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# **Краткий тематический словарь**

**Анализ художественного  
произведения**

**Учебное пособие  
для студентов университетов**

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Настоящая работа представляет собой лексический справочник по темам, изучаемым студентами в рамках курса профессионально ориентированного английского языка. Соответствующий словарный состав сгруппирован на основе тематического принципа. Каждая лексическая единица снабжена толкованием, переводом, иллюстративными примерами ее употребления в речи, а также минимально необходимой грамматической и стилистической информацией.

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## 1. Literature

1. **literature** [uncountable] pieces of writing that are valued as works of art, especially novels, plays and poems (in contrast to technical books and newspapers, magazines etc) *литература: She is a professor of language and literature at Arizona State University. | I have spent my life getting to know diverse literatures of different epochs.*  
**a work of literature:** *Milton's 'Paradise Lost' is one of the great works of literature. | He has read many of the major works of literature.*  
**the Nobel Prize for Literature:** *Mikhail Sholokhov was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1965.*  
**a degree in literature:** *He has a degree in English Literature.*  
**classical / classic literature**  
**historical literature**  
**modern / contemporary literature**  
**escapist literature** *далёкая от жизни литература: romantic novels and other escapist literature*  
**to write / read / study / teach / publish literature:** *Canadian literature written over the past thirty years | He's studying American literature at university. | For most people, the desire to study literature begins with a love of reading.*
2. **fiction** [uncountable] a type of literature that describes imaginary people and events, not real ones *художественная литература: Immigrant tales have always been popular themes in fiction.*  
**a work of fiction:** *He has written over twenty works of fiction.*  
**a writer of fiction:** *a well-known writer of crime fiction*  
**a reader / fan of fiction:** *He is a great reader of crime fiction. | Joanne says she is not a fan of science fiction, and has never read her husband's book.*  
**literary fiction:** *a publisher of literary fiction*  
**short fiction:** *She has written novels and short fiction.*  
**classical / classic fiction**  
**historical fiction:** *He is a writer of historical fiction.*  
**modern / contemporary fiction**  
**serious fiction**  
**romantic / romance fiction:** *She reads a lot of romantic fiction.*  
**crime / detective fiction:** *Why is Miami such a ripe setting for crime fiction? | Chandler remains the greatest exponent of detective fiction.*  
**horror fiction**  
**pulp fiction (AmE) / trashy fiction | trash (informal)** books, magazines, films etc that are badly written and that contain lots of sex, violence etc *макулатура, халтура: He started reading pulp fiction in the year he lost his job and began producing mystery stories based on its formulas. | How can you read that trash?*  
**short fiction:** *She has written novels and short fiction.*  
**adult / children's fiction**

**to write / create / read / study / teach / publish fiction:** *Hardy wrote poetry as well as fiction. / She reads a lot of romantic fiction.*

3. **non-fiction** [uncountable] books, articles or texts about real facts, people and events **документальная / небеллетристическая литература:** *I prefer reading non-fiction. / The series will include both fiction and non-fiction. / Lewis is the author of thirteen novels and ten non-fiction books.*
4. **science fiction | sci-fi** (informal) stories about events in the future which are affected by imaginary developments in science, for example about travelling in time or to other planets with life on them **научная фантастика:** *Science fiction is often wrongly regarded as a 'lesser' form of literature. / Such developments sound like science fiction, but they're not.*
5. **fantasy** [countable; uncountable] a story, film etc that is based on imagination but not real facts **фэнтези (литературный стиль):** *a surrealistic fantasy set in a South American village / science fiction and futuristic fantasy / The film is more of an ironic fantasy than a horror story. / Her books are usually escapist fantasies.*
6. **writing** [uncountable] stories, poems, articles etc, especially those by a particular writer or about a particular subject **произведения; творчество**  
**a piece of writing:** *The review is a brilliant piece of writing.*  
**writing on / about sth:** *There's a lot of interesting writing on / about the subject.*  
**writing is based on sth:** *Some of his most powerful writing is based on his childhood experiences.*  
**writing is about / deals with / discusses / explores / examines / is concerned with / is devoted to sth:** *Her early writing was concerned with the French Revolution.*
7. **writings** [plural] a group of pieces of writing, especially by a particular person or on a particular subject **произведения:** *the writings of Hegel / Darwin's scientific writings / His experiences in India influenced his later writings. / His writings range from ancient to contemporary art. / His writings provide us with a first-hand account of the civil war.*  
**prose / academic / autobiographical / critical / historical / philosophical / political / sacred / scholarly / scientific / theoretical writings:** *Christians share some of their sacred writings with the Jews.*  
**selected / collected writings | a collection of writings:** *Ruskin's collected writings / The book is a collection of writings on death by various authors.*  
**writings on / about sth:** *Her name crops up frequently in writings on / about the Renaissance.*  
**to read / publish writings:** *His writings on the history of art were published by Greenway and Settle.*
8. **story** [countable] a description of events and people that the writer or speaker has invented in order to entertain people **рассказ, повесть:** *The film was based on a true story. / This juxtaposition of brutal reality and lyrical beauty runs through Park's stories. / The story is told with a complete absence of contrivance.*  
**detective / crime / spy / adventure / love / biblical / fairy / ghost / horror story**

**a gripping story | a story is gripping** an exciting or interesting story that keeps your attention: *His stories are always so gripping.*

**a story by sb:** a collection of stories by modern writers

**the stories of sb**

**throughout | through | in the course of | during the course of a story**

**the construction of a story:** *The construction of the story is that of a classic, well-made work of literature.*

**to write / publish a story**

**to tell / read sb a story**

**to narrate (formal) a story** to tell a story **повествовать, рассказывать:** *The main character narrates the story. | The story is narrated in flashback.*

**a story is based on sb / sth | a story is inspired by sb / sth | to inspire a story:** *Miss Jean Brodie was based on a teacher who had helped Muriel Spark realise her talent. | The story was inspired by a chance meeting with an old Russian duke. | I understand your novel was inspired by a short story by Katherine Mansfield. | The story was inspired by a real person, namely Tamara de Treaux.*

**a story is entitled / titled sth:** *The second story in the book is entitled / is titled 'The Scholar'.*

**the story / novel / book / chapter is about / deals with / discusses / explores / examines / is concerned with / concerns itself with / is devoted to / follows sth:** *The story is about homeless people in the cities. | His book deals with contemporary Paris. | This story discusses the relationship between dreams of success and grinding poverty. | The story is eloquent as it explores the relationship between artist and instrument. | The first chapter examines the relationship between homelessness and drug addiction. | This chapter is concerned with the mental health of older people. | The book is primarily concerned with Soviet-American relations during the Cold War. | This chapter concerns itself with the historical background. | The novel follows the fortunes of a village community in Scotland.*

**to dedicate a story / novel / book etc to sb | the story / novel / book etc is dedicated to sb** to say at the beginning of a book or film, or before a piece of music, that it has been written, made or performed for someone that you love or respect **посвящать:** *Lynne has dedicated the novel to her friend Norma. | She dedicated her first album to Woody Allen, whom she says understands her obsession. | The book was dedicated to her mother / husband / my parents. | This book is dedicated to the memory of my mother / husband / my parents.*

**a story unfolds:** *As the story unfolds, we learn more about his childhood.*

9. **tale** [countable] a story about exciting imaginary events **рассказ, сказка:** *Dickens' 'A Tale of Two Cities' | His latest book is a delightful children's tale about talking animals.*
10. **fairy tale / story** [countable] a children's story in which magical things happen **(волшебная) сказка:** *the prince in a fairy tale*

11. **novel** [countable] a novel is a long written story about imaginary people and events **роман**: the juxtaposition of realistic and surreal situations in the novel / Lawrence's novel was eventually recognized as a work of genius.  
**a novel by sb**: The movie is based on a novel by Anne Tyler.  
**the novels of sb**: the novels of Jane Austen  
**a detective novel**  
**a historical novel**: Butler has also written several historical novels under the pen-name of Jenny Melville.  
**a romantic / romance novel | romance** a story about a love affair **любовный роман**: Johnston's nudes look like cover art for romantic novels. / I was reading some trashy romance novel. / She's a compulsive reader of romances. / Her taste in fiction was for chunky historical romances.  
**escapist novel** **далёкий от жизни роман**  
**a first / debut novel**: Keller's debut novel is about a Korean woman who was sold into prostitution during World War II.  
**a compelling novel** an interesting and exciting narrative  
**a frothy novel** a novel that seems attractive and enjoyable but has no real value **пустой, поверхностный; не имеющий глубокого смысла**: frothy romantic novels  
**a trashy novel** a novel that is badly written and that contains lots of sex, violence etc **макулатура, халтура**: I was reading some trashy romance novel.  
**to write / publish / read a novel**  
**a novel is based on sth | a novel is inspired by sb / sth | to inspire a novel | a template for a novel / story / film / movie etc**: The novel was based on a true story. / The novels are all (broadly / loosely / partly) based on the author's life. / Those events inspired the novel. / The template for Adair's novel is not somebody else's fiction, but fact. / The director uses his own childhood experiences as a template for the movie.
12. **short story** [countable] a prose narrative of shorter length than the novel, especially one that concentrates on a single theme **короткий рассказ, новелла**: a book / collection of American short stories / I understand your novel was inspired by a short story by Katherine Mansfield. / She started out writing short stories for the magazine 'Black Mask'.
13. **novella** [countable] a story that is shorter than a novel, but longer than a short story **новелла**: The story is based on an autobiographical novella from French writer Marguerite Duras.
14. **play** [countable] a piece of writing performed by actors in a theatre or on television or radio **пьеса, драма**  
**to read / write a play**: She writes radio and television plays.  
**to perform a play** to do something in front of an audience in order to entertain them **играть / исполнять пьесу**: The children perform two plays each school year. / Have you ever performed a musical play on this stage?

**to present / produce / put on a play** to arrange for a play to take place  
*осуществлять постановку, ставить пьесу: One summer the children put on a play. / The school will be putting on a Shakespeare play this summer.*

15. **poem** [countable] a piece of writing in which the words are chosen for their beauty and sound and are carefully arranged, often in short lines which rhyme  
*поэма; стихотворение: He began his speech with a few lines of poetry. / Most of his poems are variations on the theme of love.*

**to read a poem:** *She read the poem aloud.*

**to write / compose a poem:** *I've been writing short stories and poems for years. / He composed a poem in his head.*

**to learn (by heart) / memorize a poem:** *Hugh learned the whole poem by heart as a boy. / The children had to memorize a poem and recite it in front of the whole class.*

**to recite a poem** to say a poem that you have learned, especially to an audience  
*декламировать, читать вслух: Each child had to recite a poem to the class.*

**to publish a poem:** *His collected poems were published after the war.*

16. **poetry** [uncountable] poems in general, or the art of writing them *поэзия, стихи: a poetry book / an essay on imagery in poetry*

**to read poetry:** *He reads a lot of poetry.*

**to write / compose poetry:** *She wrote poetry and children's stories.*

**to learn (by heart) / memorize poetry:** *At school we had to learn a lot of poetry by heart.*

**to recite poetry:** *Occasionally, my father would recite the poetry of Baudelaire.*

17. **thriller** [countable] an exciting story, for example about a crime or war, in which surprising events happen suddenly and you never know what will happen next *триллер; остросюжетный фильм / книга: They discovered a mutual love of mysteries and thrillers.*

**a psychological / spy / legal thriller:** *Stephen King's new psychological thriller / He has written a spy thriller that recalls Fleming's James Bond series. / His latest work is a legal thriller set in Boston.*

18. **mystery | murder mystery** [countable] a story, play or film about a murder, in which you are not told who the murderer is until the end *детективный роман / рассказ: an Agatha Christie mystery*

19. **whodunit | whodunnit** [countable] (informal) a book about an imaginary murder case, in which you do not find out who did the murder until the end  
*детективный роман / фильм и т.п.: an Agatha Christie whodunnit / If you enjoy a whodunnit, you'll lap up Janet Laurence's 'Hotel Morgue'.*

20. **writer** [countable] a person whose job is writing books, stories, articles etc  
*писатель; сочинитель, автор, литератор: a science fiction writer / Greene was one of the finest writers of his generation.*

**a celebrated / accomplished / distinguished / eminent / great / important / influential / leading / well-known / major / prominent writer**

