Name _____

Critic's Toolkit

Directions: Read each excerpt. For each, choose the best literary term from the Word Bank and write its letter on the blank. Then answer the short questions using **text evidence**.

A. allusion	E. diction	H. foreshadowing
B. ambiguity	F. dramatic irony	I. motif
C. anaphora	G. extended metaphor	J. unreliable narrator
D. characterization		

_____1. The letter arrived with no return address. By page three, the narrator admits, "I revise my memories the way I revise my sentences."

_____2. "We will rebuild the steps. We will repaint the door. We will relearn the names."

_____3. The speaker compares grief to a house under renovation, returning to beams, nails, dust, and blueprints across the entire poem, not just once.

_____4. "After the storm, he said the river looked like a ribbon; after the argument, like a blade."

_____5. In a story, the audience learns in the first paragraph that the scholarship committee already chose a winner, but the main character keeps preparing a "perfect" application.

_____6. The author repeatedly mentions a cracked watch at key moments: first at the funeral, later at the graduation, and finally at the wedding.

_____7. A character smiles politely while hiding a trembling hand under the table, refuses to meet anyone's eyes, and answers with clipped phrases.

_____8. A scene opens with a child planting a small sapling beside a fence. Three chapters later, the fence is gone, and the adult narrator says, "I did not notice the first loosened nail."

_____9. "The key on the counter, the silence in the hall, the laugh behind the door." The final line could mean safety, threat, or a joke, depending on how you read it.

_____10. A novel about a rebellious student includes repeated references to "the forbidden fruit," "the garden," and "the first bite," without directly quoting any scripture.

© GetWorksheets.com