

PARAGRAPH EXAMPLE FOR LITERARY TECHNIQUES

Dramatic irony is when a character is ignorant of something that is crucial to the story while the audience is aware. In the play, dramatic irony is used by the author to create tension and suspense especially in the scene where Oedipus has called on the blind prophet Teiresias in hopes of learning something about the killer of the former king. “Let me go home; prevent me not; ‘twere best that thou shouldst bear thy burden and I mine” (Sophocles 1147). In this quote, Teiresias begs to let things be and explains that Oedipus does not really want the burden of the truth. This is dramatic irony because we know Teiresias sees that Oedipus is the killer he seeks; we have the knowledge that Oedipus does not have yet.

- Within *each* paragraph, complete *all* of the following steps:
 - 1) Define the literary technique
 - 2) Provide an example (using a direct quote with a citation)
 - 3) Background information of where & when the quote is taking place in the plot
 - 4) Explain in the quote how it is an example of the identified technique
 - 5) Explain why the author may have used this technique

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