

WEEK 1 WORKBOOK



DIMECH
WRITER



What is a plot?

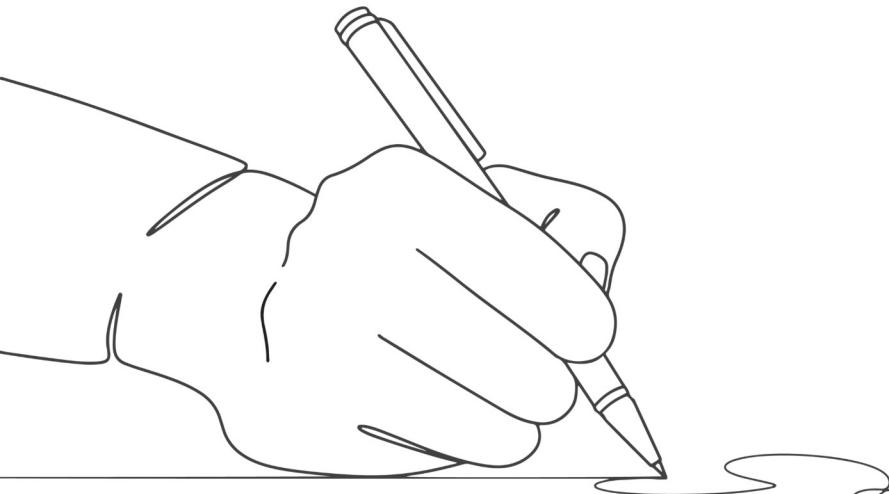
1. **Introduction** - The story begins by introducing the setting, and the characters main premise.
Purpose - To give the reader background information and establish the world of the story.

2. **Rising Action** - A series of events unfold, building tension as the main characters face increasing conflicts or challenges.
Purpose - To develop the story's central conflict and deepen character relationships or struggles.

3. **Climax** - The story reaches its turning point, where the main conflict comes to a head.
Purpose - To deliver the most intense moment of the story, often leading to a shift in the protagonist's journey.

4. **Falling Action** - After the climax, the events start to wind down, showing the consequences of the climax and how characters begin to deal with them.
Purpose - To set the stage for resolving loose ends and easing the story toward its conclusion.

5. **Resolution** - The conflict is resolved, and the story concludes. The protagonist may have changed or learned something.
Purpose - To provide closure and wrap up the story, explaining the fate of the characters.



What is a plot?

YOUR TURN - Write a sentence about each area



What is a setting?

1. **Physical Location**- The geographical place or environment where the story takes place, such as city, country, or fictional world.

Purpose - To ground the reader in the story's world and establish the backdrop for events.

2. **Time Period** - The historical or futuristic era in which the story occurs, including specific years, decades, or seasons.

Purpose - To provide context for social norms, technology, or events that influence the plot and characters.

3. **Cultural Environment**- The societal, political, or cultural atmosphere that surrounds the characters, including customs, traditional, and values.

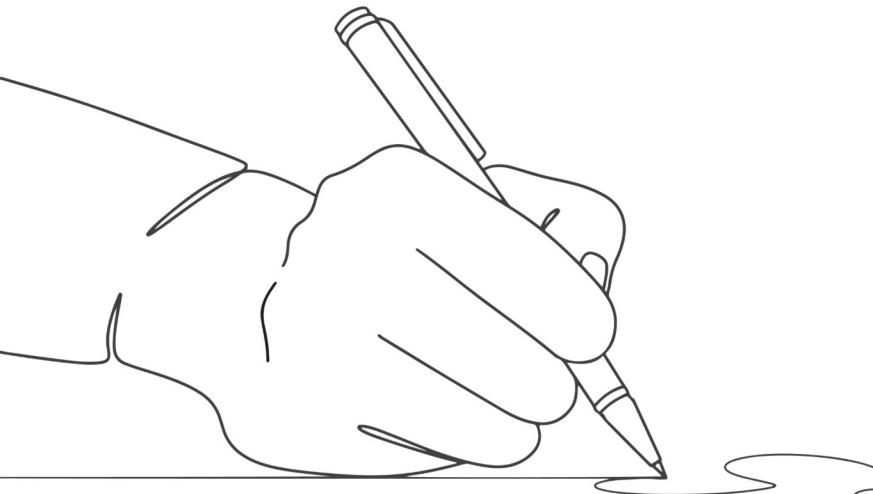
Purpose - To shape characters' behaviours, beliefs, and interactions, and to reflect themes or conflicts in the story.

