



Knowing Our Fate

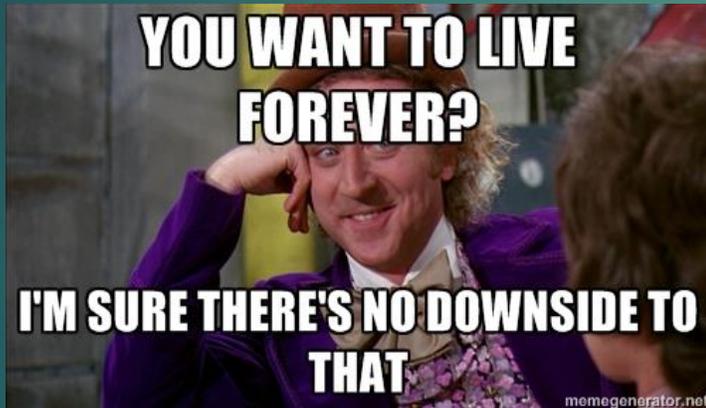
TECHNOLOGY AND UNFORESEEN CONSEQUENCES IN “TOMORROW
AND TOMORROW AND TOMORROW” BY KURT VONNEGUT

What do you think?

If you could, would you like
to live forever?

Before we begin

Things I need to know about the text



Literary terms I need to know



“Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow” by Kurt Vonnegut

- Literary concepts to review:
 - Science Fiction
 - Theme
 - Characterization
 - Irony

