

# Literary Analysis

## FORESHADOWING AND FLASHBACK

**Foreshadowing** is a writer’s use of hints and clues to suggest events that will occur later in the story. This technique can create suspense as readers begin to expect what will happen next. A **flashback** is an episode that interrupts the action of the story’s plot to show an experience that happened at an earlier time. Writers use this technique to provide important background information.

**Directions:** Complete the charts with examples of flashback and foreshadowing. For each example of foreshadowing, tell what events the example hints will take place. For each example of a flashback, tell what background information the example provides. Two examples are already included.

### Foreshadowing

Example	What It Hints Will Happen
“In her once familiar street, as in any unused channel, an unfamiliar queerness had silted up; a cat wove itself in and out of railings, but no human eye watched Mrs. Drover’s return.” (lines 7–9)	

### Flashback

Example	What Background Information It Provides
Memory of 25 years ago, meeting the soldier and agreeing to marry him. (lines 73–100)	