



Fiction Genres

A genre is a particular style of writing, or book. There are many different types of genre in fiction. *Please choose the type of genre you wish to learn about.*

Science Fiction



Murder Mystery



Myths



Legends



Action Adventure



Western



Fable



Fantasy



Fairy Tale



Horror



Romance



Science Fiction

What is it?

Science fiction is a story that is not true. It is often set in the future, or on a different planet.



An Extract

...Captain Jones was excited to fly the Hybrid Mark IV. He could travel from planet to planet in not time, and felt protected by the ship's shield. He was amazed by the photon laser, and had already blasted many Cyborgs out of the stars...

Famous Books

- Star Wars;
- 2001: A Space Odyssey;
- The Time Machine;
- The War of the Worlds.

Murder Mystery

What is it?

Murder mystery is a type of genre in which there is a mystery to solve, often a murder. The book often features a detective who solves the mystery at the end by solving clues.

An Extract

...Detective Williams sat down at the grand table for dinner. He looked at the other guests, wondering which one pulled the trigger. No-one would be allowed to leave the mansion until he had solved the crime...

Famous Books

- Death on the Nile;
- The Big Sleep;
- Murder on the Orient Express;
- Sherlock Holmes Stories.





Myth



What is it?

A myth is an old story, often featuring a hero with magical powers and a monster.

An Extract

Polydectes knew very well that many men tried to kill Medusa, but failed. She was a hideous monster with snakes instead of hair, and anyone who looked at her was instantly turned to stone. He was sure that Perseus, too, would fail.

Famous Stories

Theseus and the Minotaur;
Jason and the Golden Fleece;
The Wooden Horse of Troy.



Legend

What is it?

A story passed from generation to generation. There may have been some truth in the story, but the facts have been exaggerated over time.



An Extract

To stop the fighting, Merlin called all the people to the church. Inside the church was a magical stone. An inscription on the stone read, "Whoever pulls this sword from this stone is the true born king of all of Britain."

Famous Stories

- Robin Hood;
- King Arthur;
- St. George and the Dragon.
- Beowulf;

Action Adventure



What is it?

A story full of action. There is usually a hero who has to go on a brave adventure. He often finds himself in difficult situations.

An Extract

...Tim ran as fast as he could. Each time he heard a gun shot, he dived to the floor. His feet pounded against the leafy floor.

He ran deeper into the jungle, clutching the precious artefact he had taken from the ancient cave...

Famous Books

- Indiana Jones;
- Ice Station;
- Death Train;
- Inca Gold.



Western

What is it?

A story about cowboys and Indians, usually set in the Wild West of America.



An Extract

...Doc hid behind the dry rock, wiping the sweat of his forehead. He pulled out his Colt and Western gun and aimed. The shot echoed around the valley. One of the Indians fell to the ground. The others looked up to where the shot came from...

Famous Books

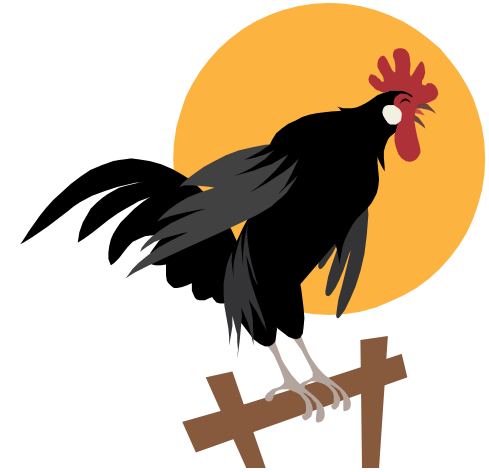
- Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.
- Once Upon a Time in the West;
- The Magnificent Seven;
- Casablanca.



Fable

What is it?

A short story, often featuring animals, with a moral at the end to teach a lesson.



An Extract

Once a lion trapped a mouse under its large paw. The mouse pleaded for its life, so the lion let it go. Later the lion became tangled in a hunter's net and roared in distress...

Famous Fables

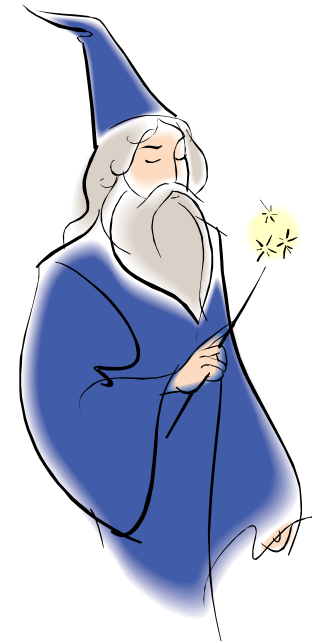
- The Boy Who Cried Wolf;
- The Hare and the Tortoise;
- The Fox and the Grapes.



Fantasy

What is it?

A make believe story, often with magic or mythical creatures in it.



An Extract

...Simon heard all about the magical powers the stone possessed. Yet here he was, face to face with the exact same stone. He picked it up. Immediately it started to glow. Simon felt a tingling sensation over his body. His feet began to lift off the ground...

Famous Books

- Harry Potter;
- Peter Pan;
- The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe;
- The Lord of the Rings.



Fairy Tale

What is it?

A story for younger children, often told at bed time, (check rest)



An Extract

Once upon a time in the middle of a thick forest stood a small cottage. It was the home of Little Red Riding Hood. One day, her Mummy waved her goodbye at the garden gate, saying: "Grandma is ill. Take her this basket, but be very careful..."

Famous Books

- Cinderella;
- Goldilocks and the Three Bears;
- Rapunzel;
- Little Red Riding Hood;



Horror

What is it?

A type of story in which people are savagely killed, often by a evil monster.



An Extract

...Gemma hid in the wardrobe, being careful not to breathe heavily. She glanced through the wooden slats. She screamed as she saw the scarred arm draw out a knife and slash through the wood...

Famous Books

- Frankenstein
- Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
- Dracula
- The Hunchback of Notre Dame



Romance



What is it?

A story about two people who fall in love, often with complications.

An Extract

...Henry had loved many women in his time, but none more than Diana Knight . She had broken his heart once five years ago when she left for America. Yet here he was, gazing across the casino floor towards the same beautiful woman. Was it fate that brought him here?...

Famous Books

- Pride and Prejudice
- Jane Eyre
- The Flame and the Flower
- A Knight in Shining Armour