

## NaNoWriMo Definitions

- ❖ Some of these definitions have been simply linked below, because the links show the most detailed answers available. Other definitions have been written out in this page for simplicity and clarity's sake.

**Acts:** Divisions of a story, usually used in a drama format (play or screenwriting). They can usually be envisioned in a simple Beginning, Middle, End progression, though a 5-act structure is of course, more complex.

**Arc:** Can either be a story-based arc or a character-based arc. An unfolding of events and moments over the course of multiple episodes, chapters, scenes, or acts. The gradual change from one state to another.

**Catalyst:** The inciting incident (the event that causes a story plot to begin) that creates a change in the status quo, causing the protagonist to respond.

**Character:** <https://literaryterms.net/character/>

**Chronological order:** <https://literaryterms.net/chronology/>

***in media res:*** [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In\\_media\\_res](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/In_media_res)

**Linear/non-linear:** Something that follows a logical pattern, straightforward, and usually in the true or correct order of events/a structure that skips around, timewise, going from scene to scene without following any kind of chronology.

**Narrative:** <https://literaryterms.net/narrative/>

**Novel:** <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/novels>

**Outline:** The basic, “sketched out” overview of the narrative. Can include many or very few details. Not written as a complete draft, but as a guide for organizing your writing.

**Plot:** <https://literaryterms.net/plot/>

**Scene:** <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/novels>

**Setting:** <https://literaryterms.net/setting/>

**Themes:** <https://literaryterms.net/theme/>