

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Novel



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:

Exposition:

Rising Action:

Climax:

Falling Action:

Resolution:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of a novel.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Fiction



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:

Exposition:

Rising Action:

Climax:

Falling Action:

Resolution:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of fiction.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Novella



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:

Exposition:

Rising Action:

Climax:

Falling Action:

Resolution:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of a novella.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Short Story



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:

Exposition:

Rising Action:

Climax:

Falling Action:

Resolution:

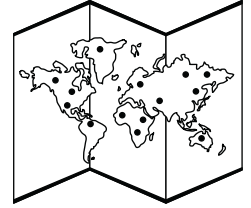


Describe the characteristics of a short story.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Adventure



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:

Problem:

Solution:

Point of View:

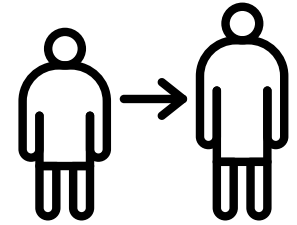


Describe the characteristics of adventure stories.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Bildungsroman



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:

Theme:



Describe the characteristics of a bildungsroman.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Epic



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:

Change in the Characters Over Time:

Theme:

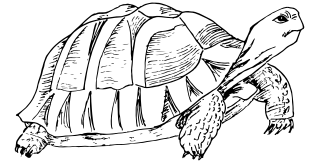


Describe the characteristics of an epic.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Fable



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Main Characters:

Beginning:

Middle:

End:

Moral:



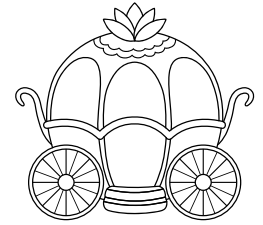
Describe the characteristics of fables.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Fairy Tale



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Problem:

Resolution:

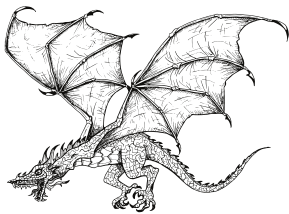


Describe the characteristics of fairy tales.

Protagonist:

Antagonist:

# Genre Exploration: Fantasy



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Summary: \_\_\_\_\_

Characters: \_\_\_\_\_

Setting: \_\_\_\_\_

○

○

○

○

○

Describe the characteristics of fantasy stories.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Unrealistic Elements: \_\_\_\_\_

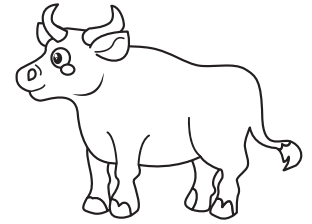
Realistic Elements: \_\_\_\_\_

Moral: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Folktale



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:



Describe the characteristics of folktales.

Problem:

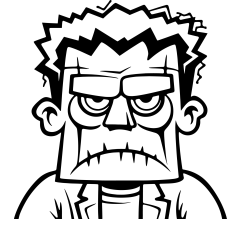
Solution:

Point of View:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Gothic/Horror



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○  
Describe the characteristics of gothic/horror stories.

Examples of Imagery:

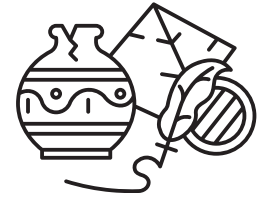
Examples of Suspense:

Point of View:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Historical Fiction



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

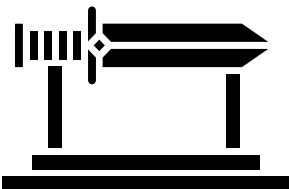
Historical Time Period:



Describe the characteristics of historical fiction.

What did you learn about this historical time period?

# Genre Exploration: Legend



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:

Describe the characteristics of legends.