**a prolific writer** a writer producing many works

**a book / work by some of today's best writers**



**the works of modern writers**

**a writer for the Independent on Sunday magazine**

**a writer of popular novels**

**a popular / best-selling writer**

21. **author** [countable] a person who writes books, especially works of literature, or someone who wrote a particular book **автор; литератор, писатель, сочинитель**: *Among the guests was the author Salman Rushdie. | The author will be signing copies of his book. | He is the author of three books on art. | Who is your favourite author?*
22. **novelist** [countable] a person who writes books about imaginary people or events **писатель-романист**: *a romantic / historical novelist | Charles Dickens was one of the greatest 19th century novelists.*
23. **playwright | dramatist** [countable] a person who writes plays for the theatre, television or radio **драматург**: *Shakespeare was the greatest playwright in English history. | It is a powerful story written by a great dramatist.*
24. **poet** [countable] a person who writes poems **поэт**: *the foremost poet of his generation | These river banks have inspired poets for many centuries.*

## 2. Plot

1. **plot (line) | story (line)** [countable] a series of related events that make up the main story in a novel, play or film **сюжет, фабула; основная сюжетная линия; структура (художественного произведения)**: *The plot was a little confusing. | The plot line might be too complex for audiences to follow. | The book is well organized in terms of plot.*  
**a plot / story unfolds / develops** a plot gradually becomes clear or complete as details are added **развиваться, раскрываться**: *We discover that Jack isn't as innocent as he seems, as the plot unfolds. | As the story unfolds, we learn more about Max's childhood. | The plot develops further in the second episode. | Unlike a static character, a dynamic character does change and grow as the story unfolds.*  
**a plot thickens** a situation is becoming more complicated and difficult to understand **сюжет усложняется**: *But then the plot began to thicken.*  
**a plot quickens** **развитие сюжета ускоряется**  
**to construct / develop / unfold / advance / drive a plot** to gradually add details to a story to make it clear or complete **строить / продвигать сюжет / фабулу**: *She has constructed a complicated plot, with a large cast of characters. | There is one plot developed over three acts. | This car chase does nothing to advance the plot. | The plot of 'Look Back in Anger' is driven almost entirely by the tirades of Jimmy Porter rather than outside forces.*  
**a plot revolves around sth / sb** to have something as a very important part or purpose **вращаться**: *The main plot revolves around a suspicious death. | This plot revolves around a youngster who is shown various stages of his life.*

**plot development** *развитие сюжета / фабулы*

**a plot device** *способ развития сюжета / фабулы: The basic plot device is ancient: misalliance in marriage compounded by a love triangle. | Some plot devices stand out as the author's contrivances.*

**a contrivance of plot** *an unnecessary and artificial device of plot: The film is spoiled by unrealistic contrivances of plot.*

**(plot) twist | twist in / of / to a plot** *неожиданный поворот (в развитии сюжета / фабулы): a bizarre twist to the plot | There is a clever plot twist near the end of the film. | There are several unexpected twists in the plot before the murderer is revealed.*

**to take a (plot) twist:** *The story has taken another twist.*

2. **subplot** *[countable] a subordinate plot in a novel, play or film, which is separate from but linked to the main story: the novel's romantic subplot | a fascinating subplot to the main drama* *побочная сюжетная линия*

3. **(narrative / plot) strand | a strand of a plot / story** *[countable] one of the different parts of a story* *сюжетная линия: Each narrative strand gives the viewer or reader a unique look into a particular story line.*

**a strand to / in a story:** *There are three main strands to / in the story.*

**an important / main strand**

**different / disparate / various / separate strands**

**distinct / individual strands**

**a single strand:** *Some of the greatest stories ever told have been simple narratives with just a single strand. | If you're watching or reading a story that has one central character acting in a single plot while surrounded by a group of minor characters, you're encountering a narrative that has a single narrative strand.*

**multiple strands:** *Many works are made up of multiple narrative strands.*

**a single / multiple strand narrative | a narrative with a single strand | a narrative with multiple strands:** *In the case of a narrative with multiple strands it's quite possible that supporting characters in one strand will become central characters in another.*

**in a strand:** *The interaction of characters in separate strands can make for entertaining and surprising storytelling.*

**to draw / bring / pull / weave strands together:** *The author draws the different strands of the plot together in the final chapter. | At the end, all the different strands of the story are brought together.*

**different strands come together**

**to juxtapose strands:** *Many films, short stories, novels, television shows and other art forms juxtapose narrative strands while having all strands interact with one another.*

**to disentangle / separate / unravel strands:** *The reader's job is to unravel the strands of the mystery.*

4. **to narrate** *[transitive] (1) (formal) to tell a story by describing all the events in order, for example in a story, play or film* *повествовать, рассказывать*

**to narrate a story / tale | to be narrated by sb / in a particular way:** *The main character narrates the story. | The book is narrated by Richard Papen, a Californian boy. | The story is narrated in flashback.*

**to narrate a story / tale from a particular point of view / perspective:** *The three of them narrate the same events from three perspectives.*

**to narrate / tell / write a story from the first-person / third-person point of view / perspective:** *The story is told from the first-person point of view. | The story is written from a child's perspective.*

**to narrate / tell / write a story in the style of first-person / third-person narrative / narration:** *The book is written in the style of first-person narrative.*

**to narrate / tell / write a story in the first / third person**

**(2)** to explain what is happening in a film or television programme as part of the film or programme **комментировать (фильм, телевизионное шоу):** *a documentary narrated by Desmond Morris | The film was narrated by Andrew Sachs.*

5. **to weave** [transitive] **(1)** to create a story with many complicated details **плести / сплести рассказ / сюжет**

**to weave a story / tale / narrative / plot:** *to weave a narrative | Jan Roberts weaves a compelling tale which traps a young woman in a world run by the Mafia. | Grisham's new novel weaves a tale of mystery and suspense. | She has woven a strong personal narrative filled with lively anecdotes. | She weaves a complicated plot of romance and intrigue.*

**to weave sth together:** *Bragg weaves together the histories of his main characters. | The biography weaves together the various strands of Einstein's life.*

**to weave a story / tale / narrative / plot around a theme:** *She wove the story around a specific theme.*

**(2)** to include something in a story **добавлять**

**to weave sth into a story / tale / narrative / plot etc:** *to weave some humour into a plot | The author weaves into this narrative many entertaining historical facts. | She weaves imaginative elements into her poems.*

6. **narrator** [countable] **(1)** a person who tells a story, especially in a story, play or film **рассказчик, повествователь:** *a first-person / third-person narrator | Marcel is the first person narrator of the novel. | The story is told by a never named narrator that once knew Holly when he lived above her in an old brownstone apartment building in New York City.*

**a first-person / third-person narrator:** *The first-person narrator is not really a character but, instead, more of a disembodied voice.*

**objective / subjective narrator**

**(2)** a person who explains what is happening in a film or television programme as part of the film or programme **диктор; актёр, читающий текст от лица автора:** *His voice is familiar as the narrator of hundreds of documentaries.*

7. **narration | narrative** [uncountable] the process of telling a story, especially in a story, play or film **изложение, рассказывание; рассказ:** *The novel contains*

*too much dialogue and not enough narrative. / Neither author was very strong on narrative.*

**a first-person / third-person narration / narrative | first-person / third-person point of view / perspective** *повествование от первого / третьего лица: a fast-moving first-person narrative / The novel constantly switches between first-person and third-person narration. / The first-person point of view is almost always limited.*

**a narrative structure / framework:** *the narrative structure of a story / They were stories set among the post-war ruins, stories of childhood, and manifestos which have a rhetorical but no narrative structure.*

**a narrative line / flow / thread:** *interruptions to the narrative flow / Because the narrative line of Muriel Spark's "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" is often interrupted and time seems to be just a plaything of the author, a first reading may leave one feeling dislocated.*

**a narrative style / technique**

**a narrative poem** *повествовательная / эпическая поэма*

8. **narrative | narration** [countable] *a description of events, especially in a work of literature* **повествование, рассказ; описание:** *At several points in the narrative the two stories cross. / New York offers an exciting background to the story and it lends the narrative a definite energy. / Each chapter is divided into a narrative of the past and the present, until the two unite at the end of the book. / He has recorded the narration for the production.*

**a compelling narrative** *an interesting and exciting narrative: He provides a compelling personal narrative of his life.*

**a simple / straightforward narrative**

**a complex / detailed narrative**

**a chronological / linear / sequential narrative:** *Her novel subverts the conventions of linear narrative: it has no neat chronology and no tidy denouement.*

**to construct / create / develop / produce / write / weave** (esp. AmE) **a narrative:** *It's difficult to construct a narrative out of a series of fast-moving events. / She has woven a strong personal narrative filled with lively anecdotes.*

**to provide / present / offer a narrative:** *This book offers no coherent narrative of the American Civil War.*

**a narrative is based on something**

9. **action** [uncountable; singular] *the events in a story, play or film* **действие:** *to drive the action forward / Much of the action takes place in or around an old brownstone apartment building where both Holly and the narrator live. \ The action slips from comedy to melodrama and finally to tragedy.*

**the action is set / takes place in something:** *The action is set / takes place in France. / In Scene 1, the action is set / takes place in an expensive restaurant.*

**the action opens in something:** *The action opens in a barbershop.*

10. **scene** [countable] *a single piece of action that happens in one place in a story, play or film* **место действия:** *The scene of "The Quiet American" is Vietnam*

during the war against the French. | The movie has several steamy bedroom scenes. | I found the scene in which Percy proposed to Olive tremendously poignant.

**an opening / early / final / last / climactic scene:** He appears in the opening scene. | Her sweet innocence and search for a home are revealed in this early scene which shows Holly's naiveté about the world.

**an action / battle / fight / violent / chase scene:** The film contains some violent scenes.

**a romantic / love / bedroom / sex / steamy (informal) (= sexually exciting) / kissing scene**

**a dramatic / tragic / funny / touching / gripping scene:** There is a dramatic fight scene between the two brothers. | Holly's philosophy of life comes forth in a gripping scene when her estranged husband, Doc Golightly, travels all the way from Tulip, Texas to find his runaway wife.

**a scene is set / takes place in sth:** The scene is set in the first paragraph with an account of Sally's childhood.

**a scene features sb**

**a scene shows / depicts sth**

**a scene shifts to sth:** Then the scene shifts to the kitchen.

**to open with a scene:** The movie opens with a scene in a New York apartment.

**to introduce sb to a scene:** The audience is introduced to the scene of the Porters' one-room apartment in the Midlands on an early April evening.

**a scene carries sth:** In this film every scene carries an emotional charge.

**in a scene:** In this scene, Alison's brother Nigel gets a personal tirade from Jimmy.

**scene change | a change of scene**

11. **setting** [countable] the place and time at which the action of a story, play, film etc takes place *обстановка*

**a political / cultural / social setting:** Evaluate the character's actions and reactions in the context of the book's historical or cultural setting.

**a historical / contemporary setting:** biblical stories in a contemporary setting.

**the setting of a story / play / film:** The plain, drab setting of the play illustrates the contrast between the idealistic Jimmy and the dull reality of the world surrounding him.

**in / with a setting:** biblical stories in a contemporary setting | short stories with a contemporary setting

**as the setting for sth:** Verona is best known as the setting for two of Shakespeare's plays. | The island was used by Dickens as the setting for 'Oliver Twist'.

**to create / provide / give (sb) / establish a setting:** The park provides the perfect setting for the play. | His characters are always given a strictly contemporary setting.

