

Ministry of Higher Education &
Scientific Research
Tikrit University
College of Basic Education / Al-Shirqat
English Department



“The Old Man and the Sea”
Ernest Hemingway

Second Stage

Second Semester

2023-2024

By

Asst. Lec. Shakir Hussein Ali

Aims of studying novels :

Reading novels will help improve your vocabulary , general understanding and in some cases it may even give you more knowledge into different countries and cultures .You also get to move at your own pace . While listening to podcasts and radio , you have to keep up with whoever is speaking . Sure ,watching movies to learn English can be a lot of fun, but doesn't it get tiring to have to read subtitles or pause and rewind ? While reading a book, you can read as slowly or as quickly as you desire . If you didn't understand something ,simply look at paragraph again!

Being able to read a novel in another language and understanding it is a huge achievement. You'll feel accomplished the moment you read that final page , close the book , and reflect on the experience . You might find yourself at the last page faster than you thought – once you begin reading these books , you won't be to put them down .

Reading a novel opens the mind :

Reading educates. It opens you up to new experiences and perspectives . What better way is there to understand someone's way of thinking ? You may learn new information about language, culture, society , and history that you never knew before.

Reading a novel is fun !

It is , overall , an enjoyable and relaxing way to learn English without any stress whatsoever . People get frustrated when they choose books that go above their reading levels . By choosing your first English books wisely , you should have a very positive experience .

Definition of novel :

A novel is a narrative work of prose fiction that tells a story about specific human experiences over a considerable length .

The main characteristics of novel:

The following are the main characteristics of a novel :

- ◆ Written in prose, as opposed to verse. Narrators may have different degrees of knowledge or different points of view (first person versus third, person and so on). While stylized novels such as epistolary novels do exist, the key distinction here is between prose and verse .
- ◆ Considerable length word count. There is no specific. word count that automatically makes a work a novel, but in general, a short novel would be considered a novella, and even shorter than that would be short fiction .
- ◆ Fictional content. Semi-fictionalized novels (such as historical works inspired by true events or persons) exist, but a work of pure non-fiction would not be classified as a novel.
- ◆ Individualism, both on the page and for the intended audience.

Not all fiction is novels, but all novels are fiction. A non- fiction prose work that is of the same length as a novel could fall into several other categories, such as historiography, biography, and so on .

To summarize we can say that prose style and length, as well as fictional or semi-fictional subject matter, are the most clearly defining characteristics of a novel.

Unlike works of epic poetry, it tells its story using prose rather than verse; unlike short stories, it tells a lengthy narrative rather than a brief

selection. There are, however, other characteristic elements that set the novel apart as a particular literary form.

The main elements of novel :

The elements of a novel are the same elements of the short story – plot , theme , setting , point of view , character – except that there may be more than one of each these elements . That is , within the main plot of the novel may be several subplots , there may be more than one theme , and point of view can certainly change as well .

In general , the main elements of novel are as follows :narration , plot , theme , setting , and character .

- 1) **Narrator** :The mind from which all aspects of the story are necessarily told.
- 2) **Theme**: one or more direct or indirect statements about the human condition as evidenced through the work as a whole
- 3) **Plot**: the series of events which make up the story traditionally , conflict , climax , denouement and conclusion.
- 4) **Setting** - the place, the time, and social circumstances of the work .
- 5) **Tone** : The general attitude of the author toward the characters order the subject matter of book .
- 6) **Characters** : the sentient or non-sentient beings alive or dead who are the actors of the events.
- 7) **Point of view**: perspective from which a work is told, 1st 3rd ; omniscient, limited.