Realistic Events:

Unrealistic Events:

Author's Purpose

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Myth



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Main Character

Non-Human Characteristics:

Human-like Characteristics:

Main Event:

Author's Purpose

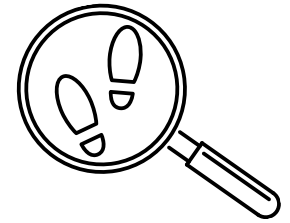


Describe the characteristics of myths.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Mystery



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:



Describe the characteristics of mysteries.

Mystery That Needs To Be Solved:

Clues:

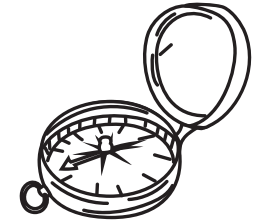
Solution:



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Roman à clef



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Realistic Characters:

Realistic Events:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of a roman à clef.

What clues did the author provide to help connect fact and fiction?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Romance



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Main Characters:

Setting:



Describe the characteristics of a romance.

Key Events in the Romance:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Satire



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Examples of Extreme Characters:

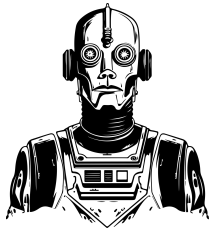
Examples of Exaggerated Plots:



Describe the characteristics of a satire.

Examples of irony, caricature, parody, and other literary devices:

# Genre Exploration: Science Fiction



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Summary: \_\_\_\_\_

Characters: \_\_\_\_\_

Setting: \_\_\_\_\_

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of science fiction.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Problem: \_\_\_\_\_

Solution: \_\_\_\_\_

Theme: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Utopian



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:



Describe the characteristics of utopian fiction.

Examples of a  
"Perfect World":

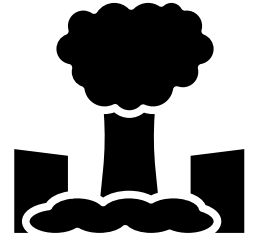
Problem &  
Solution:

Point of View:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Dystopian



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Characters:

Setting:



Describe the characteristics of dystopian fiction.

Examples of  
Dystopia:

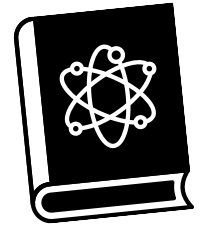
Problem &  
Solution:

Point of View:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Nonfiction



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Main Idea:

Key Detail:

Key Detail:

Key Detail:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

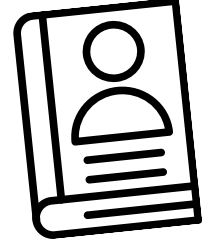
Describe the characteristics of nonfiction.

Author's Purpose:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Autobiography



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Who is the text about?

Main Event:

Main Event:

Main Event:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of autobiographies.

What character traits describe this person?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Biography



Title:

Author:

Summary:

Who is the text about?

Main Event:

Main Event:

Main Event:



Describe the characteristics of biographies.

What character traits describe this person?

# Genre Exploration: Essay



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the text about?

Author's Thoughts:

Author's Experiences:

Author's Purpose:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of an essay.

Summary:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Expository Nonfiction



Title:

Author:

What is the text about?

Examples of  
Illustrations:

Examples of  
Images &  
Diagrams:

Examples of  
Quotations:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of expository  
nonfiction.

Summary:

# Genre Exploration: History



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What is the text about?

Examples of Real People:

Examples of Real Events:

Point of View:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of a history text.

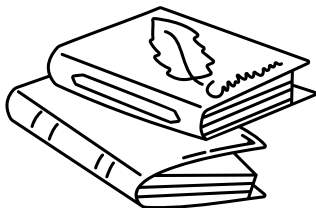
Summary:

# Genre Exploration: Memoir



Title:		Author:	
Summary:		<div><div>○ ○ ○ ○ ○</div><div>Describe the characteristics of a memoir.</div></div>	
Who is the text about?			
Main Event:	Main Event:		
		What character traits describe this person?	

# Genre Exploration: Narrative Nonfiction



Title:

Author:

Topic:

Facts Included:

Were any sources used?

Entertaining Elements:

Describe the characteristics of narrative nonfiction.