### 3. Plot structure

1. **conflict** [countable] a struggle between opposing forces in a story, play or film  
**конфликт:** *Conflict involves two or more forces working at cross-purposes.*  
**an internal conflict** a conflict that takes place within the mind of a character as he/she wrestles with his/her conscience, or an important decision, or with a strong feeling such as fear, hatred, doubt, etc    **внутренний конфликт:** *Conflicts can be internal or external.*  
**an external conflict** a struggle between a character and some outside force, which may be another character or a group of characters; a natural or nonhuman force, such as a flood; a political or social institution or custom    **внешний конфликт**
2. **exposition | introduction** [countable] the opening part of the plot in which the writer gives background information about the setting, the characters and the basic situation    **экспозиция:** *The exposition of the story reveals that it has been fifteen years since the last time the narrator has seen Holly.*
3. **inciting incident | complication** [countable] the part of the plot describing an event that sets the story in motion; it is here that the central conflict is introduced; this event is remarkable or interesting in some respect    **завязка**
4. **development | build-up** [countable] the part of the plot describing a situation in which tension gradually builds up and instability increases    **развитие действия**
5. **climax** [countable] the part of the plot describing a situation in which tension is at its peak; the central conflict intensifies until it reaches the highest point of interest or suspense in the narrative    **кульминация**
6. **resolution | denouement** [countable] the part of the plot describing a situation in which the central conflict is ended    **развязка**
7. **flashback** [countable] the insertion of an earlier event into the chronological structure of a literary work, or the scene so inserted; a writer may present a flashback as a character's memory or recollection, their dream or daydream, as part of an account or a story told by a character    **короткий ретроспективный эпизод, "обратный кадр"**
8. **flashforward | foreshadowing** [countable] the insertion of a later event into the chronological structure of a literary work, or the scene so inserted; this technique involves the use of clues that suggest an event or events that will happen later in the narrative
9. **suspense** [countable] a feeling of growing uncertainty about the outcome of events in a literary work    **интерес, напряжение**
10. **ending** [countable] the last part of a story, play or film etc    **конец, окончание, завершение**  
**a happy / unhappy / sad / tragic / dramatic ending**  
**with an ending:** *a story with a happy ending | a popular love story with a happy ending*  
**an ending to sth:** *This is a happy ending to a rather sad story.*

**to have an ending:** *His stories usually have a happy ending. | The film has a Hollywood happy ending. | The book has a sad ending. | The film has a very inconclusive ending.*

#### 4. Subject matter, theme and motif

1. **subject matter** [singular; uncountable] what a story, play or film is about  
**тема:** *Sagan published a book relating to the subject matter in his TV show. | There has been no attempt to arrange the books according to subject matter. | 'The People versus Larry Flynt' was given an '18' certificate because it contains adult subject matter.*

2. **theme | subject** [countable] an important idea that appears several times in a story, play or film and slowly influences the way it develops  
**тема:** *One of the themes of the book is the relationship between people and nature. | George Eliot shows real concern for religious and moral themes. | The play's central theme is greed and its corrupting effects. | Love and honour are the main themes of the book.*

**on a theme / subject | on the theme / subject of sth:** *books on many different subjects | a magazine article on the subject of space travel | The first book on the subject was published in 1900.*

**a variation on a theme:** *The stories are all variations on the theme of unhappy marriage. | Most of the essays appear to be variations on a few central themes.*

**a central / main / major / dominant / basic theme:** *The naked male figure was always the central theme of Greek art. | The central theme of 'The Quiet American' harks back to Greene's dictum about Henry James, for it deals with a man who is too innocent to live in a world built on 'black and merciless things.'*

**a recurrent / recurring theme:** *Catholicism has always been a recurring theme in her books – she converted in 1954.*

**a common / popular / favourite / universal theme:** *universal themes of love and loneliness*

**an overarching / unifying theme**

**a historical / religious theme**

**a musical theme:** *The movie's haunting musical theme stayed in my head for days.*

**to introduce a theme** **вводить тему:** *Immediately one of the main themes is introduced.*

**to discuss / explore / examine / deal with / treat a theme** **рассматривать / разрабатывать / изучать тему:** *We will discuss these themes in more detail in Chapter 20. | The novel explores the theme of friendship among homeless people. | Part Two of this book explores themes in the study of micropolitics. | This theme will be examined in more detail in Chapter 10. | These themes are dealt with more fully in Chapter Four. | The theme is treated in more detail in the next chapter.*

**to pick up a theme** to return to an earlier theme in order to continue it: *He picks up this theme again in later chapters of the book.*

**to weave a story / tale / plot around a theme:** *She wove the story around a specific theme.*

**to develop a theme** *раскрывать тему:* *His later novels develop the theme of alienation. / She develops the theme more fully in her later books.*

**a theme runs through / throughout a book / story / novel / play / film | a theme pervades / permeates a book / story / novel / play / film** *тема проходит через ...:* *This theme runs through the whole book. / The theme of jealousy runs through a lot of her work / stories / novels. / Death is the theme that now pervades his poetry.*

**to encapsulate a theme** to express something in a short way: *The poem encapsulates many of the central themes of her writing.*

3. **motif** [countable] an idea, subject or image that is regularly repeated and developed in a story, play, film, work of art etc *мотив:* *The shield motif in the frescoes at Knossos is a religious, not a military, symbol. / It is a motif that Capote exposes with a charming tale and a truly unforgettable character.*

**recurrent / recurring motif** *повторяющийся мотив:* *The theme of creation is a recurrent motif in Celtic mythology.*

4. **leitmotif | guiding / leading motif** [countable] a major motif *лейтмотив*

5. **idea** [countable] a general understanding of something, based on some knowledge about it *идея*

**a central / main idea / theme / thesis | message** *основная идея*

**to introduce an idea** *вводить идею*

**to explore an idea** *рассматривать / разрабатывать / изучать идею:* *These ideas will be explored in more detail in Chapter 7.*

**to develop an idea / point** *раскрывать идею:* *This idea / point is developed further at the end of this chapter.*

**to convey / communicate / express an idea** *выражать идею*

**to explain / expound / explicate an idea**

**to illustrate / demonstrate / exemplify an idea**

6. **underlying theme | subtext | implication** [countable] a hidden or second meaning behind someone's words or actions *подтекст:* *The underlying theme is that as people pass through the various stages of their lives they have different aspirations and patterns of behaviour, which are reflected in their consumption of goods and services. / What's the subtext here? What's the writer really saying?*

7. **example** [countable] something that shows, explains or supports what you say *пример; иллюстрация*

**a typical / characteristic / classic / perfect / prime example:** *This is a classic example of how not to run a business. / The pot is a perfect example of the Marine Style. / This is a prime example of government incompetence.*

**a good / excellent / fine / great / impressive / magnificent / stunning / superb / wonderful // poor example:** *This painting is a good example of his early work. / The house is a fine example of a medieval building.*



**a graphic / vivid / notable (formal) / prominent / outstanding / remarkable / striking / telling example** *яркий / наглядный пример*: The film is full of graphic examples of what can go wrong if the proper safety procedures are not followed. | Some places contain a huge variety of animal and plant life. The two most notable examples are tropical forests and coral reefs. | The garden is one of the most outstanding examples of traditional Japanese garden design.

**a clear / obvious / simple / straightforward example**: Our climate is changing at an alarming rate. The melting of the polar ice caps is an obvious example of this.

**an isolated example** an example of something that is not very common *единичный пример*: This is far from an isolated example.

**a particular / specific / concrete example**

**an extreme example**: To give you an extreme example, one lady called the police fifteen times in a single evening.

**a blatant / flagrant / glaring example** a very obvious and very bad example *вопиющий пример*: His case is a blatant example of the unfairness of the current system.

**to give (sb) / cite / provide / quote an example**: Let me give you an example of how this might happen. | The report cites the example of Sweden, where there is a complete ban on advertising on children's television. | The present chapter provides concrete examples of such an evaluation. | He quotes the examples of diversifying sources of supply.

**to use an example**: He used several examples to illustrate his point.

**to contain / include an example**: The exhibition also contains some examples of his book illustrations.

**the example shows / indicates / suggests / illustrates / demonstrates sth / that ...**: These examples show how the disease can be passed on to humans.

**to be a case in point** used when emphasizing that someone or something is a good or typical example of what you have just mentioned: Online newspapers are now more popular than paper ones. 'The Oxford Herald' is a case in point.

8. **to illustrate | to demonstrate** [transitive] (1) to make the meaning of something clearer by using examples, pictures etc *иллюстрировать, приводить примеры, демонстрировать*

**to illustrate / demonstrate sth**: To illustrate my point, let me tell you a little story. | Let me give an example to illustrate the point. | Here's an example to illustrate what I mean. | Two examples serve to illustrate this point. | Two more examples will suffice to illustrate this point. | Let me demonstrate to you some of the difficulties we are facing.

**to illustrate sth with sth**: Throughout, she illustrates her analysis with excerpts from the book.

(2) to show that something is true or that a situation exists *иллюстрировать, показывать, демонстрировать*

**to illustrate / demonstrate sth (to sb):** *The study illustrates the link between poverty and malnutrition. / The study also demonstrated a direct link between obesity and mortality.*

**to illustrate / demonstrate that / how / what / why...:** *The dispute illustrates that the regime is deeply divided. / The following examples illustrate how this operates in practice. / This change is neatly illustrated by what has happened to the Arab League. / He's demonstrated how a campaign based on domestic issues can move votes.*

**as illustrated by the example of sb / sth** *на примере кого-л. / чего-л.*

9. **illustration** [countable] a story, an event or an example that clearly shows the truth about something *пояснение, иллюстрация, поясняющий пример; иллюстрирующий факт*

**an illustration of sth:** *The statistics are a clear illustration of the point I am trying to make.*

**by way of illustration:** *Let me, by way of illustration, quote from one of her poems.*

10. **to quote** [transitive; intransitive] to repeat the exact words that another person has said or written *цитировать; ссылаться*

**to quote sb / sth (from sb / sth):** *He quoted Shakespeare. / He quoted a short passage from the Bible.*

**to quote from sb / sth:** *She quoted from a newspaper article.*

**to quote sb as saying:** *The President was quoted (in the press) as saying that he disagreed with the decision.*

**to quote sb on sth:** *Can I quote you on that? / Don't quote me on this (=this is not an official statement), but I think he is going to resign.*

11. **to read between the lines** to look for or discover a meaning in something that is not openly stated *читать между строк*

12. **to run through / throughout** [intransitive] | **to pervade** | **to permeate** | **to suffuse** [transitive] if an idea, belief, emotion etc runs through something, it is present in many parts of that thing *пронизывать, пронитывать*

**to run through / throughout sth:** *This theme runs through the whole book. / The theme of jealousy runs through a lot of her work / stories / novels. / A deep melancholy runs through her poetry. / This juxtaposition of brutal reality and lyrical beauty runs through Park's stories. / A sense of personal loss runs through many of his lyrics.*

**to pervade / permeate / suffuse sth:** *Sadness pervades most of her novels. / Death is the theme that now pervades his poetry. / Throughout the book there is a pervading sense of menace. / An emotional intensity permeates every one of O'Connor's songs. / Kingdon's broad experience, as writer and scholar, suffuses this important book.*

**to be suffused with sth:** *This book is suffused with Shaw's characteristic wry Irish humour. / The first half of the poem is suffused with idealism.*

13. **to resonate with sth** [*intransitive*] (*literary*) to be full of a particular meaning, quality or feeling: *literature that resonates with biblical imagery* / *She makes a simple story resonate with complex themes and emotions.*

## 5. Style, tone and imagery

- style** [*countable; uncountable*] the features of a book, painting, building etc that make it typical of a particular author, artist, historical period etc **стиль, слог, манера**: *a mixture of musical styles* / *a wide range of musical styles*  
**a classic / classical / old-fashioned / new / modern / contemporary style**  
**a characteristic / distinctive / individual / inimitable / original / signature / typical / unique style**: *Smith's signature style*  
**a plain / direct style** **простой / ясный / понятный стиль**: *Hemingway's direct style*  
**a refined / sophisticated / subtle style** **изощрённый / утончённый / изысканный стиль**  
**a florid / flowery / ornate style** **витиеватый / напыщенный / цветистый стиль**  
**a style of sth**: *a style of architecture*  
**in (a) style** | **in the style of sb / sth**: *a play in the style of classical Greek tragedy* / *The house has been renovated and furnished in contemporary style.* / *The houses have been built in a traditional style.* / *The downside of the book is that it is written in a rather boring style.*  
**to adopt / find a style**  
**to have a style**: *The two artists have radically different styles.*  
**to write in a style**: *She writes in a style reminiscent of both Proust and Faulkner.*  
**to develop / establish / evolve / form a style**: *He evolved his style of painting while working as a magazine illustrator.*  
**to copy / follow / emulate a style**
- tone** [*singular; uncountable*] the general feeling or attitude conveyed in a work of writing **общая атмосфера, обстановка, ощущение, тон; настроение**: *Tone is unavoidable and essential to the meaning of a story.* / *What is the tone of the story?*  
**the dominant / general / overall / prevailing tone of sth**  
**an informal / conversational / casual tone**  
**a friendly // distant tone**  
**a personal // pompous tone**  
**a serious / earnest tone**  
**an ironic / humorous / mock serious / sarcastic / sneering tone**  
**a dramatic / emotional / excited / agitated / passionate / vigorous tone**  
**a detached / impartial / impassive / dry / unemotional / matter-of-fact tone**  
**a sympathetic tone**  
**a bitter / reproachful tone**

**a cheerful tone**

**a sad / melancholy / pathetic tone**

**to have a tone:** *The movie has a jokey tone throughout.*

**to set / establish a tone** *здать тон:* *Her enthusiastic speech set the tone for the day's conference.*

**to maintain a tone** *поддерживать тон*

**to lighten / soften a tone** *смягчать тон:* *He uses humour to lighten the tone of the novel.*

**to match a tone** *соответствовать тону:* *The music perfectly matches the tone of the movie.*

**a change of / in tone:** *There is a marked change of tone in the second half of the book.*

3. **atmosphere** [countable; singular] the feeling or mood that you have in a particular place or situation; a feeling between two people or in a group of people  
*атмосфера, обстановка*

**to have an atmosphere**

**to create / establish (esp. AmE) / provide an atmosphere**

**to maintain an atmosphere**

**to capture the atmosphere of sth**

(2) [uncountable] if something has atmosphere, it is very interesting: *to be full of atmosphere*

