Smart Words

Words to Describe the Plot

Positive	Negative
Realistic	unrealistic
Good pace from scene to scene	plodding
Suspenseful	predictable
Satisfying ending	frustrating ending
Subplots tied together well	confusing subplots
Well-developed ideas	sketchy ideas

Words to Describe Characters

Positive	Negative
Original	Stereotyped
Believable	Unbelievable
Well-rounded	Flat
Multidimensional---change & grow	Static—remain the same
Well-developed	Flawed
Dynamic	Undeveloped
Unique	

Words to Describe the Theme

Positive	Negative
Subtle	Overbearing
Unique	Overworked
Powerful	Ineffective
Memorable	Forgettable
Insightful	Cliché

Words to Describe the Author's Writing Style

Positive	Negative
Descriptive	Stale (no imagery)
Original	Filled with clichés
Lively, full of action	Slow-moving
Poetic or lyrical	Clodding, jumping
Terse (to the point)	sparse (not many details)

Words to Describe Tone or Attitude

Positive	Negative	Neutral
Confident	Jealous	Mystical
Curious	Angry	Cautious
Loving	Boring-dull	Ironic
Peaceful	Disbelief	Timid
Happy	Fearful	Meek
Innocent	Sarcastic	Dreamy
Passionate	Envious	Innocent
Humble	Impotent	Seductive
Euphoric	Banal	Aggressive
Audacious	Critical	Nervous
Gentle	Perturbed	
Elated	Pitiful	
Benevolent	Irrational	
Giddy	Arrogant	
	Sad	
	Melancholy	
	Revengeful	
	Disheartened	
	Presumptuous	
	Paranoid	
	Embarrassed	
	Critical	
	Weary	

Literary Devices

allusion	characterization	diction (word choice)
details	symbols	hyperbole
irony	simile	personification
metaphor	point of view (omniscient, limited)	
repetition	organization	syntax
imagery (visual, tactile, auditory, olfactory, gustatory)		shift
plot (inciting incident, exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution)		