Narrative Elements

There are 7 elements of narrative

1. **Plot**
	* What happens in the story; events that occur from beginning to end.
	* Parts of the plot include:
		+ *Introduction -*  the beginning of the story where the characters and setting are presented.
		+ *Problem/Conflict -* where the events in the story become complicated and the problem in the story is revealed.
		+ *Rising Action –* the events leading up to the climax
		+ *Climax.* This is the turning point in the story in which the reader wonders what will happen next (i.e., will the problem get solved or not?)
		+ *Conclusion –* This is the point in the story in which the problem is solved
	* The conflict is a struggle between forces and can be:
		+ Human vs. Human
		+ Human vs. Nature
		+ Human vs. Society
		+ Human vs. Her/Himself
2. **Setting**
	* when and where the story occurs (time and place)
	* Place : geographical location ; w here is the action of the story taking place?
	* Time : when is the story taking place? (historical period, time of day, year, etc . )
	* Weather Conditions : is it rainy, sunny, stormy, etc?
	* Social Conditions : what is the daily life of the characters like? Does the story mention the speech, dress, mannerisms, customs, etc. of a particular place)?
3. **Character**
	* Protagonist is the character whose actions form the basis of the plot, they are the main character, the “ hero ”
	* Antagonist is the character who opposes the protagonist and or creates obstacles for him/her or forces that work against the protagonist’s success (e.g. protagonist’s own character traits)
	* Dynamic (or Round) character is complex, multidimensional, developed, embodying a number of qualities and traits and who often changes throughout the story. They are complex and have many sides
	* Static (or Flat) character is a character that never changes (one-sided) and who embodies or represents a single characteristic, trait, or idea, or at least a small number of such qualities
4. **Atmosphere**
	* The mood pervading the story
	* The feeling aroused in the reader by the setting, plot, characters and devices (e.g. feeling of horror, uneasiness, peace)
5. **Theme**
	* The main point or central concept around which the story is focused.
	* Statement about life or human nature conveyed or implied through the story
	* Can be the author’s message or central insight that s/he is trying to communicate through the story
	* Examples of themes include: love, betrayal, friendship, war, etc.
6. **Point of View**
	* Is the method of narration and can be either:
		+ First person where the narrator uses “I” and tells the story from a personal perspective
		+ Third person where the narrator uses “He” or “She” and tells the story as if they are not involved and are only watching the events
		+ Omniscient where the narrator is all-knowing and can direct the reader's attention to the inner thoughts of any of the characters and controls the sources of information
7. **Literary Devices**
	* Part of the style of a piece of writing, used to make it more interesting. Examples include: imagery, symbolism, humour, dramatic irony, figurative language (e.g. metaphor, simile), flashback, foreshadowing, etc.