Remembering the elements of the Short Story Thanks to the Simpsons

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below you'll find several literary elements found in much of the literature you'll read this year. Let the gang from Springfield refresh your memory.



Conflict

All stories are built on conflict. It provides a central source of tension and drama that make stories interesting to read.

Conflict in stories often falls into one of <u>four</u> major categories:

- Character vs. character: involves conflict between people
- Character vs. society: involves conflict between an individual and larger groups
- Character vs. nature: involves conflict between an individual and the natural world
- *Character vs. self:* involves characters' physiological conflicts with themselves—such as grieving over a lost one or overcoming a bad habit.

The Type	Who and WHY? EXPLAIN
Character vs. character:	
Character vs. society:	
Character vs. nature:	May skíp thís one.
Character vs. self:	



Irony

These definitions and examples of irony were adapted from dictionary.com and http://www.jimloy.com/language/irony.htm

- The use of words to express something **different** from and often opposite to their literal meaning. After being caught skipping class Tim's buddy said, "Your mother will be real happy to hear what you have done." Or "Nice weather!" when it's raining..
- **Difference** between what might be **expected** and what actually **occurs**: "Hyde noted the irony of Ireland's copying the nation she most hated" (Richard Kain). OR "Even though our nation has increased funding to decrease poverty, poverty has been increasing at an alarming rate." OR "The Chief of Police was convicted of a string of robberies."
- An occurrence, result, or circumstance notable for being **unexpected**. Example: The president of Mothers Against Drunk Driving was arrested for driving under the influence.

How is it ironic? <u>BE SURE TO EXPLAIN HOW AND WHY IT IS IRONIC. Don't just re-tell what happened</u>.

The situation	The REASON WHY it is ironic
Marge makes a comment	
that Selma ís "gígglíng líke	
a school gírl!"	
As the Chief of Police is	
taking a compliment, he's	
also looking for something	
he has mísplaced ín a certaín	
spot.	
At the dinner table Homer is	
talking about what he'd do if	
some snitch ratted on him.	



Quick Terms:

<u>Suspense</u>: Techniques used by the author to keep readers interested in the story and wondering what will happen next.

Example of Suspense in the cartoon?

Simile: to compare two unlike qualities using the words "like" or "as"

Metaphor: two compare two unlike quantities without the use of the words "like" or "as."

Situation	Símíle or Metaphor?
Sídeshow Bob says to Bart, "You séízed the wheel	
of my slow boat to hell and you pointed it straight	
towards the sunny shores of Selma."	
Sídeshow Bob says to Selma, "Líke the lone crocus	
in the prison yard, our love bloomed."	
Sídeshow Bob says to Selma, "Kíssíng you ís líke	
kíssíng a dívíne ashtray."	
Sídeshow Bob says to Selma, "Your love letter	
caused a riot in the maximum security wing of	
my heart."	
Marge says to Selma, "You're giggling like a	
school girl!"	

Foreshadowing: to give clues about what is going to happen next.

Give any one of Sideshow Bob's foreshowing moments...hint...most of the time, he said them to Selma or when they were together. What did he say?



On this chart, plot out <u>ten</u> events from the Simpson's episode. <u>Reminder: Climax normally occurs NEAR the</u> <u>end of the story and it is the point where we are at the edge of our seats wondering IF things will work out or</u> <u>not. It is the point of no return or the high point of the story.</u> MAKE SURE THE CLIMAX is COrrect.

