**Terms to Describe Diction:**

Abstract (vague, generalized)

Archaic (old, antiquated)

Artificial (not genuine)

Bombastic (overblown, pompous, inflated)

Concrete (clear and direct)

Colloquial (conversational)

Connotative (suggested or perceived meaning)

Cultured (reveals a setting/background)

Deflated (reduced in importance)

Denotative (literal in meaning and intention)

Detached (isolated)

Emotional

Euphemistic (inoffensive, agreeable)

Exact

Figurative (not to be taken literally)

Formal

Grotesque (bizarre, incongruous, extreme)

Homespun (simple, homely)

Idiomatic (dialect)

Informal

Insipid (dull, flat)

Jargon (technical vocabulary of a particular group)

Learned

Literal

Lyrical (expressing intense emotion)

Metaphorical

Moralistic (virtuous)

Mundane (commonplace)

Obscure

Obtuse (not clear/precise)

Ordinary/plain

Pedantic (ostentatiously learned)

Picturesque (quaint, charming)

Poetic (flowery or appealing to senses)

Precise

Pretentious (showy)

Provincial (narrow, unsophisticated)

Scholarly (collegiate)

Sensuous (appealing to the senses)

Slangy

Trite (boring from overuse, hackneyed)

Vulgar (inappropriate)