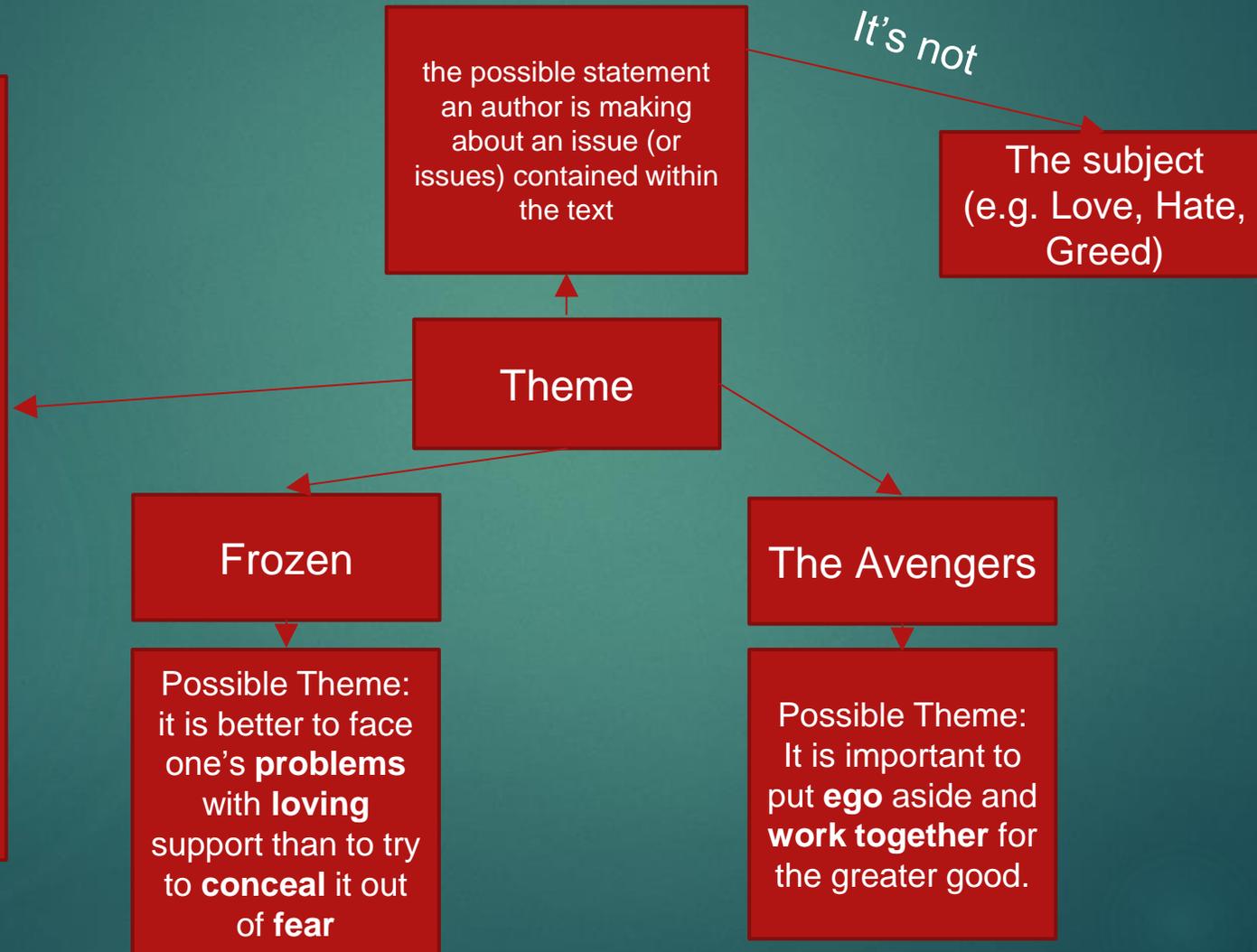
Science Fiction

- A genre of fiction that features imaginative content such as space or time travel, speculation about the future, the impact of technology or scientific discovery.
- In addition to focusing on the extraordinary, science fiction (sci-fi) is usually used to explore subjects like human nature, greed, power, morality, and society.
 - Sci-fi authors are frequently using the fantastic to create a **theme** about the world we know.

