***Directions: Read and reflect on the other film/literature vocabulary below…***

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| *We usually talk about literary elements in the following way: Plot, Setting, Character, Theme, and Style.*  **Plot** is *“what happens*” in a piece of literature. It often includes a conflict, and a climax (or several climaxes). Sometimes a story moves in a fairly straight line, with tension building until the climax, and then a brief resolution. That’s called a “linear” plot. If the story winds up (basically) where it began, but with some difference (growth in the character, perhaps), we call it a “circular” plot. If there are several climaxes that are all equally important, with little development across time, we often call it an “episodic” plot.  **Setting** is *where* and *when* a piece of literature takes place. Sometimes the *where and when* are not easy to tell, or they really don’t matter; in that case, setting serves as a “backdrop.” Sometimes the setting is hugely important to the story; in that case, we call the setting “integral.” Sometimes the setting is part of the conflict (as in a survival story), which makes it an element of the plot. Sometimes we only know part of the setting (it’s a castle in the forest, but we don’t know in which part of the world), or we know exactly which part of the world (they speak Portuguese) but we don’t know what time period.… As a result, setting can play many different roles in a piece of literature.  **Character** is pretty easy. It’s *who’s who* in the literature. We call well-developed characters “round”—they have multiple facets and may change over time. We call less-developed characters “flat”—they often are static and/or caricatured (the big bad wolf, for instance, or the wicked witch).  **Theme** is the *point the author is trying to make* in the literature. It’s the message. Sometimes there are many themes in a piece of literature, and often different readers find different themes, depending on their time period, their culture, their own experiences, and/or their “take” on the literature.  **Style** is the method in which the literature is presented. Are the sentences long or short, is the language informal or formal, is the narrative structure complicated or simple? Does the author use a lot of metaphor, figurative language, description, conversation, or is it fairly straightforward?  Whose point of view is the story told through--and what difference does that make?  Do we see the story from outside the characters, from inside several characters, or from one particular character's perspective? |

Storyline

Script

Acting

Special Effects

Music

Set Design

Cinematography

Editing

Costume Design/Make-Up

Literary Devices

Other: ?