

UNIT 01

**\*01. Novel & Different Definitions & its Characteristics\***

**\*Δ Introduction:\***

A novel is **an invented prose narrative of significant length and complexity that deals imaginatively with human experience**. Its roots can be traced back thousands of years, though its origins in English are traditionally placed in the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

A novel is a piece of long narrative in literary prose. Narrative prose is meant to entertain and tell a story. It is a description of a chain of events which includes a cast of characters, a setting, and an ending.

Reading novels is one of the greatest ways a person can enhance their knowledge and understanding. It leads to a deeper understanding of life and changes your view of the world in general. Reading a novel can be time-consuming, but it reduces stress and improves mental health.

**\*Different Definitions of Novel:\***

1. According to **\*W. H. Hudson\***,

**\*"Novel is the most elastic and irregular of all the great forms of literary expressions."\***

2. **\*Oxford Dictionary\*** says,

**\*"Novel is a fictitious prose narrative of considerable length in which characters and actions representative of real life are portrayed in a plot of more or less complexity. "\*"**

3. According to **\*F. Marian Crawford\***,

\*"Novel is a pocket theatre."\*

4. The novel noun describes *a book-length work of fiction.*\*

5. According to *Aristotle*,

\*"Novel, it is thus free from the necessities of both Philosophy & History."\*

The world's first novel was written about 1000 years ago by *Murasaki Shikibu* as *'The Tale of Genji'*\*

The novel must contain 50,000 to 1,10,000 words. On average, the novel must contain *about a dozen chapters.*\*

***\*Characteristics of Novel:\****

1. *Plot,*

2. *Character,*

3. *Dialogue,*

4. *Province/Atmosphere,*

5. *Purpose/ Elements of Thoughts,*

6. *Diction,*

7. *Setting,*

8. *Theme,*

9. *Style,*

10. *Narrative/Descriptive,*

11. *Interior Monologue, etc.*

## **\*1. Plot\***

Two types of plot:

- (1) **Loose plot** - *\*the story is formed of many detached incidents which have no necessary & logical connection among themselves.\**
  
- (2) **Organic plot** - *\*separate incidents aren't treated episodically they're dovetailed together as integral components of a definite plot pattern.\**

### **Three methods of narrating the story**

#### **(1) The direct method-**

*\*It's the most usual way of telling the story.\**

- (3) **The autobiographical method-** *\*the novelist writes in the first person and imagine himself with one of his characters and writes Autobiography.\**

- (4) **Documentary method-** *\*the story is narrated by means of letters\**

**Dr.Pratap Narayan says** , *\*"Plot is a structure of events whether it's simple or complex through which a novel is written"*

## **\*2. Character:\***

- Characters in novel don't stand alone and aren't to be considered alone.

- Novel is a picture of human Characters.

- There should be good relationship between characters and plot.

-Such characters build up their own personality inspite of being toys in the hand of the novelist.

- **W.M.Thackeray says**, *\*" I don't control my characters. I am in their hands and they take me where they please."\**

## Two kinds of characters we have in novel

(1) **Flat Characters:** *\*belongs to the particular representative (Tom Jones).\**

(2) **Round Characters:** *\*Belongs to distinct personality (Lady Booby).\**

- **In David Copperfield,** *"I will never desert Mr. Miscowber."*

### **\*3. Dialogue:\***

- The conversation between two or more characters called dialogue.
- It's the important feature of drama but it's used in all forms of all literature.
- It's used for different purpose in novel.
- It's used for developing the story, expressing dramatic ideas.
- dialogue depends on *\*natureness, short, instinct, and purposeful as well psychological virtues.\**

### **\*4. Province/Atmosphere:\***

- Generally any country, province, society or condition of natural, social, cultural, political situations make the province or atmosphere of the novel.
- None novelist can justify the novel by ignoring this element.
- The novelist must have the knowledge of the *\*incident, place, time, environment and different conditions of his time.\**

### **\*5. Purpose/ Elements of thoughts:\***

- Though it was supposed that the main aim of novel is to entertain.
- But now it's clear that novel is a vast criticism of life.

- *The novelist sees the life closely and absorb human conduct.*
- *Though it's the latest form of literature, it can express more powerfully than other forms.*

#### **\*6. Diction:\***

- *The novelist embodies his experiences, ideas, feelings through diction.*
- *The novelist organises different elements with his diction.*
- *Language is the media of expression.*

*There are many types of novel like **Social, documentary, non fictional regional, historical, psychological, and short story, etc.***

#### **\*7. Theme:\***

- *The central idea of a novel is the theme.*
- *it's a concern/subject on which the story rotates.*
- *For a novelist the theme is like a design that comes to the mind, sprouts like a seed and a story with a plot and characters are woven around it.*
- *There are many themes like **love, jealousy, revenge, war, violence, tragedy and adulthood.***

#### **\*8. Setting:\***

*The setting in literature refers to the **time, place, and environment in which a story occurs.** Through its use, authors can establish mood, develop their characters, and enhance the conflict.*

#### **\*9. Style:\***

*Style is the literary element that describes the ways that the author uses words — the author's word choice, sentence structure, figurative language, and sentence arrangement all work together to establish mood, images, and meaning in the text.*

#### **\*10. Descriptive /Narrative:\***

*The primary purpose of descriptive/Narrative writing is to **describe a person, place or thing in such a way that a picture is formed in the reader's mind. Capturing an event through descriptive writing involves paying close attention to the details by using all of your five senses.***

*Descriptive/Narrative details allow **sensory recreations of experiences, objects, or imaginings.***

#### **\*11. Interior Monologue:\***

*In both fiction and nonfiction, an interior monologue is **the expression of a character's thoughts, feelings, and impressions in a narrative.***

*Examples of Interior Monologue are:*

- *Soliloquy (monologue in drama),*
- *Dramatic monologue,*
- *Operatic monologue,*
- *Comic monologue,*
- *Monologuing, etc.*

