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| ***Sentence Structure*** | Are the sentences long or short?  Why do they change?Do they contain many subordinate clauses, or are they often fragments?Are there any digressions or interruptions? |
|  ***Vocabulary*** | Are the words simple or fancy?  Are they technical, flowery, colloquial, cerebral, punning, obscure (and so on...)? |
|  ***Figures of speech*** | Are there any metaphors, similes, or symbols?Are there any other uses of figurative language (personification, metonymy, and so on)? |
|  ***Tone*** | What is the author’s attitude?  What is the mood of the story?Does the author seem sarcastic?  Aggressive?  Wistful?  Pessimistic?  In love? Philosophically detached?  Hopeful?  Ironic?  Bitter?  (And so on...)Whatever the tone, where is it visible in the narrative? |
|  ***Time Sequencing / Chronology*** | How has the author organized the chronology of events?  To what effect?  What is the work’s structural “rhythm”? |

**ACT rhetorical skills focus: STYLE**