

## WHAT IS FORESHADOWING?

With a partner, discuss a time when you could tell by the environment that a storm was coming.

Just like weather, stories often have signs of things to come. In literature, we call this **Foreshadowing**.

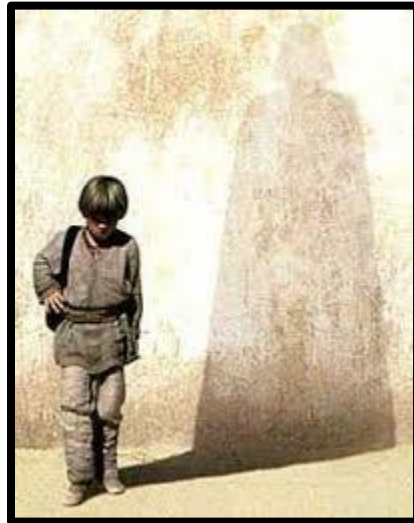
**Foreshadowing** is an author's use of hints or clues to suggest events that will occur later in the story.

Not all foreshadowing is obvious. Frequently, future events are merely hinted at through dialogue, description, or the attitudes and reactions of the characters.

**Foreshadowing** frequently serves two purposes.

1) It builds suspense by raising questions that encourage the reader to go on and find out more about the event that is being foreshadowed.

2) Foreshadowing is also a means of making a narrative more believable by partially preparing the reader for events which are to follow.



In literature, foreshadowing usually consists of only one or two sentences, and is especially effective when ending a scene or chapter. An example of foreshadowing:




“Sam wished he could rid himself of the sick feeling in his gut that told him something terrible was going to happen, and happen soon.”

### Assignment

In your ISN, describe foreshadowing in your own words. In your definition, be sure to include at least one other example from a Disney movie. (Grab a netbook and Google it if you need help!)

# WHAT IS FORESHADOWING?

## WHEN WE ANALYZING FORESHADOWING, WE NEED TO:

-  Think about plot events
-  Look for clues in dialogue or description
-  Predict what will happen next




## READ THE FOLLOWING STORY AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN YOUR ISN.

Ari and his dad were driving home from soccer practice when the snow began. Mr. Gold switched on the windshield wipers and frowned. "I wish I'd had a chance to get new tires," he said. "Ours are really worn out."

- 1) What is the "plot" so far?
- 2) Are there any clues in the dialogue or descriptions that you think might be foreshadowing?
- 3) What do you think will happen next?

Foreshadowing can help to build suspense in literature.

## WHEN WE ANALYZE, SUSPENSE WE NEED TO...

-  Examine our feelings as we read
-  Identify the rising action of the plot
-  Focus on the main questions we have about the story's outcome

By now, the snow was falling so hard that the windshield wipers couldn't keep up. Trying to climb Bear Hill, the car fishtailed left, then right. "I don't know if we can make it up," muttered Mr. Gold, shifting into low gear. Suddenly, at the top of the hill, an 18-wheeler truck jackknifed into their lane. Mr. Gold slammed on his brakes, but nothing happened.

- 4) What are your feelings about the situation the two characters face?
- 5) What else might happen to further increase suspense as this story moves toward its climax?
- 6) What "burning questions" do you have in your mind about Ari and his father?

See how foreshadowing helps build suspense? Your teacher might just leave you on a cliffhanger to be mean.