Author's Purpose:

# Genre Exploration: Travelogue



Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Real Places Visited:

People Involved:

Experiences:

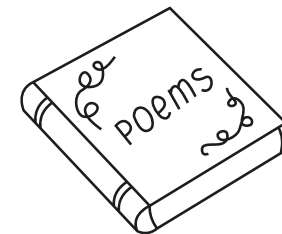
Describe the characteristics of a travelogue.

Author's Purpose:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Poetry



Title:

Author:

Theme:

Mood or Tone:

Imagery:

Rhyme & Stanzas:



Describe the characteristics of poetry.

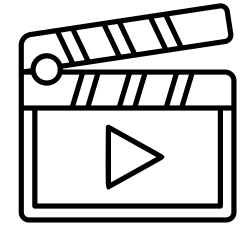
What is the poem about?



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Drama



Title:

Author:

Characters:

Setting:

Main Events:



Describe the characteristics of a drama.

Summary:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Comedy



Title:

Author:

Characters:

Setting:

Humor:



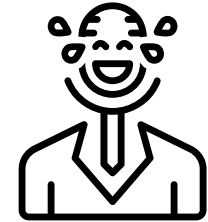
Describe the characteristics of a comedy.

Summary:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Farce



Title:

Author:

Examples of Exaggerated Characters:

Examples of Improbable Situations:

Comedic Elements:



Describe the characteristics of a comedy.

Summary:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Tragedy



Title:

Author:

Protagonist:

Tragic Flaw:

Main Events:



Describe the characteristics of a tragedy.

Point of View:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Tragicomedy



Title:

Author:

Elements of Comedy:

Elements of Tragedy:

Ending:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of a tragicomedy.

Elements of Comedy:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: History Play



Title:

Author:

Historical People:

Historical Events:

Elements of Drama:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of a history play.

Summary:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Genre Exploration: Problem Play



Title:

Author:

Social Issue or Problem:

Factual Information:

Elements of Drama:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Describe the characteristics of a problem play.

Summary:

**Novel**

**Bildungsroman**

**Folktale**

**Novella**

**Fable**

**Fantasy**

**Short  
Story**

**Fairy Tale**



**Epic**

**Myth/Legend**

**Historical  
Fiction**

**Gothic/  
Horror**

**Expository  
Nonfiction**

**Mystery**

**Science  
Fiction**

**Autobiography**

**Memoir**

**Romance**

**Biography**

**Narrative  
Nonfiction**

**Roman à  
clef**

**Essay**

**Travelogue**

**Satire**

A long piece of fiction, often described as “book-length”

A coming-of-age story that tells the story of a protagonist from childhood to adulthood

Traditional story passed down orally through generations, often reflecting the customs, beliefs, and values of a culture

Fiction that’s shorter than a full-length novel but longer than a short story

Short story that teaches a specific moral

A work set in an imaginary magical world and including mythical creatures like dragons, witches, vampires, etc.

A complete story with a fully developed theme, but usually about 10,000 words or less

Highly fictionalized short story that generally includes magic and a hero/heroine versus a villain

A work that speculates about potential changes to the real world based on scientific principles. Often focuses on space travel, parallel universes, time travel, and life on other planets.

Long poem, novel, or play that traces a person's or family's history over a long period of time

Ancient tales that explain early history or natural events, often using supernatural characters

Fiction writing set in the past, in a real place and time, with real or imaginary characters

A story that involves ghosts, otherworldly beings, and mystical happenings that cannot be explained rationally, or one written to evoke a sense of fear

A work that ridicules a topic or person in an attempt to provoke the reader into rethinking their opinions on the subject

Catch-all category that includes any nonfiction work that seeks to tell its readers about a specific topic

A story in which the characters must solve a puzzle, often a crime. The solution usually isn't revealed until the end of the story.