4. **image** [countable] (1) a picture or idea of something in your mind *идея, образ, концепция*

**a stereotyped / stereotypical image**

**a (mental) image of sth:** *images of the past / I had a mental image of what she would look like.*

**to have an image:** *I had a sudden mental image of Robert waiting for me with flowers.*

**to evoke / conjure (up) / recall / summon (up) / bring to mind / call to mind**

**an image** *пробуждать / вызывать образ / чувство:* *The novel vividly evokes images of life of the Irish in Australia. / The music evoked images of her youth. / The words 'Cote d'Azur' conjure up images of sunny days in Mediterranean cafés. / Samba always seems to conjure up images of Brazil. / The poem recalls Eliot's 'The Waste Land'. / The smell summoned up images of family holidays by the sea.*

**to build (up) / form an image:** *I like to build up images of the characters and setting before I start to write.*

**to reinforce an image:** *Treating disabled people like children only reinforces negative images of disability.*

(2) (literature) a word or phrase used with a different meaning from its normal one, in order to describe something in a way that produces a strong picture in the mind (in a story, poem, film etc) *образ, метафора*

**a literary / poetic image**

**an image (of sth):** *surreal images / poetic images of the countryside / The natural images in the poem are meant to be suggestive of realities beyond themselves.*

**to paint an image (of sth) (as sth):** *He paints a very romantic image of working-class communities. / The book paints an image of the human being as alone in a crowded world.*

**to use the image of sth:** *Jimmy can also be humorous and poetic, as when he uses the image of a 'sturdy old plant left over from the Edwardian Wilderness' to describe Colonel Redfern.*

5. **imagery** [uncountable] the use of words or pictures to describe ideas or actions in a story, play or film **образность; совокупность художественных образов:** *the nature imagery of the ballad / Illustrations may come between the text and the reader's own mental imagery.*

**graphic / vivid / powerful / striking imagery:** *This is an ambitious and intriguing movie, full of striking imagery.*

**positive // negative imagery**

**traditional imagery**

**visual / mental imagery:** *Their dreams commonly involved complex stories with visual imagery.*

**biblical / religious imagery**

**abstract / symbolic / surreal imagery**

**the imagery of sth:** *the imagery of love*

**the use of imagery:** *the use of water imagery in Fitzgerald's novel 'The Great Gatsby'*

**to use / employ / draw on imagery:** *She uses the imagery of a bird's song to represent eternal hope. / The novels draw on popular imagery from newspapers.*

**to create / produce / provide imagery**

**to evoke imagery** **пробуждать / вызывать образы / чувства:** *He evokes complex imagery with a single well-placed word.*

6. **symbol** [countable] a person, an object, an event etc that represents a more general quality or situation **символ**

**a dramatic / important / perfect / potent / powerful / ultimate symbol:** *The Berlin wall was the ultimate symbol of the Cold War.*

**a cultural / political / religious / sacred symbol**

**to be / become a symbol of sth:** *The dove is a (universal) symbol of peace. / White has always been a symbol of purity in Western cultures. / To them, the monarchy is the special symbol of nationhood.*

**to create a symbol of sth**

**to represent a symbol of sth:** *Guevara has come to represent a powerful symbol of defiance.*

**to adopt / consider / interpret / regard / see / view / use sth as a symbol of sth:** *Eggs are seen as the symbol of new life.*

7. **symbolism** [uncountable] the use of symbols to represent ideas, especially in art and literature **символизм; символичность**

**to be rich in / be full of symbolism:** *poetry full of religious symbolism*

8. **to symbolize | to be / become symbolic of** [transitive] to be / become a symbol of something **символизировать**  
**to symbolize sth:** *The use of light and dark symbolizes good and evil. | He came to symbolize his country's struggle for independence. | The fall of the Berlin Wall symbolized the end of the Cold War between East and West. | The post-war world order is symbolized by the United Nations.*  
**to be / become symbolic of sth:** *The dove is symbolic of peace. | These two objects are symbolic of life and death.*
9. **dialogue** [countable; uncountable] conversations in a story, play or film  
**диалог (художественная форма):** *a boring film full of bad dialogue | The movie is ruined by wooden acting and clunky dialogue.*  
**spoken // internal / inner / interior / inward dialogue:** *A character's responses to conflict and his or her internal dialogue are also revelatory. | An important part of characterization is dialogue, for it is both spoken and inward dialogue that afford us the opportunity to see into the characters' hearts and examine their motivations.*  
**to have / contain dialogue:** *The novel has long descriptions and not much dialogue. | Pilcher's books have humour, good characterization, and lively dialogue. | The novel contains too much dialogue and not enough narrative.*
10. **monologue | soliloquy** [countable; uncountable] a long speech in a story, play or film spoken by one actor, especially when alone **монолог:** *the soliloquy of Hamlet | Hamlet's famous soliloquy, 'To be or not to be...' | the playwright's use of soliloquy*  
**a long / lengthy / extended // short monologue**  
**a comic / dramatic monologue**  
**an opening monologue**  
**an internal / inner / interior / inward monologue**  
**a monologue about / on sth**  
**to deliver / do / recite a monologue:** *She delivered her monologue in deadpan voice. | The entertainer did a number of comic monologues.*

## 6. Characters

1. **character** [countable] a person or an animal in a story, play or film  
**персонаж, действующее лицо, образ, герой**  
**a character in a story / play / film etc:** *Candida is the most interesting character in the play. | The characters in the play are simply not believable.*  
**a main / central / chief / lead / leading / principal / title character | protagonist** **главный герой:** *In the story, the main character has left his girlfriend and baby. | The film's central character is played by George Clooney. | The film is autobiographical and the central character is played by Collard himself.*

**major characters** characters (including the protagonist) who play significant roles in a story *главные действующие лица / персонажи: a major character in the book*

**minor / supporting characters** characters who play less important roles in a story *второстепенные персонажи: a minor character in the book*

**a fictional / fictitious character** *вымышленный персонаж*

**a believable / realistic character | a character is believable:** *a play with believable characters | The characters in the play are simply not believable. | Her character comes across as entirely believable. | He's made the characters believable.*

**a likeable / sympathetic // unsympathetic character / figure** (literary) someone in a story, play or film who most people like / don't like: *The book has a solid plot and likeable characters. | Clint Eastwood's character is the most sympathetic in the movie.*

**a comic / heroic / tragic / flamboyant / larger-than-life character:** *He's a larger than life character.*

**memorable character:** *Her novels are full of memorable characters.*

**cartoon character:** *Everyone recognizes Disney's cartoon characters.*

**to build / create / draw / develop / invent a character:** *the way in which a writer creates characters in a story, play or film | In his books he drew some pretty nasty characters. | He felt a reluctance to draw a really wicked person / man / woman.*

**to play / portray a character:** *The main character is played by Nicole Kidman. | She portrays a dancer in the hit film. | Her father will be portrayed by Sean Connery.*

**to feature a character / sb (as sb)** to include a particular character or actor as a special part of a play or film *выводить в главной роли; исполнять главную роль; принимать участие: The film also features the new character Mary Anna Morrison. | The film features Cary Grant as a professor.*

**to feature (in a play / film)** *She has already featured in two award-winning films this year.*

2. **personage** [countable] a character in a story, play or film, or in history *персонаж, действующее лицо: Shakespeare's famous personages | There is no evidence for such a historical personage.*

3. **character** (1) [countable, usually singular] a particular combination of qualities that makes someone a particular type of person *характер, темперамент, нрав: Stinginess with money was one aspect of his character that I didn't like. | The book gives a fascinating insight into Mrs Obama's character.*

**an excellent / exemplary / good / impeccable character:** *a woman of impeccable moral character*

**a generous / gentle / likeable / lovable character**

**a complex / elusive / enigmatic / odd character**

**a forceful / formidable / strong // weak character**

**character defects / flaws**

**(a) character change:** *She's undergone a complete character change since her promotion.*

**a side to sb's character:** *There was a reflective, rather sad side to her character.*

**to have a character:** *He has a cheerful but quiet character.*

**to form / shape a character**

**to reveal your character:** *She revealed her true character when anyone disagreed with her.*

**to conceal / hide your character**

**to reflect sb's character:** *His scruffy appearance does not reflect his character.*

**to be in sb's character to do sth:** *It's not in his character to tell lies.*

**to be in character / out of character (for sb)** typical / untypical of someone's character: *I can't understand why Simon refused to help; it seems so out of character. / He swore, which was out of character for him. / The lawyer argued that his client's violent reaction was out of character.*

**(2) [uncountable] (approving) strong personal qualities such as the ability to deal with difficult or dangerous situations** **характер**

**character building** **воспитание / формирование характера; воспитательная работа:** *Sport can be character building. / Adventure camps are considered to be character building.*

**strength of character:** *Everyone admires her strength of character and determination. / It takes strength of character to admit you are wrong. / I didn't know Ron had that much strength of character.*

**to show character:** *He showed great character returning to the sport after his accident. / She showed real character in her attempts to win over the crowd.*

4. **(main) protagonist | main / central / chief / lead / leading | principal / title character** [countable] the main character in a story, play or film **главный герой; главное действующее лицо:** *Oliver Twist, the young protagonist / The main protagonist is a cruel, selfish man. / At that time, films rarely had a woman as the main protagonist. / The film's central character is played by George Clooney.*

**the protagonist in / of a story / play / film etc:** *Bohi Di, first person narrator and protagonist of the novel*

5. **antagonist** [countable] a major character who is in direct conflict with the protagonist (a character, characters or a situation that represent an obstacle that the protagonist must overcome) **антагонист**

6. **hero** [countable] the main male character in a story, play or film **главный герой; главное действующее лицо:** *The hero rescues everybody from the burning building.*

**the hero of a story / play / film etc:** *The hero of the novel is a ten-year old boy.*

7. **heroine** [countable] the main female character in a story, play or film **главный герой, главное действующее лицо**

**the heroine of a story / play / film etc:** *Cassandra is the real heroine of the story. / Violetta is one of the great tragic heroines of opera.*



8. **anti-hero | antihero** [countable] a major character, usually the protagonist, who is an ordinary or unpleasant person and lacks the qualities that you expect a hero to have *антимузей*
9. **eponymous | titular | of the same name** [adjective; only before the noun] the character in a story, play or film whose name is the title of that story, play or film *одноимённый; давший своё имя*  
**an eponymous / titular hero / heroine:** *Don Quixote, the eponymous / titular hero of the novel by Cervantes | Jane Eyre, the eponymous / titular heroine of the novel by Charlotte Brontë*  
**a book / play / film of the same name:** *Peter Pan is the hero of J. M. Barrie's play of the same name, a boy with magical powers who never grew up. | Rob Roy's reputation as a Robin Hood was exaggerated in Sir Walter Scott's novel of the same name.*
10. **foil** [countable] any character, usually the antagonist or an important supporting character, whose personal qualities contrast with those of the protagonist, which makes it possible for the reader to learn more about the latter
11. **background** [countable] the details of a person's family, education, experience etc *происхождение, биографические данные; связи, окружение*: *A round character is one whose personality, background, motives, and other features are fully delineated by the author. | Holly's background is murky and is something that she doesn't like to discuss. | How does the character's background affect his / her thoughts and actions in the present? | Do you know anything about his background?*  
**a family background:** *Many kids lack a stable family background. | Can you tell me something about your family background?*  
**a broad background:** *It is important to have a broad educational background.*  
**(from) different / diverse / mixed / varied / various / all sorts of / all kinds of backgrounds:** *In spite of their very different backgrounds, they immediately became friends. | It's important to understand people from different backgrounds. | We work with clients from diverse backgrounds. | The students are drawn from very mixed social backgrounds. | Universities aim to attract students from varied social backgrounds. | The school takes kids from all sorts of backgrounds.*  
**a (wide) range / variety of backgrounds:** *The girls come from a variety of different backgrounds. | Postgraduate students come from a wide range of academic backgrounds. | People from a wide range / variety of backgrounds go to watch football.*  
**(a) class / cultural / ethnic / linguistic / racial / religious / social / socio-economic background:** *Class background is an important factor in the level of schooling achieved. | Some of his attitudes were due to his cultural background. | We do not discriminate against people because of their ethnic background or gender.*  
**a middle-class / upper-class / working-class background:** *I came from a very poor working-class background. | The organization helps children from working-class backgrounds to go to university.*

**a privileged / wealthy background:** *All the top jobs were taken by people from privileged backgrounds.*

**deprived / disadvantaged / poor (esp. BrE) background(s):** *children from deprived backgrounds | Smokers often come from poorer socio-economic backgrounds. | The school has a high percentage of pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds. | His poor background prevented him from going to medical college.*

