

JUXTAPOSE MAINSTREAM LIT AND INDIGENOUS LIT

Mainstream Literature

linear

A story that goes in order; occurring in sequential order

monologic or dialogic

single speaker, narrator; two+ speakers, characters

hierarchical

arranged in or relating to classification or order; main characters and "sub" characters

secular

no relating to religion/ no "gods"

critique of culture

Judging of a particular way of life

individual

one / single

- Native American Lit demonstrates the relationship Native people have with the world around them, with the land, with their spirit, and their place in the world.
- Mainstream lit often has clear cut heroes/villains, plot structure, and main message – NA lit does not have these clear elements.

Indigenous Literature

cyclical

Repeats, pieces of the story are repetitious

Same stories being told again and again, ideas and events reoccurring

conversational

interactive with the reader; informal tone

author helps make reader comfortable; informal

egalitarian

believing that people are equal

people in story have the same value; not really main characters ; author can address issues of inequality;

positive thinking

metaphysical

more of the natural world; transcending the natural world

mythical elements; spirits, rituals, NATURE – explaining the unexplained

critique of colonialism

Judging of groups that takes over another group/area

Criticize colonialism; talk about the effects of it; some anger might be expressed

Communitarian

A group - togetherness

Stories of tribes; personal stories; characters are united