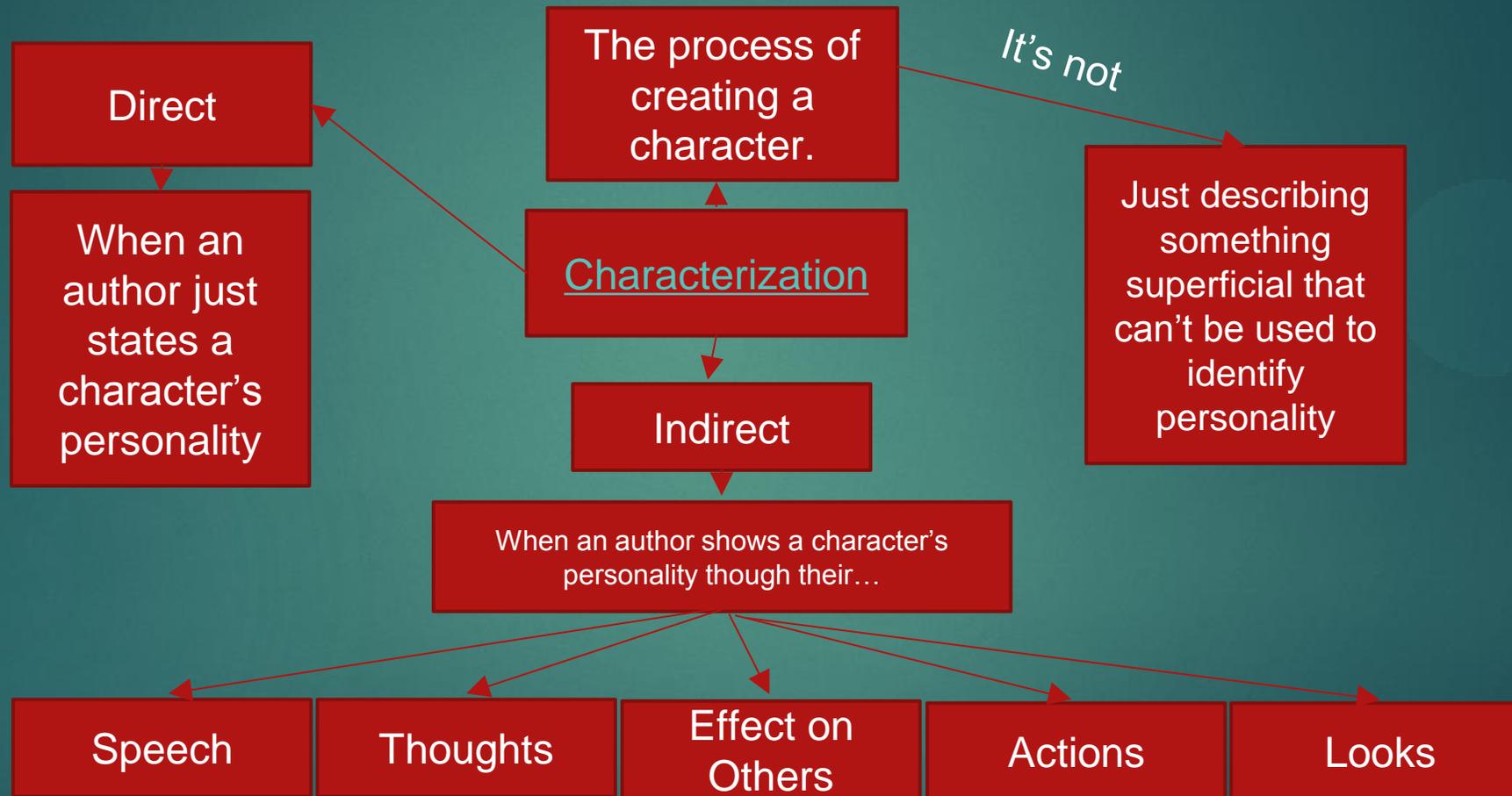
Theme

Revealed through a combination of:

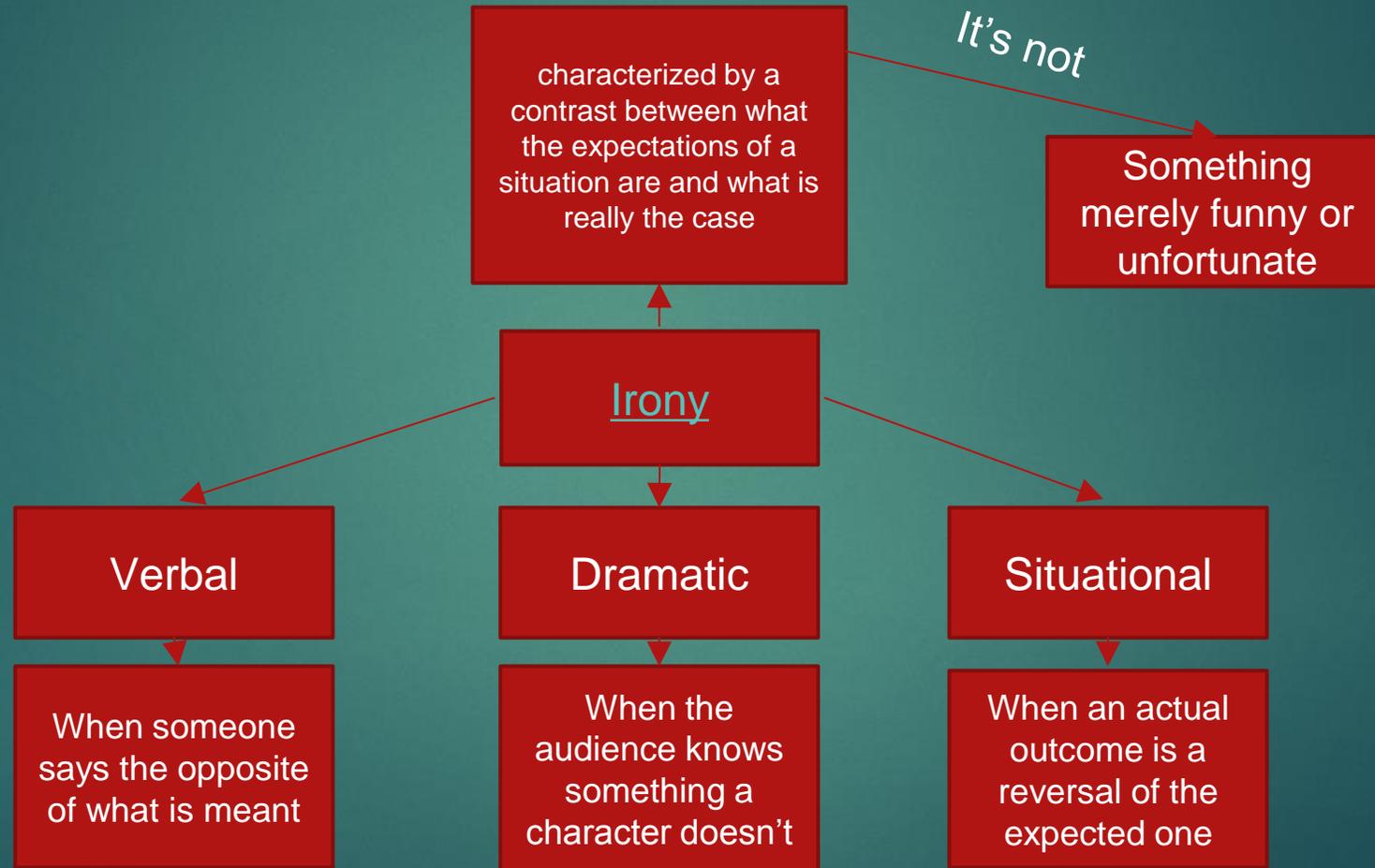
- Plot Outcome
- Character outcome
- Title
- A direct statement from the narrator or a character