**a criminal background:** *She wanted to know about his criminal background.*

**a (solid / stable / strong) background in sth:** *She has a good solid background in management.*

**an engineering / military / musical / professional / scientific / technical background:** *Children from a military background often move around a lot. | His musical background helps him a lot in his job. | Managers can come from a wide range of professional backgrounds. | Even people with a technical background will struggle to understand some of the jargon.*

**an educational / academic background:** *What kind of educational background does the character have? | Managers come from a variety of educational backgrounds. | Her academic background includes a degree in education.*

**to be / come / be drawn from a background:** *I think we get on well because we're from similar backgrounds. | She came from a working-class Yorkshire background. | He came from a very privileged background. | The students are drawn from very mixed social backgrounds.*

**to provide / offer a background to sth:** *New York offers an exciting background to the story and it lends the narrative a definite energy.*

**to share a similar background | to be / come from similar backgrounds:** *We come from the same town and share a similar background. | I think we get on well because we're from similar backgrounds. | Mark and I came from very similar backgrounds.*

12. **backstory | back story** [countable] the things that happened to a character in a story, play or film before the beginning of the story being told in the story, play or film **предыстория:** *The back story of why she hates her father is a bit too contrived (= not natural or realistic). | This extensive backstory crucially affects the events of the play itself.*

**to establish / detail a backstory:** *The film spends too long establishing the characters' backstories. | The novel's brief prologue details our hero's backstory.*

13. **personality** (1) [uncountable; countable] someone's character, especially the way they behave towards other people **личные свойства, особенности характера**

**a distinct / distinctive / individual / unique personality:** *She manages to project a very distinct personality.*

**a creative personality**

**an attractive / charming / friendly / kind / lovely (esp. BrE) / nice / pleasant / warm / engaging / magnetic / winning personality:** *She has such a kind,*

*friendly personality. / Everyone who knew Roseanne will miss her warm personality. / He is strikingly handsome with a very engaging personality.*

**a charismatic / colourful / larger-than-life / strong personality:** *Like many other people, I was attracted by his charismatic personality. / His wife has a strong personality.*

**an outgoing / extrovert (esp. BrE) / bright / lively / jovial / sparkling / vibrant / vivacious personality** *liking to meet and to talk to people: The job requires someone with an outgoing personality. / He has a very outgoing personality and makes friends very easily. / Her lively personality won her many admirers.*

**an easy-going personality** *relaxed and happy to accept things without worrying or getting angry: Her easy-going personality made her popular.*

**a bubbly personality** *happy and eager to do things: Her bright and bubbly personality made her one of the most popular girls in her year. / Anna has a bright, bubbly personality.*

**a vulnerable (BrE) / weak personality:** *a troubled man who had a vulnerable personality*

**a personality clash / conflict** *when people cannot work together because they are so different* **столкновение личностей / характеров:** *There was a personality clash / conflict between two members of the committee. / There are likely to be tensions and personality clashes in any social group.*

**a personality trait (formal)** **черта характера, индивидуальная особенность / черта:** *These personality traits get passed on from generation to generation. / She shares many of her mother's personality traits.*

**to be / have / project a personality:** *The children all have very different personalities. / She manages to project a very distinct personality.*

**to develop your personality**

**to shape your personality:** *The events of her early life shaped her personality.*

**to express / reflect / be an expression of sb's personality:** *His choice of clothes reflects his personality. / Your car often reflects your personality. / People's clothes are often an expression of their personality.*

**to bring out sb's personality** *to make someone show their personality: She has brought out her husband's personality since their relationship began.*

**to fit / match / suit sb's personality:** *The job didn't really suit my personality.*

**(2) [uncountable]** *the qualities of a person's character that make them interesting and attractive* **индивидуальность, личность**

**of / with personality:** *a woman of great personality / We need someone with lots of personality to head the project.*

**force of personality** **сила характера:** *He maintained order by sheer force of personality. / Through sheer force of personality Hugh Trenchard got his way.*

**to lack personality:** *He's honest but he lacks personality. / She was very beautiful but seemed to lack personality.*

**(3) [countable, usually singular]** *someone who has a very strong character and is very different from other people* **сильная личность**

**a strong / powerful / forceful / formidable / dominant / dynamic personality:** *Mercer has a strong personality and always tells you his opinion. | The architect's forceful personality ensured that the work progressed rapidly. | He had a dominant personality and could be a bit of a bully.*

**to be / have a personality:** *Barbara is / has a very forceful personality. | Their son is a real personality. | He was a dynamic personality in the business world.*

**to impose / stamp your personality on sb:** *She stamped her personality on the company.*

14. **(personal / individual) quality | (personal / personality / character / individual) trait | trait of character | (personal / individual) characteristic** [countable] a thing that is part of a person's character, especially something good  
**свойство, особенность, характерная черта:** *A job analysis should also include what skills and personal qualities are required. | What is the quality you most admire in others?*

**a quality of sth:** *the qualities of honesty and independence*

**with qualities:** *a woman with strong leadership qualities | It's hard to find people with the right qualities for the job. | He wanted to introduce mature people with leadership qualities.*

**to have / possess a quality:** *He has the right qualities to be a politician. | She has all the qualities of a good teacher. | Do you possess the right personal qualities to be a teacher?*

**to show / display a quality:** *He shows strong leadership qualities.*

**to lack a quality**

15. **feature** [countable, usually plural] a part of someone's face such as their nose, mouth and eyes **черта лица**

**facial features** **черты лица**

**attractive / beautiful / handsome / nice features:** *his strong handsome features*

**aquiline / hawk-like features**

**masculine / feminine features**

**neat features:** *a woman with small, neat features*

**coarse / rugged features** **грубые черты лица:** *I admired his rugged features.*

**delicate / fine features** **тонкие черты лица:** *She has very delicate features.*

**chiselled features** **точёные черты лица**

**prominent features** **выступающие черты лица**

**soft features** **мягкие черты лица**

**striking features** **замечательные черты лица:** *her striking, dark-eyed features | Her eyes are her most striking feature.*

**regular features** **правильные черты лица**

**sharp features** **заострённые черты лица:** *He had sharp features, with high cheekbones.*

**sb with features:** *a young woman with fine features | a slim figure with delicate features*

**to have features:** *He had fine delicate features.*

**to be sb's best feature:** *Her eyes were her best feature.*

## 7. Character analysis

1. **character analysis** [countable] a description or portrayal of a person's character, qualities etc *характеристика*  
**a character analysis of sb**  
**to give (sb) / write a character analysis (of sb):** *When you write a character analysis, you must also define each character's role.*
2. **character sketch** [countable] a brief description or portrayal of a person's character, qualities etc *краткая характеристика*: *Then there are character sketches to provide the raw material for creating the individuals who inhabit these tales.*  
**a character sketch of sb:** *The book is clearly meant to be a character sketch of Holly Golightly.*  
**to give (sb) / write a character sketch (of sb):** *Give a character sketch of each of the major characters. / He gave us character sketches of all his relations.*
3. **to portray | to depict | to describe | to represent | to delineate | to paint | to paint a picture of | to characterize** [transitive] to describe someone / something in a piece of writing or show someone / something in a picture in a particular way *изображать, описывать, давать словесное описание*  
**to portray / depict / describe / paint / represent sb:** *The painting portrays the duke's third wife. / The book portrays Caribbean society against a background of the French Revolution. / The painting depicts the Virgin and Child. / The artist depicted him strolling through a garden. / He is a flat character, one who can be fully described in a single sentence because he has no depth. / The documentary painted her in a bad light. / Capote paints characters that the reader can recall as if they are remembering a dream of someone they once knew. / His novels have been criticized for the negative way in which they represent women.*  
**to portray / depict / describe / represent / delineate / characterize sth:** *His most famous painting portrays the death of Nelson. / Religion was portrayed in a negative way. / His stories depict life in Trinidad as seen through the eyes of a young boy. / The television drama depicts the life of a modern student. / The writer depicts many different events in his story. / In her book, she describes her journey across the Sahara. / Paintings representing religious themes were common in medieval times. / This photograph represents my childhood. / In his novel, he delineates ordinary life. / A round character is one whose personality, background, motives, and other features are fully delineated by the author. / How would you characterize the mood of the 1990s?*  
**to portray / depict / describe / paint / represent / characterize sb / sth as sb / sth (noun):** *The old queen was portrayed as a selfish bitter woman. / Her mother is portrayed as a class-conscious monster. / He was depicted as a hero who died for his beliefs. / Children's books often depict farmyard animals as gentle, lovable creatures. / In the story, he is described as a real hero. / Capote paints her as a deliberately flighty character. / In the book, she is painted as a tough businesswoman. / The king is represented as a villain in the play. / The article*

*represents the millionaire as a simple family man. | The film represented Kennedy's assassination as a government conspiracy. | Love is represented as a child with a flower. | This play is characterized as a comedy.*

**to portray / describe / paint / characterize sb / sth as sth (adjective):** *Romantic artists portrayed nature as wild and powerful. | The woman was painted as having only a slight grasp of reality. | Both companies have characterized the relationship as friendly. | The military is usually characterized as being very conservative.*

**to portray / depict sb / sth graphically / vividly / clearly / accurately:** *His war poetry vividly portrays life in the trenches. | This northern novelist accurately portrays provincial domestic life. | The book vividly depicts the Hollywood of the 1950s. | The novel vividly depicts French society of the 1930s.*

**to paint a rosy / vivid / accurate / gloomy / grim picture of sth:** *Dickens painted a grim picture of Victorian life. | The film tries to paint an accurate picture of what life is really like for these people.*

4. **portrayal | depiction | representation | description** [countable; uncountable]  
the way someone or something is described in a piece of writing or shown in a picture *изображение, представление*

**a realistic / accurate / inaccurate / vivid / moving / chilling / negative portrayal / depiction / representation / description of sb / sth:** *The film is not a realistic portrayal of his life. | The movie gives an accurate portrayal of the newspaper business. | His novel is a vivid portrayal of life in a mining community. | He is best known for his chilling portrayal of Hannibal Lecter.*

**the portrayal / depiction / representation / description of sb / sth (as sb / sth):** *The article examines the portrayal of businesspeople in the media. | Mr Ying is well known for his portrayal of a prison guard in the film 'The Last Emperor'. | They object to the movie's depiction of war veterans. | the negative representation of single mothers in the media*

**in your portrayal / depiction / representation / description of sb / sth (as sb / sth):** *She shows a full range of emotions in her portrayal of an ambitious politician. | The media persists in its portrayal of us as muggers, dope sellers and gangsters.*

**to be a portrayal / depiction / representation / description of sb / sth:** *This painting is a moving portrayal of St John the Evangelist by Simone Martini.*

**to give / offer / provide a portrayal / depiction / representation / description of sb / sth:** *Much television news gives a negative portrayal of politics. | The film offers a realistic representation of life in rural Spain. | The diary provides a clear description of farming life in the 1850s.*

5. **characterization** [uncountable; countable] (1) the way that a writer makes characters in a story, play or film seem real *искусство создания образов / хара́ктеров*: *His novels are well constructed with strong characterization and a fine prose style. | Pilcher's books have humour, good characterization, and lively dialogue.*

(2) (*formal*) the way someone or something is described in a piece of writing or shown in a picture **характеристика, описание характера; изображение, представление**: *They portray him as a weak leader, but I don't think that's a fair characterization.*

**the characterization of sth**: *I don't fully agree with that characterization of the welfare system.*

**the characterization of sb / sth as sb / sth**: *the characterization of the enemy as 'fanatics'*

6. **background | backdrop** [*countable, usually singular; uncountable*] the circumstances or past events that help explain why something is how it is; information about these **условие, исходные данные; предпосылка**

**a general / factual background**: *Against that general background, let me give you a more detailed view of current practice.*

**a cultural / economic / historical / political background**: *the historical background to the war*

**a background to / of sth**: *the technical background to the report | the historical background of the project | We need to know the background to the case. | The background to the current troubles is provided by the dire state of the country's economy. | The book provides the background to the revolution.*

**background (information / data / material / details / knowledge) (on sth)**: *Can you give me more background on the company? | Writers often use flashbacks as a dramatic way of providing background information. | You'll need some background information on the local economy. | The author included a new chapter of background material for the second edition of the book.*

**(to portray sb / sth // to be set // take place) against a background / backdrop of something**: *The book portrays Caribbean society against a background of the French Revolution. | The love story is set against a background / backdrop of war and despair. | The island's strange beauty was set against a background of racial and political conflict. | The elections are taking place against a background / backdrop of violence.*

7. **background** [*singular*] a position in which someone or something is not important or noticed, although in reality they may be important or influential **задний план, фон; незаметная позиция**

**to remain / stay / keep in the background** **держаться / оставаться в тени**: *The president's advisors are content to remain in the background. | Rosemary likes to stay in the background.*

**to merge / fade / melt / recede / retreat / slip / pass / blend into the background** **отойти / отступить на задний план**: *I kept quiet and tried to merge into the background. | The dispute over the new contract allowed her other problems to fade into the background. | He learned how to melt invisibly into the background.*

**to relegate sth to the background | to drive / throw / thrust / put sth into the background** **отодвигать на задний план**: *Your personal feelings are to be relegated to the background, sir. You're a witness. | Matters which seem to us of*

primary importance and occupy a wide place in our law books are almost entirely absent in Anglo-Saxon laws or relegated to the background.

