



# Themes in Literature



## What are Themes?

Themes are the underlying ideas or messages that authors explore in their works of literature. They provide insights into the human condition, society or the world around us.



## Identifying Themes



To analyse themes effectively, start by reading the text carefully and considering the following questions:

- What ideas or topics are repeated throughout the story?
- What lessons or observations can be taken from the characters' actions, conflicts and experiences?
- What broader issues or concepts does the text address?
- How do the characters, setting and plot contribute to the exploration of these ideas?

## Analysing Themes



Once you have identified potential themes, it is important to analyse them further.

- **Consider the author's purpose:** What message or viewpoint are they trying to convey through these themes?
- **Look for supporting evidence:** Examine specific scenes, character actions and dialogue that contribute to the development of the theme.
- **Connect with the real world:** Relate the themes to your own experiences or issues in the real world to gain a deeper understanding of their relevance.

## Common Themes



- Love and Friendship
- Power and Corruption
- Good vs. Evil
- Freedom and Oppression
- Courage and Fear
- Justice and Injustice
- Coming of age

## How to?



- Read the text closely and take note of recurring ideas or topics.
- Reflect on the characters, plot and setting. What do they make you think about? What message are they telling you?
- Find evidence from the text that shows the theme.