Characterization



Irony



Read:

- Okay! Now we are going to read the texts on our own.
- While reading, pay attention to:
 - The way Vonnegut builds the characters
 - Focus on dialog and action
 - Any examples of irony
 - What Vonnegut is saying about:
 - Family
 - Technology
 - Human nature
 - power



Vocabulary: some terms you might not know.

- accommodated
- strife
- consternation
- insufferable
- incredulous

Accommodated

- **DEFINITION:** to provide for (frequently, in terms of living arrangements)
- **EXAMPLE:** The new addition to the house accommodated the new triplets.
- **IN TEXT EXAMPLE:** Six mattresses and four sleeping bags were dispersed in the hallway and living room, and the daybed, in the living room, accommodated the eleventh couple, the favorites of the moment.



Strife

- DEFINITION: A vigorous or bitter conflict
- EXAMPLE: I needed a vacation to escape the family strife.
- IN TEXT EXAMPLE: “The document was, Lou reflected, a fifty-year diary, all jammed onto two sheets—a garbled, illegible log of day after day strife.”



Consternation

- DEFINITION: Feelings of anxiety or dismay
- EXAMPLE: The clown couldn't hide his consternation at the theft of his clown car.
- IN TEXT EXAMPLE: "Lou's great-grandnephew, Mortimer, who had just married and brought his wife home to the Schwartz menage, looked at Lou with consternation and surprise. "



Insufferable

- DEFINITION: too much to bear, unbearable
- EXAMPLE: The kid who was talking on his cell phone made sitting on the train insufferable.
- IN TEXT EXAMPLE: He couldn't let Gramps take the mousetrapped anti-gerasone; but if he warned Gramps about it, Gramps would certainly make life in the apartment, which was merely insufferable now, harrowing.



"Truly inspiring to be able to come here. Anne was a great girl. Hopefully she would have been a belieber," - what he wrote in the guest book at Anne Frank's museum. REALLY!!!!

Incredulous

- DEFINITION: being unwilling or unable to believe something
- EXAMPLE: The teacher was incredulous after finding that the students had painted his house.
- IN TEXT EXAMPLE: The Schwartzes contemplated Lou in incredulous silence for a moment longer, and then hurried back to the living room, as though some of his horrible guilt would taint them, too, if they looked too long.



Homework

- Finish reading Part I of the short story for next class.
- We will read Part II in class and then complete the Discussion questions.
- Next class, you will be writing a response which will examine how Vonnegut creates his message about humanity. You will be using the literary terms we reviewed in this lesson to analyze and then to write about the text.