4. **Mood & Atmosphere** - The emotional tone or feeling of the setting, which could be dark, mysterious, cheerful, or tense.

Purpose - To influence the reader's emotional experience and contribute to the overall tone of the novel.

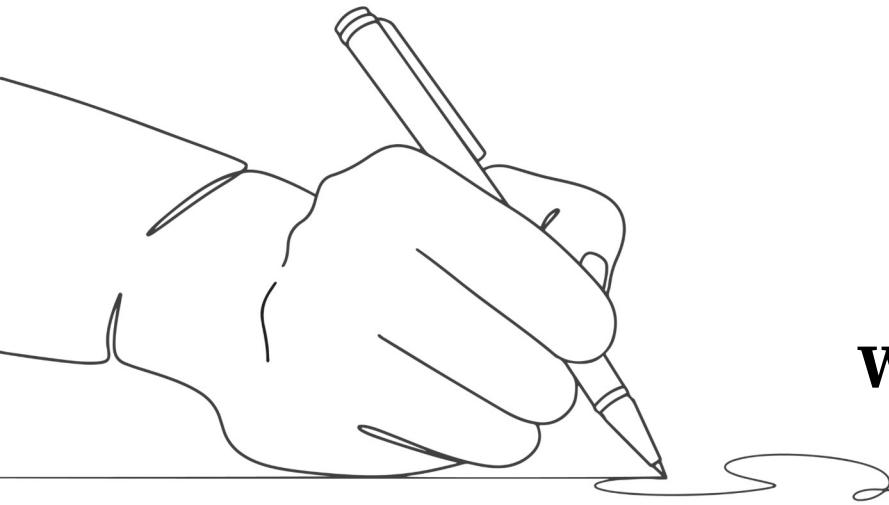
5. **Weather & Climate** - The environmental conditions, such as rain, snow, heat, or storms, that occur in the story.

Purpose - To enhance the mood, symbolize themes, or create additional conflict for the characters.



What is a setting?

YOUR TURN - Write a few sentences about your setting. What distinct features make your world unique?



What is a character?

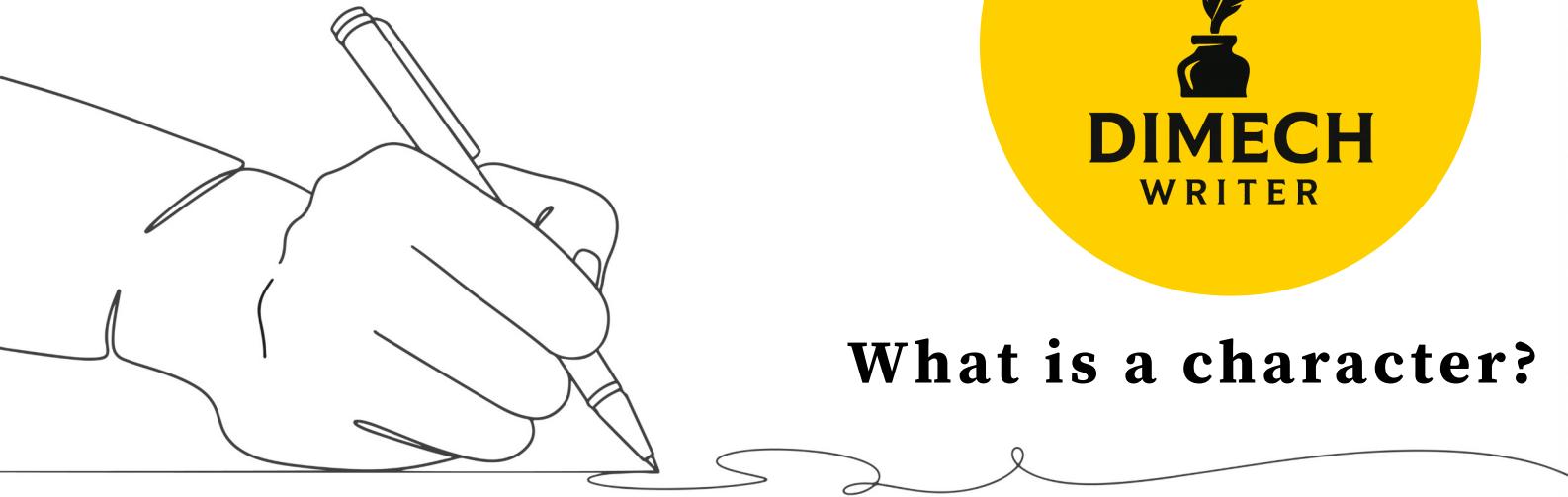
1. **Protagonist** - The main character or hero of the story, usually the one the reader follows most closely.
Purpose - To drive the plot forward through their actions and decisions. The protagonist often faces the central conflict and experiences the most significant growth.

