

Literary Terms and Spelling The Giver
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Literary Term	Definition	Example
Dystopia	A futuristic society in which there is oppressive society control and the illusion that everything is perfect	“The Giver” is a dystopian novel.
Protagonist	The main character; the character who is forced to change	Jonas is the protagonist. He is the one who is being forced to change how he thinks and feels.
Antagonist	The character or situation that forces the protagonist to change	The community is the antagonist in “The Giver”. All of the rules and limitations are ultimately what forces the change in Jonas.
Foreshadowing	Clues in the reading that lets the reader know about future events in the book	When the author was emphasizing what characters had light eyes, we knew that was going to be important.
Symbolism	The use of SYMBOLS, persons, acts, or things that have both literal significance and additional abstract meanings.	A stop sign is a symbol. The color red in “The Giver” stands for fire and passion. It’s no mistake that Fiona’s hair is red- she is the girl whom Jonas is passionate about.
Imagery	The use of “picture words” or great descriptive words to help the reader “see” the events of the plot.	The mud-soaked hill became encrusted with twigs and branches as the vicious hurricane whipped through the town.
Synonym	Words with similar definitions	Great and fantastic are synonyms.
Antonym	Words with opposite definitions	Good and bad are antonyms.
Theme	Frequently recurring ideas in the book	“Enjoy life while you can” is a frequently used theme in several novels.