

- **Close Reading:** Subject-Specific Writing > Writing in Literature
  - Writing About Poetry
  - Poetry: Close Reading
  - Writing About Fiction
  - Writing About Literature

Dr May's Class Web Site
https://www.queensu.ca/academia/drrgmay/docs/



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Syllabus Appendix A1

Writing Assignment 1

Step 1
Participate in or review the recording of Writing Seminar 1.

Step 2
Compose a draft thesis statement that responds to the topic in Appendix A1 of the Course Syllabus.

Step 3
Refine your draft thesis statement to a final version using the techniques in Writing Assignment 1.

Step 4
Submit the following 3 elements in 1 (and only 1) MS Word (.docx) document on onQ:

1. Thesis Statement (1 sentence)
2. "So What?" Test Paragraph (150 words)
3. Counterargument Test Paragraph (150 words)