8. **foreground | forefront | fore** [singular] an important position that is noticed by people *передний план; важнейшее место; аванцена*

**to be in the foreground (of sth) | to be at / in the forefront (of sth):** *The issue is very much in the foreground. | Inflation and interest rates will be very much in the foreground of their election campaign. | issues at the forefront of government policy | This question remained at the forefront of her mind.*

**to come to the foreground / forefront / fore (of sth)** *выйти на передний план / аванцену:* *This is another worry that has come to the foreground in recent years. | Environmental issues came to the fore in the 1980s.*

**to bring sth into the foreground / forefront (of sth) | to bring / push / thrust sb / sth to the forefront / fore (of sth) | to put / place sth in the forefront (of sth)** *выдвигать на передний план:* *The marriage question, for some time hovering in the background, had now suddenly and automatically been brought into the foreground by the almost complete collapse of Millie's fortunes. | Recent events brought European issues to the forefront of media attention. | The case brought to the fore a lot of racial tensions. | Prison conditions have been pushed to the forefront of public debate. | His new job thrust him to the forefront.*

**to keep oneself in the foreground** *держаться на виду / на переднем плане:* *He has a lot of ability. But he's so modest he won't keep himself in the foreground.*

9. **to foreground | to highlight** [transitive] to give particular importance to something: *The play foregrounds the relationship between father and daughter. | Last year Collins wrote a moving ballad which highlighted the plight of the homeless.*

## 8. Performing

1. **film** (esp. BrE) | **movie** (esp. AmE) [countable] a series of moving pictures recorded with sound that tells a story, shown on television or at the **cinema** (BrE) / **movie theater** (AmE) *кинокартина, кинофильм, фильм:* *It is a movie that engages both the mind and the eye.*

**a film / screen version (of sth)** *экранизация:* *the film version of a novel*

**to release a film / film version (of sth)** *выпускать филь на экран:* *The novel was written in 1958, and in 1961 the film version starring Audrey Hepburn was released.*

**a film / movie / play opens** to start being shown to the public: *This week his much hyped new movie opens in London. | This film opened yesterday to excellent reviews. | Paula and Rachael star as mother and daughter in the play, which opens tonight.*



2. **blogger** [countable] a person who regularly writes about a particular subject on their own website *блоггер: a travel blogger | a blogger who writes about the differences between American and British English*
3. **to dramatize | to adapt** [transitive] | **to film** [transitive; intransitive] **to make sth into sth** to present a book, an event etc as a play or a film *инсценировать, ставить на сцене; экранизировать*  
**to dramatize a book / story / play / scene / episode / incident:** *an incident later dramatized in the movie 'The Right Stuff'*  
**to film (a book / story / play / scene / episode / incident / documentary / programme):** *They are filming in Moscow right now. | The love scenes are sensitively filmed. | It took them six weeks to film the documentary. | The programme was filmed entirely in South Africa.*  
**to make a book / story / novel into a play / film / movie:** *Her novel was made into a film in 1962.*  
**to film on location** *снимать фильм на натуре:* *The show was filmed on location in New York.*  
**to dramatize / adapt a book / story / novel / play for film / television / the screen / on television:** *a novel dramatized for television | The new Sidney Shelton novel is to be adapted for film later in the year. | Three of her novels have been adapted for television. | The scriptwriter helped him to adapt his novel for the screen. | Jane Austen's 'Emma' was dramatized on television recently.*  
**to adapt a film / movie from a book / story / novel / play:** *The film is adapted from a Michael Crichton novel. | The film has been adapted from a play of the same title.*
4. **dramatized / screen / film version** | (screen / television / film / stage) **adaptation / dramatization** *инсценировка; постановка:* *a dramatized version of the novel | the film version of 'War and Peace' | a screen adaptation of Shakespeare's 'Macbeth' | the BBC adaptation of the best-selling book | a television dramatization of the trial | I think I preferred the television version. | Branagh won two awards for his screen adaptation of Shakespeare's 'Henry the Fifth'. | He's working on a screen adaptation of his latest novel. | The television adaptation of the stage play was very successful.*
5. **role | part** [countable] the character played by an actor, singer or dancer in a play, film, opera or ballet *роль:* *He won an Oscar for his role. | He was just right for the part.*  
**a lead / leading / starring / principal role / part** *главная роль:* *He had already cast Tom Hanks in the lead role. | A young actor named Johnny Depp was given the leading role. | He has the starring role in the movie.*  
**a title role** the role of the character whose name is in the title of a play or film *заглавная роль:* *She will play the title role in 'Emma' later this year. | She sings the title role in 'Tosca'.*  
**a major / big / large role / part:** *It was his first major role. | Lee began to get big roles in movies. | He offered her a large part in the play.*  
**a minor / small role / part:** *He has had small roles in several other films.*

**a supporting / secondary role / part** *роль второго плана: Lee has a supporting role as Judy's best friend.*

**a walk-on (role / part)** a small acting part with no words to say in a play or film; an actor who has a part like this *роль статиста; статист: He and his family have walk-on parts in the latest film.*

**an extra** a person who is employed to play a very small part in a film, usually as a member of a crowd *статист: He started his acting career as an extra. / We need hundreds of extras for the battle scenes.*

**a bit part** *эпизодическая роль: She had a bit part in the play.*

**a plum role** a good role that other people wish they had: *He landed a plum role in a TV mini-series. / This is the plum role in the play.*

**a thankless role:** *Ethan Hawke does a solid job in a thankless role.*

**a dramatic / tragic / comic role:** *She admits she is attracted to comic roles.*

**a stereotypical role:** *one of his stereotypical action hero roles*

**a film (esp. BrE) / movie (esp. AmE) / television / TV role**

**the role / part of sb:** *She was the first actress to play the role of Peter Pan.*

**in the role / part (of sb):** *He was very good in the role / part.*

**to take / assume / fill a role / part:** *Who took the role of Ursula? / In the series, Smith assumes the role of the go-between. / The supporting roles are filled by British actors.*

**to get / land / win a role / part:** *It took her three years to land her first film role. / In 1982 he landed a role in the musical 'Destiny Rides Again'.*

**to assign / hand out roles / parts** *распределять роли*

**to play / perform / act / have a role / part** *играть / исполнять роль: Matthews plays the role of a young doctor suspected of murder. / His son has a small role in the series. / She played the part of Juliet.*

**to sing / dance a role / part:** *Dean Ely sings the title role. / Annette Markert sings the part of Medea.*

**to feature sb in a role:** *The film features Paul Scofield in the title role.*

**to underplay a role** *исполнять роль бледно / слабо: Walken carefully underplays the role.*

**to understudy a role / part** *дублировать, выступать в качестве дублёра*

**to interpret a role** *трактовать / интерпретировать образ / роль: She interprets the role as more tragic than I expected.*

**to handle a role:** *Sbaraglia handles this difficult role well.*

6. **to star** (1) [intransitive] to have one of the main parts in a play, film etc *исполнять главную роль*

**to star in sth (as sb / sth):** *Eastwood starred in 'The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly'. / He's starred in dozens of films. / He starred in 'Devil's Advocate' as an ambitious lawyer.*

**to star as sb / sth:** *Walken stars as Shannon and he fits the part well. / Hugh Grant stars as the romantic hero.*

**to star with / alongside / opposite sb:** *Starring alongside Harrison Ford will be Meryl Streep and George Clooney. / DeVito stars opposite Dreyfuss in the movie. / In her next film she stars opposite Travolta.*

**(2) to feature** [transitive] to include a particular character as a special part of a play, film etc **выводить в главной роли**

**to star / feature sb:** *The BBC's new satirical show starred David Frost. / The film also features the new character Mary Anna Morrison.*

**to star / feature in sth:** *She has already featured in two award-winning films this year.*

**to star / feature sb in sth:** *The studio wants to star her in a sequel to last year's hit.*

**to star / feature sb as sb / sth:** *The movie starred Orson Welles as Harry Lime. / The film features Cary Grant as a professor.*

7. **to co-star** (1) [intransitive] to appear as one of the main actors with someone in a play, film etc **исполнять одну из главных ролей**

**to co-star in sth:** *She's co-starring in a TV version of the 1960s thriller. / Wright and Penn met when they co-starred in the movie 'State of Grace'.*

**to co-star with sb:** *He co-starred with Bruce Willis in the movie 'Die Hard'. / This fall she co-stars in a film with the acclaimed British actor Kenneth Branagh.*

**(2)** [transitive] to have two or more famous actors acting in a play, film etc **снимать фильм / ставить пьесу с участием известных актёров**

**to co-star sb and sb:** *The film co-stars Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor.*

8. **co-star** [countable] one of two or more famous actors who have important parts in a play, film etc: *Her co-star Jodie Foster won the Best Actress Award.*

9. **understudy** [countable] an actor who learns the part of another actor in a play so that they can play that part if necessary **дублёр:** *Vanessa had flu, and her place was taken by her understudy, Miss Lisa Fennel.*

**an understudy to sb:** *She worked as an understudy to Elaine Page.*

10. **cast** [countable + singular or plural verb] all the people who act in a play or film **состав исполнителей:** *The whole cast performs / perform brilliantly. / The show is very amusing and the cast are very good.*

**a cast of sb:** *The play has a cast of four. / The play has a strong cast of new young actors.*

**a member of the cast | cast member:** *She was a member of the cast of 'The Sound of Music' for years. / Everyone remembers the cast members of 'Friends'.*

**a cast list** a list of members: *The movie has an impressive cast list.*

**a talented cast:** *It's a fantastic production with an enormously talented cast.*

**an all-star / star-studded / stellar cast** including many well-known actors **звёздный состав исполнителей:** *An all-star cast includes Michael Douglas as the US President. / The movie features an all-star cast.*

**a supporting cast** everyone except the main actors **второй состав исполнителей:** *There's also a fine supporting cast.*

**to head a cast** to be the main actor: *Al Pacino heads the cast of this political thriller.*

**to select a cast** *назначать / подбирать состав исполнителей*

11. **to cast** [*transitive*] to choose a performer for a particular part in a play, film etc  
*назначать на роль, давать роль; распределять роли*

**to cast sb as sb / sth:** *He has cast her as an ambitious lawyer in his latest movie. / He was cast as a college professor.*

**to cast sb in a role / a part / the lead:** *He had already cast Tom Hanks in the lead role. / Ralph Fiennes was cast in the lead role of King Richard. / The producer finally cast Finch in the male lead.*

**to cast a play / film / movie** *распределять роли в пьесе:* *The play is being cast in both the US and Britain. / He had no trouble casting the movie.*

**to cast actors for parts** *назначать актёров на роли*

**to cast parts to actors** *распределять роли между актёрами*

12. **casting** [*uncountable*] the process of choosing the actors for a play or film  
*распределение ролей*

**casting director** *ассистент режиссёра (отвечающий за подбор актёров)*

13. **rendering | rendition | interpretation** [*countable*] a particular way of performing a part in a play, a piece of music etc that shows how you understand it and feel about it *трактовка (художественного произведения); выступление, исполнение; представление, изображение:* *The musicians burst into a rousing rendition of 'Paddy Casey's Reel'.*

**a rendering / rendition / interpretation of sth:** *her dramatic rendering of Lady Macbeth / an interesting new rendering of Puccini's opera / It was a spirited rendering of the national anthem. / an English rendition of a Greek poem / a modern interpretation of 'King Lear'*

**to give a rendering / rendition of sth:** *He was given a standing ovation and a rendering of 'Happy Birthday'. / He gave a moving rendition of Lennon's 'Imagine'. / The band gave a live rendition of their latest single. / Laurence Olivier's brilliant interpretation of Henry V / her full-bodied interpretation of the role of Micaela / He was best known for his interpretation of folk music.*

14. **to render** [*transitive*] to perform a part in a play, a piece of music etc in a way that shows how you understand it and feel about it *трактовать / интерпретировать образ / роль; исполнять; представлять, изображать*  
**to render sb / sth:** *He stood up and rendered a beautiful version of 'Summertime'.*

**to render sb / sth in a particular way / as sth:** *The power of the sea was beautifully rendered in the poem. / The artist has rendered the stormy sea in dark greens and browns. / He renders Mozart in a very original manner. / She interprets the role as more tragic than I expected.*