2. **Antagonist** - The character (or force) that opposes the protagonist, creating the primary conflict in the story.
Purpose - To challenge the protagonist, creating tension and obstacles. The antagonist might be a person, nature, society or even an internal struggle.

3. **Supporting Characters** - Characters that play a secondary role but still influence the plot, such as friends, family, or allies of the protagonist.
Purpose - To help develop the protagonist's story by offering support, advise, or conflict. They can also highlight different aspects of the protagonist's personality.

4. **Foil** - A character whose qualities contrast sharply with the protagonist's, often highlighting the protagonist's strengths or weaknesses.
Purpose - To emphasize the protagonist's traits by providing a direct comparison. This helps readers better understand the main character.

5. **Dynamic Characters** - Characters that undergo significant internal change throughout the story, typically through growth, learning, or transformation.
Purpose - To show character development, making the story more engaging by demonstrating personal growth or change as a result of the plot's events.



What is a character?

6. **Static Characters** - Characters who remain largely the same throughout the story, without undergoing significant internal changes.

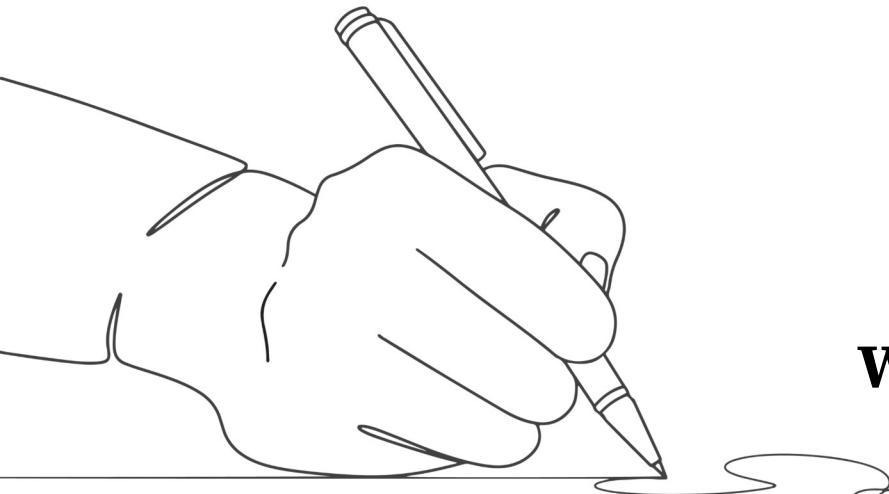
Purpose - To provide stability or contrast with dynamic characters. They help maintain certain story elements or themes without evolving much themselves.

7. **Round Characters** - Complex, well-developed characters with multiple layers, strengths, and flaws.

