**15.09.16 – Lesson 2**

**Elements of analysis**

Characterization pertain to characters

When you speak about characters you have to distinguish between: “flat” and “round” characters.

* **“Flat” characters** 🡪 remains the same along the story. It doesn’t change. It doesn’t show a parabola or development.
* **“Round” characters** 🡪 its personality develops along the novel;

**What do we mean by characterization?**

Characterization is the way a characters come to life

The intelligent reader should analyse the categories the narrator exploits to create the character:

* Physical description
* Social background
* His job
* His relationship with other character
* His reputation
* The language he speaks
* His cultural background

Most of the time the categories the narrator ecploits are mixed up some, some are given more space than others.

**How does the characters come to life?**

Character, as every thing of fiction, is made of language. A narrator can use different techniques when he brings a character to life:

* **Telling**: charaterization tells the reader everything about the character: everything the reader knows, all the idea, all the ideas make up in his mind about the characrter is filtered by the narrator;
* **Showing**: the narrator show the character in action through dialogues;

**What is the position of the reader in the two cases?**

* If the most frequent tecnique is the tecnique of showing he can make up a more personal idea of the character;
* If the narrator mainly uses the tecnique of telling the reader is less free to make up a personal idea;

**Example:** The new character is (page 21):

* Very different from Vic Wilcox (contrasto)
* She doensn’t believe in the concept of character (her cultural convictions)
* That is to say ( a favourite phrase of her own) 🡪 language chose
* Her name (Robyn [male name] Penrose [the reader may expect she is a writer]) 🡪 ideal person
* Her job 🡪 temporary 🡪 her social statue is not stable
* Her skills are meanly in the field of litterature
* Her specific convictions 🡪 the character is a bourjous myth

The narrator is: third person omniscient intrusive narrator.