Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_

As we read *A Year Down Yonder,* list examples of how these terms are used in the story.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Literary Term** | **Meaning** | **Applications** |
| Humor | a gentle, affirmative emphasis on human nature, foibles, and idiosyncrasies | Greed, meddling, and talkativeness among Grandma’s neighbors  Peck identifies characters with humorous names, as with Maxine Patch, who flees the attic dressed only in a black snake, and Mrs. L J Widenbach (wide-in-back), the self-glorying banker’s wife and DAR member pretending to have an illustrious family tree. |
| Irony | an implied discrepancy between what is said or done and what is meant | Mrs. Widenbach looks down on those who are from “inferior” families, but she herself is a Burdick, the family that EVERYONE looks down on. |
| Literary Foil | a character who serves as an opposite or as a standard by which another character is judged | In contrast to the vain, self-absorbed Carleen Lovejoy, Mary Alice is an outsider spurned for her homemade dress and shotgun-wielding, countrified grandmother. Similarly, the unlovely Ina Rae Gage and Mildred Burdick are made outcasts by the self-important queen of the class, who paints her face like a trollop for her role as an angel in the nativity pageant. |
| Realism | a re-creation of life in theme, plot, setting, mood, and characterization | In the background of a humorous novel, Peck expresses the real concerns of the late 1930s in descriptions of the hardships of the Dowdel family. When Grandma’s son loses his job and gives up his apartment to live with his wife in one room, he must send their son Joey to the Civilian Conservation Corps to assure him work and income. Mary Alice must live with Grandma and attend a rural school in Piatt County rather than the high school of 1,000 students in Chicago. |