Purpose - To create a realistic, multidimensional character that feels like a real person, making them relatable and compelling.

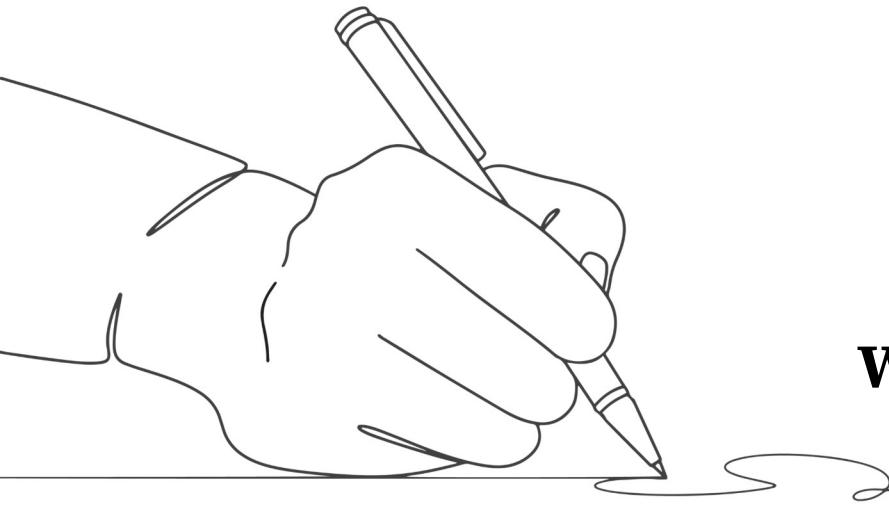
8. **Flat Characters** - Simple, one-dimensional characters with limited depth, often defined by a single trait role.

Purpose - To serve specific functions in the story, such as representing a particular idea or supporting the main plot without much development.



What is a character?

YOUR TURN - Write a sentence about each of the main characters in your story



What is style?

Narrative Style - The method or perspective from which the

1. story is told, such as first-person, third-person or omniscient.

Purpose - To shape how the reader experiences the story by controlling whose thoughts, feelings, and perspectives are shared. This can influence the reader's connection to the characters and plot.

2. **Tone** - The author's attitude toward the subject matter, characters, or audience, which can be serious, humorous, sarcastic, melancholic, etc.

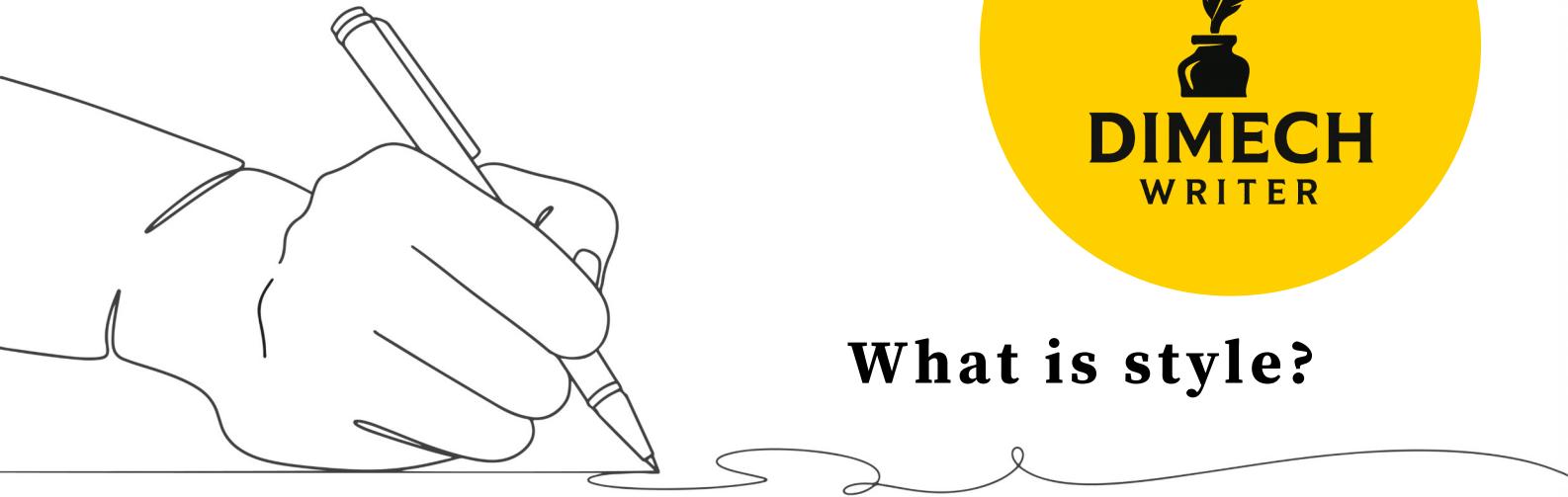
Purpose - To set the emotional atmosphere of the story and guide the reader's emotional response to events or characters. Tone helps create the mood and can reinforce the theme.

