9. LITERA: “letter”

**alliteration** /uh-lit-uh-rey-shuhn/ *n*: repetition of the same letter or consonant at the beginning of neighboring words.

Note the *alliteration* in the line “Sing a song of sixpence.”

**literacy** /lit-er-uh-see/ *n*: state of being lettered or educated; ability to read and write – **ANT illiteracy.**

When registering as a new voter, take along your diploma as proof of *literacy*.

**literal** /lit-er-uhl/ *adj*; following the letters or exact words of the original.

We translate “laissez-faire” as “absence of government interference,” but its *literal* meaning is “let do.”

**literary** /lit-uh-rer-ee/ *adj*: having to do with letters or literature.

Willa Cather is one of the great writers of novels in our *literary* history.

**literate** /lit-er-it/ adj: lettered; able to read or write; educated **–ANT** **illiterate.**

The teacher’s main goal in working with adults who can neither read nor write is to make them *literate.*