

UNIVERSITY OF BISKRA
FACULTY OF LITERATURES AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES
DEVISION OF ENGLISH

Module: Literary Text

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Lesson: Setting

The location of a story's action, along with the time in which it occurs, is the setting. Setting can add an important dimension of meaning, reflecting character and embodying theme.

- a) **Place:** Where the events of the story take place?
- b) **Time:** When the story takes place? (Historical period, time of day, year, etc.)
- c) **Weather conditions:** rainy, sunny, stormy, etc.
- d) **Social conditions:** The daily life of the characters.
- e) **Mood or atmosphere:** The feeling is created at the beginning of the story. Is it cheerful, sad, dark or frightening?

Mood: The mood is the feeling the reader gets while reading the story. The author helps to create the mood by using carefully chosen descriptive or evocative words. It can be compared to the use of music in films. Examples of mood are: hostile, optimistic, threatening, ominous, bitter, defiant, etc..

THEME

The theme of a fable is its moral. The theme of a parable is its teaching. The theme of a piece of fiction is its view about life and how people behave, the narrator's vision. The writer's task is to communicate on a common ground with the re

Questions to ask:

- 1) Does the title have anything to do with the theme?
- 2) Are there repeating patterns and symbols in the story? Sometimes these lead you to the theme.
- 3) What allusions (references) are made throughout the story?