3. **Diction (Word Choice)** - The specific vocabulary and phrasing the author uses, whether formal or informal, simple or complex.

Purpose - To influence how the reader perceives the story's world and character. Word choice can reflect the novel's tone, setting, or characters' social backgrounds, and it can add depth to the meaning of the text.

4. **Sentence Structure (Syntax)** - The arrangement of the words and the length and complexity of sentences. This can vary from short, punchy sentences to long, descriptive passages.

Purpose - To control the pacing of the narrative and the readers' engagement. Short sentences create tension or urgency, while longer, more descriptive sentences can build atmosphere or introspection.



What is style?

5. **Figurative Language** - The use of literary devices like metaphors, similes, personification, and symbolism to create deeper meaning or vivid imagery.

Purpose - To enrich the text by adding layers of meaning, allowing readers to interpret the story beyond its literal events. It helps evoke emotions, suggests themes, and make descriptions more engaging.

6. **Dialogue** - The way the characters speak, which may reflect their personalities, backgrounds, or emotions. It can be realistic, stylized, formal, or slang-heavy depending on the novel.

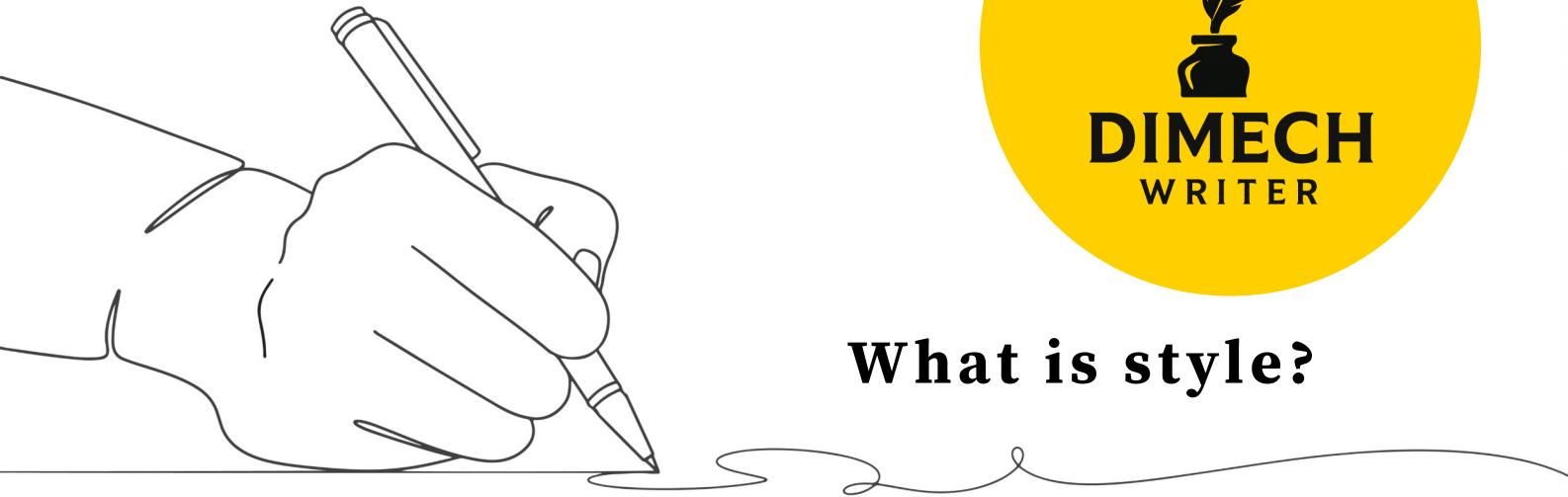
Purpose - To reveal character traits, advance the plot, and create realism or authenticity in characters' interactions. Dialogue also contributes to the overall tone and atmosphere.