## 9. Literary criticism

1. **critic** [countable] a person who gives opinions about books, plays, films etc  
*критик: Some critics are calling him 'the new De Niro'.*  
**a good / great / incisive (esp. AmE) / distinguished / influential / leading critic**  
**a literary / art / cultural / theatre / drama / film / media / music critic:**  
*Michael is the paper's literary critic. / He became the chief music critic for the Herald Tribune.*
2. **to criticize** [transitive] (1) (formal) **to describe** to judge the good and bad qualities of something *выступать в роли критика*  
**to criticize sth:** *We were taught how to criticize poems.*  
**to describe sth as sth:** *Critics described the paintings as worthless / rubbish.*  
 (2) **to attack / slate (BrE) / slam / pan / to be critical of** to express your disapproval of someone / something *критиковать, осуждать, относиться отрицательно*  
**to criticize / attack / slate (BrE) / slam / pan / to be critical of sth (for sth / on the grounds that...):** *The film was criticized on the grounds that it glorified violence. / Many critics attacked Seurat's paintings for their lack of colour. / Doherty's most recent novel has been slated by the critics. / The film has been slammed by critics. / The play was panned by critics.*  
**to criticize / attack / slate (BrE) / slam / pan sth bitterly / fiercely (esp. BrE) / harshly / heavily / roundly / severely / sharply / strongly**  
**to criticize / attack / slate (BrE) / slam / pan sth justifiably / rightly// unfairly**
3. **criticism** [uncountable] the activity of giving your professional opinion about things such as new books, plays or films *критика (анализ, истолкование и оценка художественных произведений)*  
**literary / art / cultural / music / textual criticism:** *She has written several works of literary criticism. / She has published more than twenty books including novels, poetry and literary criticism. / The book takes an unorthodox approach to art criticism. / He teaches a course on textual criticism.*
4. **to inspire | to base** [transitive, usually passive] to give someone the idea for something, especially a book, play, poem, painting etc *вдохновлять, воодушевлять, стимулировать; являться прототипом*  
**to inspire sth:** *Those events inspired the novel. / These river banks have inspired poets for many centuries.*  
**to be inspired by sb / sth:** *The story was inspired by a chance meeting with an old Russian duke. / The story was inspired by a real person, namely Tamara de Treaux. / I understand your novel was inspired by a short story by Katherine Mansfield. / His paintings were clearly inspired by Monet's work. / The choice of decor was inspired by a trip to India.*  
**to base sb / sth on sb / sth | to be based on sb / sth:** *Capote based his favourite character on a number of real-life women he knew. / The character is based on a real person. / The novel was based on a true story. / The novels are all (broadly / loosely / partly) based on the author's life. / Some of his most powerful writing is*

*based on his childhood experiences. / The movie is based on a novel by Anne Tyler. / The plot and characters are loosely based on the author's observations of her family and neighbours, as well as on an event that occurred near her hometown in 1936*

5. **inspiration** [countable, usually singular; uncountable] a person or thing that is the reason why someone creates or does something **вдохновение, воодушевление; вдохновляющая идея; вдохновитель; прототип**  
**to be the inspiration for / behind sb / sth:** *He says my sister was the inspiration for his heroine. / He was the inspiration for Wordsworth's poem 'The Old Huntsman'. / His wife was the direct inspiration for the main character in the book.*  
**to provide an inspiration for sb / sth:** *The sea has provided an inspiration for many of his paintings.*
6. **original** [countable] **прототип:** *Pyle, Granger, Fowler, Vigot, Joe – these have had no originals in the life of Saigon or Hanoi, and General Thé is dead: shot in the back, so they say.*
7. **to be set in sth | to take place in sth** [transitive, usually passive] to place the action of a story, play or film in a particular place, time etc **разворачиваться, происходить (о действии книги, фильма или спектакля):** *The film is set in London in the 1960s. / The play is set in a one-room attic apartment in the Midlands of England. / The action takes place in France.*
8. **to feature | to figure** [transitive; intransitive] to be an important part or aspect of something **являться характерной чертой / отличительным признаком; отличать, характеризовать:** *Violence features prominently / heavily in all of his books. / The newspapers figure heavily in the scenes where Jimmy and Cliff are engaged in their usual competitive banter.*
9. **motive | motivation** [countable] a reason for doing something, especially when this reason is kept hidden **мотив, побуждение; повод; причина:** *Money is my motivation. / The timing of the attack and its motivations are unknown.*  
**a motive / motivation for sth / doing sth:** *The police believe the motive for this murder was jealousy. / Escape can be a strong motivation for travel. / Most people said that pay was their main motivation for working.*  
**a motive / motivation behind sth:** *The motives behind the decision remain obscure. / There is suspicion about the motivation behind the changes we are debating.*  
**a motive / motivation in sth / doing sth:** *He was suspicious of her motives in inviting him into the house. / Concern was her prime motive in visiting Mrs Green. / my main motivation in making the suggestion*  
**a motive to do sth:** *She had no clear motive to lie.*  
**with a motive / motivation:** *We give aid to other countries with mixed motives.*  
**an altruistic / high / noble / pure motive:** *He was acting from the noblest of motives when he offered her money.*

**a good / strong / powerful / great motive / motivation:** *Barbara had a strong motive for disliking Ben. | I'd say he had a very strong motive for wanting her dead.*

**a main / major / primary / prime motive:** *Concern was her prime motive in visiting Mrs Green. | Most people said that pay was their main motivation for working.*

**a real / true motive / motivation:** *Everyone can see your true motives. | What were his true motives for offering her the job? | Our real motivation is to make a profit.*

**a clear / obvious motive:** *There seemed to be no clear motive for the attack. | Police say that there is no obvious motive for the attack.*

**a hidden / ulterior / underlying motive:** *There may be a hidden motive for his departure. | Did you think I had an ulterior motive for coming here? | She was not sure what his underlying motives were. | The treaty's underlying motive was to make Japan a strong ally of the US.*

**a base (formal) / selfish motive**

**an evil / sinister motive**

**a political / economic / moral / psychological / religious motive / motivation:** *Many people believed that there were economic motives to the decision to go to war.*

**mixed motives:** *He had mixed motives for joining the army: a desire to prove himself, but also the desire to get away from his family.*

**to have / be inspired by / be driven by / be guided by / be prompted by a motive / motivation:** *Who might have had a motive for killing him? | The murders might have a political motive. | They had very different motivations for creating the work. | She knew that he was inspired by base motives. | The violence was clearly prompted by political motives.*

**a motive / motivation drives sb's actions:** *But even flightiness must have some rationale behind it, some deeper (perhaps unconscious) motivation driving the character's seemingly random actions.*

**to act from motives (of sth):** *It is clear that they were acting from motives of revenge.*

**to do sth for a variety of motives:** *I did it for a variety of motives.*

**to establish / find out a motive:** *So far the police have been unable to establish a motive for the murder.*

**to provide a motive:** *There must be something which provided a motive for these killings.*

**to suspect / be suspicious of / question sb's motives / motivations:** *He was suspicious of her motives in inviting him into the house. | They began to question the motives of the people who held positions of power.*

**to hide / conceal your motive:** *We've become adept at hiding our true motives.*

**to reveal your motive**

**to examine / explore sb's motives / motivations:** *She should examine her motives for marrying him. | An important part of characterization is dialogue, for*

*it is both spoken and inward dialogue that afford us the opportunity to see into the characters' hearts and examine their motivations.*

**to know / see / understand sb's motive**

**to explain a motive / motivation:** *However you explain the motives behind his actions, he was still wrong. | Flashbacks may help to explain the motivations behind a character's actions by telling the reader about his / her past experiences.*

**to understand a motive / motivation:** *Like Fowler at the end of the novel, people do not always understand themselves and their own motives. | To analyse literary style means to understand the motivation for a writer's language choices.*

10. **inner / innermost / internal thoughts / feelings** thoughts and feelings that are most personal and private *сокровенные мысли / чувства*

11. **to praise | to hail** [transitive] to express your approval of or admiration for someone / something *хвалить; восхвалять; превозносить, прославлять; провозглашать, называть*

**to praise sb / sth (as sb / sth) / (for sth):** *The film was praised by the critics when it first came out. | Critics praised the work as highly original. | The album has been universally praised for its creativity.*

**to praise sb / sth highly / effusively / lavishly / warmly / to the skies:** *The play was highly praised by critics and the public. | The critics praised his new novel to the skies.*

**to praise sb / sth justly / rightly**

**to hail sb / sth as sb / sth:** *Critics hailed the film as a brilliant portrayal of American society at that time. | The book was hailed as a masterpiece. | Faulkner has been hailed as the greatest American novelist of his generation. | The movie was hailed by critics as a triumphant piece of realism.*

12. **praise** [uncountable] words that show approval of or admiration for someone / something *похвала, хвала; восхваление*

**considerable / effusive / extravagant / glowing** (= giving enthusiastic praise) / **great / high / lavish / special / unstinting / warm praise**

**plenty of / a lot of praise**

**fulsome praise** (disapproving) too generous in praising someone, so that you do not sound sincere

**faint praise** comments that seem to praise someone, but in a way that does not really give them much praise

**in praise of sb / sth:** *He wrote a poem in praise of his hero. | She wrote poems in praise of freedom.*

**beyond praise** *выше всяких похвал:* *This book is beyond praise.*

**to deserve praise (for sth):** *He deserves praise for his new book. | These artists deserve praise for the clarity of their visions.*

**to give / offer sb / sth praise | (to have / there are) words of praise for sb:** *They gave his novel plenty of praise. | He has great praise for his co-stars. | There were words of praise for the writer's book.*

**to heap / lavish / shower praise on sb | to shower sb with praise**



**to receive / get / win (sb) / earn (sb) / attract / draw / garner / come in for praise (from sb):** *His first novel received high praise. / His stories did not get the praise they deserved. / The novels have won widespread critical praise. / The film won high praise from critics and audiences alike. / His novels won him wide public praise. / He earned praise for his book. / The book earned him lavish praise from the press. / The play has attracted universal praise.*

**to be full of / fulsome in (esp. BrE) / gushing in (esp. BrE) / unstinting in (your) praise (of sb) / sth | to have nothing but praise for sb / sth** to praise sb a lot **не скупиться на похвалу:** *The critics were full of praise for the writer / her book / film. / They were unstinting in their praise. / The director is equally gushing / unstinting in his praise of the actor.*

**to gush with praise for sb / sth:** *She gushed with praise for the winners.*

**to sing sb's praises** to praise someone very highly: *The newspapers were singing the writer's praises.*

13. **to enthuse | to rave | to gush** [intransitive] to talk in an enthusiastic and excited way about something that you are interested in **восторгаться, восхищаться, приходить в восторг; проявлять энтузиазм**

**to enthuse / rave / gush about / over sth:** *The public are enthusing about / over the new play. / The critics raved about his performance in 'Hamlet'. / Everyone is raving about the movie. / New York's theatre critics raved about the acting. / Popular magazines are always gushing about his books.*

**to enthuse that...:** *The critic enthused that the writer's latest novel was his best work.*

14. **to review** [transitive] to write an article describing and judging a new book, play, film etc **рецензировать, делать (критический) обзор**

**to review sth:** *Bradman will review the best of the new children's books. / The play was reviewed in the national newspapers. / His book about Afghanistan is reviewed here by Anthony Hyman.*

**to review sth favourably // unfavourably / critically:** *The film has been favourably / unfavourably reviewed on various websites.*

15. **review** [countable] an article in a newspaper or magazine that gives an opinion about a new book, play, film etc **обзор, обозрение; рецензия, критическая статья:** *He submitted his latest novel for review.*

**a critical review (of sth)**

**a book / play / film review | a review of a book / play / film:** *The paper published a review of her book. / Did you see the review of the new Coldplay album?*

**a good / positive / enthusiastic / excellent / favourable / glowing** (= giving enthusiastic praise) / **good / wonderful review:** *Their new musical opened to glowing reviews.*

**a rave** (= very enthusiastic) **review | rave:** *Their recent tour received rave reviews. / The film opened to rave reviews. / Disney's 'Beauty and the Beast' has won rave reviews. / The series has received raves from TV critics.*

**a bad / poor / negative / hostile / scathing / unflattering review:** *The show has good audience figures despite poor reviews in the press.*

**mixed reviews:** *The book received mixed reviews.*

**to write / do a review | to give sth a review:** *Several literary critics wrote unflattering reviews of her first novel. | I'm doing a review for the local paper.*

**to publish a review**

**to read / see a review:** *I always read the film reviews. | Did you see the review in 'Phase'?*

**to have / receive / get / win / earn (sb) a review (from sb):** *We've never had a good review in the music press. | The play had rave reviews. | Their recent tour received rave reviews. | The play got rave reviews. | Her acting got a rave review in a fashionable magazine. | The film won rave reviews in America. | Her performance won rave reviews from the critics. | The performance earned them rave reviews from critics.*

