

Attributes of Quality Literature

Precise Language- the use of colorful, vibrant, descriptive language. Figurative language is a great example of precise language; such as, idioms, similes, metaphors, personification.

Precise language often draws a picture in one's head about what is going on. It helps you to visualize the scene.

Example: "The drums throbbed. The heavy dragon marched on its thousands of feet, . . ." (Johnny Tremain pg. 236)

Emotional Appeal- makes you feel emotions, such as, sympathy, empathy, anger, sadness, extreme excitement. It is what makes you need a tissue or want to tell you friends what just happened in your book.

Example: "He saw the chaplain reading from his open prayer-book; the wooden coffin, the hastily dug grave." (Johnny Tremain pg. 211)

Insight- helps you understand your character's personality traits or character traits. These are often inferred in what you read. Insight into your character will help you understand how your character reacts to events or conflicts that happen in his/her life.

Example: "He was a peaceful, kind, remote old man." (Johnny Tremain pg. 14)

". . . not to take it out in lording it over the other boys." Inferred: Johnny is bossy. (Johnny Tremain pg.13)

Universality- can be the theme (moral or lesson learned) of the story. It is an event that causes an emotion that would be felt by most people in the world.

Content- any **factual** information, relevant details that help you connect to any previous knowledge.

Example: "By the eighth of December the *Eleanor* had joined the *Dartmouth*." (Johnny Tremain pg. 131)

"That fall, Paul Revere did organize a spy system." (Johnny Tremain pg.194)