7. **Pacing** - The speed at which the story unfolds, influenced by the structure of scenes, sentence length, and action versus description.

Purpose - To control the flow of the narrative, balancing fast-paced action with slower, reflective movements. Good pacing keeps the reader engaged and matches the emotional intensity of the story.

8. **Use of imagery** - Descriptive language that appeals to the senses (sight, sound, touch, taste, smell), creating vivid pictures in the reader's mind.

Purpose - To immerse the reader in the story's world by making scenes feel real and tangible. Imagery can also enhance mood and reinforce themes or symbolism.



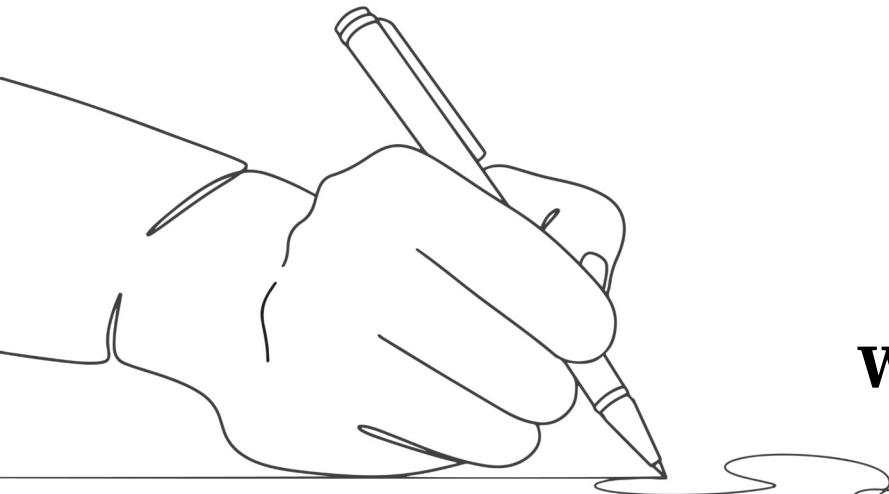
What is style?

9. **Point of View** - The perspective from which the story is told, such as first-person, third person, or even second-person.

Purpose - To shape the reader's connection to the narrative and how much information is revealed. Different points of view offer varying levels of insight into characters' thoughts and emotions.

