

Week 22

*The Book Thief*

Literary Devices Notes

Parts Two & Three

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**Symbolism:** Using animals, elements, things, places, or colors to represent other things.

**Flashback:** A transition in a story to an earlier time, which interrupts the normal chronological order.

**Cliffhanger:** A plot device that leaves the reader in suspense at the end of chapter.

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1. "The Shoulder Shrug. It was a blue book with red writing engraved on the cover." (p. 84)  
For what might red be a symbol?

2. What does *The Grave Digger's Handbook* symbolize?

3. What does finishing *The Grave Digger's Handbook* symbolize?

4. Cite textual evidence that supports the author using flashback on page 104. How does this device help the reader?

5. Cite textual evidence that supports a cliffhanger on page 107. Why does the author use this cliffhanger?

6. The author uses personification to give life to flames. "The orange flames waved at the crowd as paper and print dissolved..." (p. 112) What do the flames symbolize?

7. What might the stolen books symbolize?

8. A flashback occurs on page 145. What is it? How does this flashback help the reader?

9. "...they noticed Fritz Hammer eating an apple." (p. 150) What might the apple symbolize?

10. What does the standover man symbolize?

p. 2a