**a review appears in a newspaper / paper / magazine:** *His review appeared in yesterday's paper.*

16. **tension** [uncountable] the feeling of fear and excitement that is created by a writer or a film director **напряжение, напряжённость; внутренний конфликт, противоречие (в литературном произведении):** *The film explored the tension between public duty and personal affections.*

**dramatic / unbearable tension:** *The movie lacks dramatic tension. | The tension is almost unbearable as the play approaches its climax.*

**to create / generate tension:** *In educational drama it is up to the teacher to create and build the tension.*

**to build / increase / heighten tension**

**to keep (up) / maintain tension**

**tension builds (up) / mounts / grows:** *Tension builds around the mystery of what will happen to Freddie. | As the movie progresses the tension builds.*

17. **suspense** [uncountable] a feeling of excitement or anxiety when you do not know what will happen next **интерес, напряжение (которое испытывает читатель, кинозритель):** *The film was a masterpiece of suspense.*

**genuine / real suspense**

**unbearable / nail-biting suspense**

**a state of suspense**

**to be full of suspense:** *a classic thriller full of suspense*

**suspense story / novel / film (esp. BrE) / movie (esp. AmE) / thriller etc** one which is exciting because you do not know what will happen next: *Mary Stewart produces suspense stories with equally strong mystery and romance plot lines. | He wrote many suspense novels.*

**to break / spoil the suspense:** *Don't look at the end of the book yet – you'll spoil the suspense.*

**to create / generate suspense**

**to build (up) / heighten suspense**

**suspense builds (up)**

**to keep / leave sb in suspense:** *The play is constructed in such a way as to keep the audience in suspense until the very end. / Don't keep us in suspense – did you get the job or not? / They were kept in suspense about joining the expedition for several weeks.*

**can't bear the suspense:** *She couldn't bear the suspense a moment longer.*

18. **atmosphere (1) mood** [*singular*] the feeling that exists in a place and affects the people who are there **настроение; атмосфера**

**an atmosphere / mood of sth:** *There is an atmosphere of tension in the book. / a pervading mood of fear*

**to create / establish (esp. AmE) an atmosphere / mood of sth**

**to provide / maintain an atmosphere / mood of sth**

**an atmosphere / mood / sense / feeling of sth prevails in / dominates / permeates / pervades / imbues a book / play / film etc** **настроение / атмосфера пронизывает книгу / пьесу / фильм:**

*An atmosphere of optimism / despair / excitement prevails in / dominates / the novel. / A sense of deep loss permeates Frost's poetry. / A feeling of unease permeates the novel. / the sadness that pervades most of her novels / Death is the theme that now pervades his poetry.*

**the book / play / film etc is imbued / permeated / pervaded / penetrated with an atmosphere / mood / sense / feeling of sth:** *All his poetry is imbued with such emotions. / His public speeches were permeated with hatred of injustice. / Everything he says seems pervaded with a mistrust of the human race. / All his poems seem to be penetrated with the idea of death and hopelessness.*

**(2) [uncountable]** if something has atmosphere, it is interesting

**to have / be full of / be filled with atmosphere:** *The novel is full of atmosphere.*

19. **to capture** [*transitive*] **(1)** to make someone feel very interested in something  
**to capture sb's imagination / attention | to capture the interest of sb etc**  
**захватить воображение, привлечь внимание:** *His stories of foreign adventure captured my imagination. / Her story captured the interest of the world's media.*

**to capture / seize / grip / captivate sb's imagination**

**(2) to reflect** to succeed in accurately expressing a feeling, an atmosphere etc in a piece of writing, picture, film etc **выражать; уловить; изображать**

**to capture / reflect the mood / feeling / spirit / essence / complexity etc of sth:** *The article captured the mood of the nation. / The film succeeds in capturing the mood of the 1960s. / These photographs capture the essence of working-class life at the turn of the century. / The book captures the reality of life during wartime. / Her writings reflect the breadth of her interests. / His scruffy appearance does not reflect his character.*

**to capture / reflect sth / sb accurately / perfectly / brilliantly / vividly / beautifully / nicely / neatly:** *That description captures perfectly the feeling of being invisible. / The artist has captured her perfectly.*

**to manage / be able // fail to capture / reflect sth:** *The exhibition on India fails to capture the great diversity of this fascinating country.*

20. **to arouse** [transitive] to cause an emotion or attitude **возбуждать, волновать, будоражить**  
**to arouse interest / curiosity / emotions / feelings / sentiments / expectations:** *Matt's behaviour was arousing the interest of the neighbours.*  
**to arouse anger / animosity / antagonism / anxiety / concern / enthusiasm / envy / fervour / fury / hostility / indignation / jealousy / opposition / passion / pity / resentment / suspicion / sympathy / wrath:** *A great deal of anger was aroused by Campbell's decision.*
21. **to elicit** [transitive] to succeed in getting information or a reaction from someone, especially when this is difficult **вызывать реакцию**  
**to elicit sympathy / emotions from sb:** *Her tears elicited great sympathy from her audience.*
22. **to rivet** [transitive] to interest someone so much that they pay complete attention **сосредоточивать (внимание)**  
**to rivet sb:** *The book appeared to have riveted the man for hours. | It may not be great literature but it certainly had me riveted!*  
**to rivet sb / attention on / to sth:** *Public attention was riveted on this topic on both sides on the Atlantic. | He was riveted to the John Wayne movie.*  
**to be riveted by sth:** *I was absolutely riveted by her story.*
23. **interesting** (adjective) keeping your attention and making you want to know more **интересный, занятный, любопытный:** *There's an interesting article in the newspaper today. | The book was really interesting.*
24. **gripping / compelling / riveting / absorbing / engrossing / spellbinding / enthralling** (adjective) used about a very interesting book, play, film etc that you feel you must keep reading or watching **захватывающий, интригующий, очень интересный:** *a gripping story of love and death | a gripping narrative of their journey up the Amazon | Her latest book makes compelling reading. | His life makes a compelling story. | There is something compelling about his work. | He gives a riveting performance as a tough street cop. | her absorbing / engrossing first novel | The book is a spellbinding tale of her life in China. | an enthralling performance*
25. **read** [singular] something that is interesting, enjoyable, or exciting to read **чтение, чтение**  
**an easy / quick / worthwhile read**  
**a good / great / fascinating / terrific read:** *I thought his last book was a really good read. | Ben Okri's latest novel is a good read.*  
**an interesting / engaging / enjoyable / entertaining / stimulating / fun (esp. AmE) / challenging read:** *'War and Peace' is certainly a challenging read and not one to be tackled lightly.*  
**a gripping / compelling / absorbing / engrossing / compulsive / enthralling read:** *His thrillers are always a gripping read. | This novel is an absorbing read.*  
**to be / make a read:** *The story was / made an interesting read.*  
**to enjoy the read:** *I know you'll enjoy the read.*

26. **reading | reading matter / material** [uncountable] books and other things that you can read **чтение, чтиво**  
**main reading:** *Her main reading seems to be mystery novels.*  
**easy / quick / worthwhile reading:** *The book is worthwhile reading for anyone interested in the Industrial Revolution.*  
**heavy / serious / depressing / disturbing reading:** *The book makes for depressing reading.*  
**light reading** things that are easy and enjoyable to read **лёгкое чтиво, литература лёгкого жанра:** *a bit of light reading for my holiday | some light holiday reading | The article is not exactly light reading.*  
**good / great / fascinating / terrific reading:** *The list of drinks, a dozen pages long, makes fascinating reading.*  
**interesting / engaging / enjoyable / entertaining / stimulating / fun (esp. AmE) reading**  
**gripping / compelling / absorbing / engrossing / compulsive / enthralling reading:** *Her latest book makes compelling reading.*  
**essential / required / compulsory (esp. BrE) / assigned (AmE) / mandatory (esp. AmE) reading | set books** **обязательное чтение, книги для обязательного чтения:** *His article should be compulsory reading for law students. | Her assigned reading for English class was 'Great Expectations'.*  
**recommended / suggested reading** **рекомендованное чтение, рекомендованные книги**  
**further reading** other things you can read, especially a list of other books that give more information about the same subject **книги для дальнейшего чтения:** *There's a list of further reading at the end of each chapter.*  
**a reading list** a list of books, articles etc that students are expected to read for a particular subject  
**background reading** books, articles etc containing general information about a subject: *Included in the book are suggestions for background reading.*  
**holiday (BrE) / beach (esp. AmE) / bedtime reading:** *Horror is hardly my idea of bedtime reading.*  
**a supply of reading material:** *a supply of interesting reading material*  
**to be / make / make for reading:** *Their story makes compulsive reading. | The novel makes for interesting reading.*  
**to assign (AmE) readings:** *We assign readings from different contexts and periods of history.*
27. **I couldn't put it down** (informal) used when saying that a book was so interesting that you could not stop reading it: *It's a great book – I found that I couldn't put it down.*
28. **intriguing** (adjective) interesting because of being unusual, mysterious, or unexpected, so that you want to find out more **интригующий, занимательный, увлекательный; пленительный, захватывающий:** *It is an intriguing story. | This intriguing book is both thoughtful and informative. | I found the story rather intriguing.*

**fairly / particularly / very / highly / extremely intriguing**

29. **to interpret | to read** [transitive] to understand and explain the meaning of something **объяснять, толковать, интерпретировать**

**to interpret sth:** *The students were asked to interpret the poem. | Both approaches agree on what is depicted in the poem, but not on how it should be interpreted.*

**to interpret sth as sth:** *Her message was interpreted as a warning to the general. | Her resignation has been widely interpreted as an admission of her guilt. | Political apathy can be interpreted as a sign of satisfaction with the current government.*

**to interpret sth to mean sth:** *The title could be interpreted to mean 'human intelligence'.*

**to interpret sth accurately / correctly / properly / rightly**

**to interpret sth erroneously / incorrectly / mistakenly / wrongly**

**to interpret sth differently / variously:** *Different people might interpret events differently. | The figure of the Ancient Mariner has been variously interpreted.*

**to interpret sth broadly / widely / liberally:** *The term 'business' is here interpreted broadly to include all types of organization in the public and private sectors. | The strictness of the rules, even when liberally interpreted, has the effect of restricting innovation.*

**to interpret sth literally / narrowly / strictly / restrictively (BrE)**

**to interpret sth in a particular way:** *He interpreted the role with a lot of humour.*

30. **interpretation | reading** [countable] a particular way of understanding or explaining a word, text or situation **истолкование, трактовка, интерпретация**

**My reading of her character makes me feel that she was too responsible a person to do those things. | My own reading of events is less optimistic. | The Catholic interpretation of the Bible is slightly different. | Analysis and interpretation is a very personal thing.**

**a correct / right / true / valid interpretation / reading (of sth)**

**a false / erroneous / wrong interpretation / reading (of sth)**

**a plausible / possible / reasonable interpretation / reading (of sth)**

**a straightforward interpretation / reading (of sth):** *The film lends itself to a fairly straightforward interpretation.*

**a simplistic interpretation / reading (of sth)**

**an insightful / sensitive interpretation / reading (of sth):** *her attentive and insightful reading of the manuscript*

**a literal / narrow / strict interpretation / reading (of sth):** *a literal reading of the text | He draws his morality from a literal reading of the Old Testament.*

**a broad / wide / free / liberal / loose interpretation (of sth)** **произвольная интерпретация**

**an allegorical interpretation / reading (of sth)**

**an alternative interpretation / reading (of sth)**

**different / diverse / competing / conflicting / multiple interpretations / readings**

**to make an interpretation:** *Scientists made an interpretation based on the data available.*

**to give / offer sth an interpretation / reading | to put an interpretation / reading on sth:** *In practice, this law is often given a wide interpretation by the police. | It is possible to put an entirely different interpretation on her comments. | It is possible to put an entirely different interpretation on her behaviour.*

**to give / offer / provide an interpretation / reading:** *Longinus provides a sensitive reading of Sappho's poem.*

**to invite / suggest an interpretation / reading:** *These paintings often invite an allegorical reading. | Her evidence suggests a different interpretation of the events.*

**to be open to interpretation(s)** to be able to be understood or explained in different ways: *What exactly the author meant by that statement is open to interpretation. | Beckett's play is open to various interpretations. | The wording of this passage is open to interpretation.*

**to agree with / favour / support / share an interpretation / reading:** *Most modern historians support this interpretation.*

**to disagree with / challenge / refute / reject an interpretation / reading:** *Local public housing authorities disagree with this reading of the law. | She challenges many orthodox interpretations of religious texts.*

**to defy / preclude / resist interpretation** to be impossible or almost impossible to interpret something: *His work defies simplistic interpretation.*