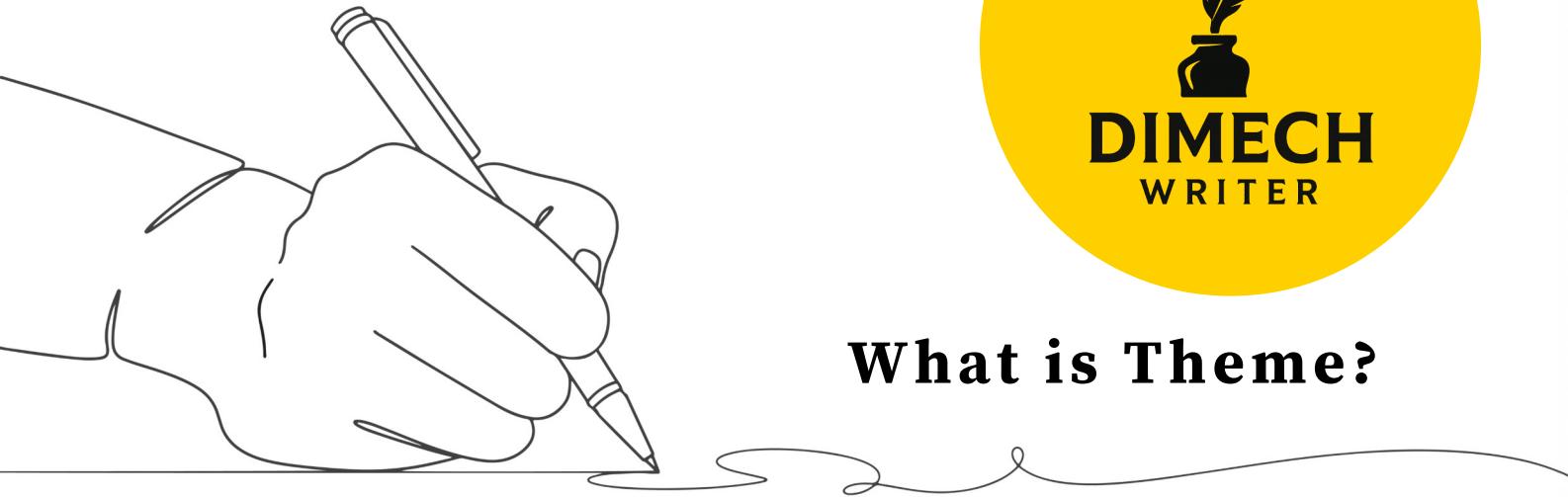
10. **Voice** - The unique style of the author or the narrator, reflected in how the story is told. Voice can be distinctive, playful, serious, or poetic.

Purpose - To give the novel its personality and make it stand out. The voice helps establish the relationship between the reader and the text, making the story more engaging or relatable.



What is style?

YOUR TURN - Write a sentence about each of
the main characters in your story



What is Theme?

1. **Central Theme** - The main, overarching idea or message that the novel explores, such as love, power, identity, or justice.

Purpose - To give the story a deeper meaning, reflecting the author's views on life, society, or human nature. It often drives the narrative and influences character development.

2. **Sub-themes** - Secondary themes that support or contrast the central theme, such as friendship, freedom, sacrifice, or betrayal.

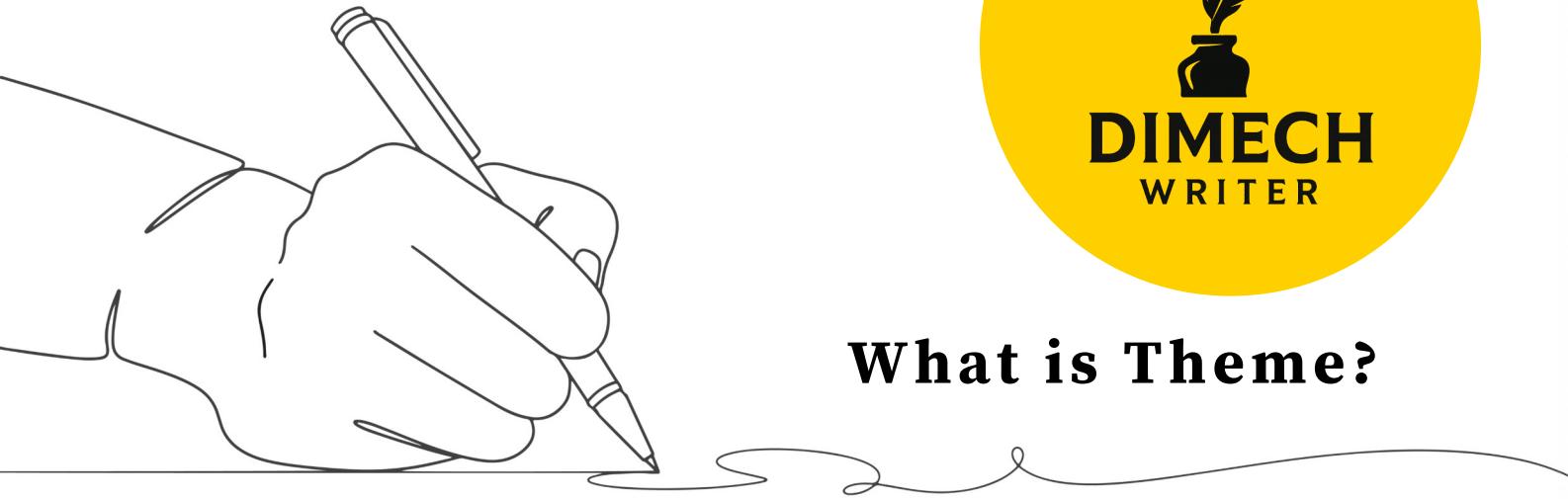
Purpose - To add layers of complexity to the story, allowing for different interpretations and enriching the overall message of the novel.

