**Tragic Elements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Tragic element** | **What is means** |
| Tragic Hero | A main character cursed by fate and possessed of a tragic flaw. |
| A Struggle Between Good and Evil | This struggle can take place as part of the plot or exist within the main character. |
| Hamartia (Tragic Flaw) | The fatal character flaw of the tragic hero. |
| Tragic Waste | The good being destroyed along with the bad at the resolution of the play. Often played out with the unnecessary loss of life, especially of "good guy" characters. |
| External Conflict | This can be a problem facing the hero as a result of the plot or a "bad guy" character. |
| Internal Conflict | The struggle the hero engages in with his/her fatal flaw. |
| Catharsis | The release of the audience's emotions through empathy with the characters. |
| Supernatural Elements | Magic, witchcraft, ghosts, etc. |
| Lack of Poetic Justice | Things end poorly for everyone, including the "good guys." |
| Comic Relief | One or more humorous characters who participate in scenes intended to lighten the mood. |