Name: Section: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Techniques Reference Sheet**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Narrative**  **Technique** | **Definition** | **Example** |
| Simile | Comparing two things with similar qualities using the words “like” or the construction “as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as.” | “It’s an ugly sweater with red plastic buttons and a collar and **sleeves all stretched out like you could use it for a jump rope**.” ~*Eleven* |
| Metaphor | Comparing two things with similar qualities by saying that something “is” something else. | “And all at once **everything you feel is a forty-foot wave of water**, and all at once you are in the wave, being tossed in the wave, and it’s frightening because it’s too strong.” *~Over and Out* |
| Personification | Giving human qualities to inanimate objects | “The **cold air slapped** my warm face.” *~Little Things Are Big*  (Air is not living and it is doing the human action of slapping.) |
| Repetition | Repeating a word, phrase, or sentence over and over.  Letters can also be repeated for dramatic effect. (See 2nd example.) | “**Not mine, not mine, not mine**, but Mrs. Price is already turning to page thirty-two, and math problem number four.” ~*Eleven*  “They **b-beat m-me**,” I gasped. “They **t-t-t-took** the **m-money**.” ~*The Night I Won The Right to the Streets of Memphis* |
| Imagery  (sensory language) | Using the five senses in order to paint an image/visual in the readers’ minds (seeing, smelling, tasting, touching, feeling). The line(s) don’t have to use all five senses to count as imagery. | “[My mother] had **lovely brown hair, a warm enchanting smile, and a soft, understanding voice**.” ~*My Side of the Story* |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name of Narrative**  **Technique** | **Definition** | **Example** |
| Dialogue | Showing the actual words/conversation between two or more people using quotation marks | “Don’t you dare come into this house until you’ve gotten those groceries,” she said.  ‘They’ll beat me; they’ll beat me,” I said.  ‘Then stay in the streets; don’t come back here!”  ~*The Night I Won The Right to the Streets of Memphis* |
| Interior monologue  (inner thinking) | Showing a character’s inner thoughts | “I remember thinking…suppose I approach this white lady in this deserted subway station late at night? What would she say? What would be the first reaction of this white American woman?” *~Little Things Are Big* |
| Onomatopoeia | Formation of a word from a sound | “In blind fear, I let the stick fly, feeling it **crack** against a boy’s skull.”  ~*The Night I Won The Right to the Streets of Memphis* |
| Hyperbole | Use of extreme exaggeration to make a point | “**It’s maybe a thousand years old** and even if it belong to me I wouldn’t say so.” ~*Eleven* |
| Alliteration | When the beginning sound in words are repeated. | Sally saw a slithering, slimy snake and screamed.  (The *s* sound is repeated to create the sound a snake hissing. |