3. **Moral or Ethical Themes** - Themes that deal with moral dilemmas or ethical questions, often showing the characters making difficult choices between right and wrong.

Purpose - To provoke thought about morality, justice, or human behaviour, often challenging the reader to consider different perspectives on these issues.

4. **Social or Political Themes** - Themes that focus on societal issues, such as inequality, class struggle, gender roles, or government corruption.

Purpose - To critique or reflect on real-world issues, making the novel relevant to its time or offering commentary on social and political structures.



What is Theme?

5. **Universal Theme** - Themes that are relevant across time and culture, such as love, death, courage, or the search for meaning.

Purpose - To connect with a wide audience by addressing fundamental human experiences, making the story relatable and resonant regardless of setting or time period.

6. **Symbolism & Motifs** - Recurring symbols, objects, or images that represent deeper ideas related to the theme, like light symbolizing hope or a journey representing personal growth.

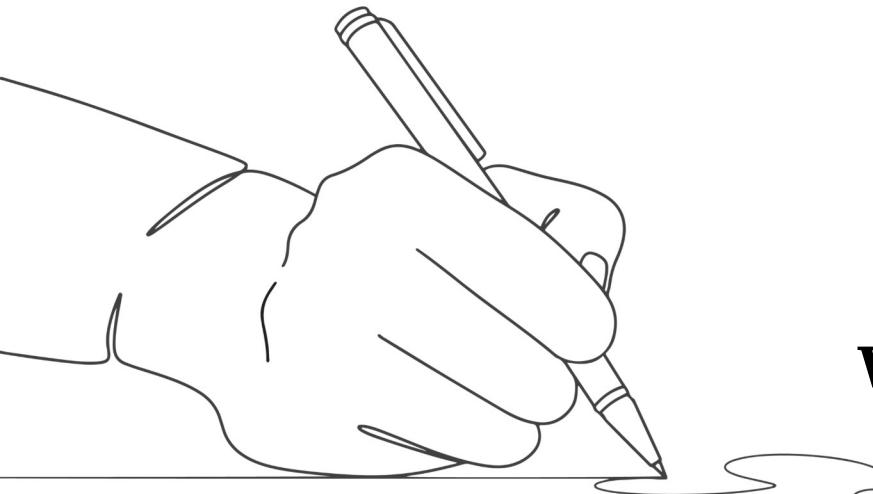
Purpose - To subtly reinforce the theme throughout the novel, giving readers a more immersive and thought-provoking experience through recurring imagery.

7. **Thematic Conflict** - The tension that arises from opposing themes or ideas within the story, such as freedom vs. control, love vs. duty, or tradition vs. change.

Purpose - To add depth to the plot by exploring how different themes clash or coexist, allowing characters and readers to grapple with these competing ideas.

8. **Thematic Resolution** - How the novel addresses or resolves its central theme by the end of the story, often through the protagonist's journey or a change in perspective.

Purpose - To offer closure or insight on the central theme, leaving the reader with a final reflection or message that ties the novel together.



What is Theme?

YOUR TURN - Have a think about your themes - what will the main story arc cover, and what sub-themes do you want included in your story.



DIMECH

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End of
week one