



Genres of Literature



TWO MAIN TYPES:

Fiction

✿ novel

✿ short story

Non-Fiction

biography, memoir, narrative essay,
persuasive essay, expository essay
text books, articles, newspapers

More Specific Genres:

Adventure/Survival:

A popular story that centers on exciting action and danger; it features heroic acts or feats.

Classic:

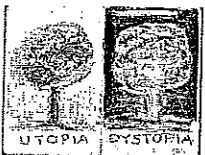
A work of literature that is universally acknowledged to be superior to other works of the same type.

Diary:

A novel written in the form of a personal diary.

Dystopian:

A novel set in an unknown future, in which oppressive societal control and the illusion of a perfect society are maintained through corporate, moral, or totalitarian control. Dystopias, through an exaggerated worst case scenario, make a criticism about a current trend, societal norm, or political system.



Espionage:

Stories where spies or other secret groups work for foreign countries and secret agents/groups work for the home country. The stories are usually about threats to national security by a foreign power or political group that threatens the peace.



Fantasy:

A story based on imaginative characters and features a premise that relates to universal values and struggles. The plot could not exist in the world as we know it.

Historical Fiction:

A story that attempts to recreate a time in history. Usually centered around a real historical event, using fictional characters.

Horror:

A story written with one intention- to scare the reader. May involve any number of supernatural creatures.

Humor:

A story whose main purpose is to make you laugh. The plot, characters, or setting might have a lighter, more humorous tone. The purpose is to entertain!

Mystery/Thriller:

A story whose plot involves the deciphering of a puzzle, unraveling of a mystery or the solving of a crime.

Parody:

a story or composition that ridicules another story by imitating and exaggerating parts of its content.

Realistic fiction:

a story that could have happened. Plot, characters, and setting are consistent with lives of real people.

Romance:

A story depicting heroic or marvelous deeds, pageantry, or romantic exploits.

Science Fiction:



A story where life as we know it is dramatically changed in some way. This genre often tells about science and technology of the future and may involve partially true fictions, laws, or theories of science.

Suspense:

A story that creates a state of anxious anticipation, expectation, or uncertainty regarding the resolution of a conflict the solution of a problem, the outcome of events or the well-being of characters in the work of literature. Authors will often use foreshadowing.

War:

A story that takes place during a time of war and has the characters experiencing the ugliness of war first-hand.