The story of a person's life, usually from birth to the present, written by the person themselves

A reflection on a person's experiences during important or thematically linked parts of their life, usually written in the first person

A story that primarily focuses on the love story between two (or more) people

The story of a person's life, usually from birth to death, written by another person

Factual story of a real person or event told in a way that feels more like a fictional story

A story about real-life people and events, thinly disguised as fiction

A short nonfiction work on a specific topic, usually a personal reflection on a subject

The factual story of a specific trip or series of related journeys, with the author's reflections on the people and experiences

Moby Dick by  
Herman Melville  
Huckleberry Finn by  
Mark Twain

Great Expectations  
by Charles Dickens  
The Catcher in the  
Rye by J.D. Salinger

Paul Bunyan  
"The Headless  
Horseman"

A Christmas Carol by  
Charles Dickens  
Of Mice and Men by  
John Steinbeck

"The Tortoise and the  
Hare" by Aesop  
Fables for Our Time  
by James Thurber

The Hobbit by J.R.R.  
Tolkien  
Harry Potter and the  
Sorcerer's Stone by  
J.K. Rowling

"The Gift of the Magi"  
by O. Henry  
"The Story of an  
Hour" by Kate Chopin

"Cinderella" by the  
Brothers Grimm  
"The Little Mermaid"  
by Hans Christian  
Andersen

The Time Machine by  
H.G. Wells  
Flowers for Algernon  
by Daniel Keyes

The Odyssey by  
Homer  
War and Peace by  
Leo Tolstoy

"Theseus and the  
Minotaur,"  
"Robin Hood,"  
"King Arthur and the  
Knights of the Round  
Table"

The Book Thief by  
Markus Zusak  
The Good Earth by  
Pearl S. Buck

Frankenstein by  
Mary Shelley  
Jane Eyre by  
Charlotte Brontë

Gulliver's Travels by  
Jonathan Swift  
Catch-22 by Joseph  
Heller

We Are Water  
Protectors by Carole  
Lindstrom  
Freakonomics by  
Stephen J. Dubner  
and Steven Levitt

Murder on the Orient  
Express by Agatha  
Christie  
The Westing Game  
by Ellen Raskin

The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank  
Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela

All Boys Aren't Blue by George M. Johnson  
I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot  
Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow

In Cold Blood by Truman Capote  
Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann

The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath  
Animal Farm by George Orwell

A Room of One's Own by Virginia Woolf  
Walden by Henry David Thoreau

A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson  
The Mosquito Coast by Paul Theroux

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen  
The Fault in Our Stars by John Green



# Genre Matching Cards Answer Key

Genre/ Subgenres	Definitions	Examples
Novel	A long piece of fiction, often described as “book-length”	Moby Dick by Herman Melville Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
Novella	Fiction that’s shorter than a full-length novel but longer than a short story	A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
Short Story	A complete story with a fully developed theme, but usually about 10,000 words or less	“The Gift of the Magi” by O. Henry “The Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin
Epic	Long poem, novel, or play that traces a person’s or family’s history over a long period of time	The Odyssey by Homer War and Peace by Leo Tolstoy
Bildungsroman	A coming-of-age story that tells the story of a protagonist from childhood to adulthood	Great Expectations by Charles Dickens The Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger
Fable	Short story that teaches a specific moral	“The Tortoise and the Hare” by Aesop Fables for Our Time by James Thurber
Fairy Tale	Highly fictionalized short story that generally includes magic and a hero/heroine versus a villain	“Cinderella” by the Brothers Grimm “The Little Mermaid” by Hans Christian Andersen

Myth/Legend	Ancient tales that explain early history or natural events, often using supernatural characters	"Theseus and the Minotaur," "Robin Hood," "King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table"
Folktale	Traditional story passed down orally through generations, often reflecting the customs, beliefs, and values of a culture	Paul Bunyan "The Headless Horseman"
Fantasy	A work set in an imaginary magical world and including mythical creatures like dragons, witches, vampires, etc.	The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling
Science Fiction	A work that speculates about potential changes to the real world based on scientific principles. Often focuses on space travel, parallel universes, time travel, and life on other planets.	The Time Machine by H.G. Wells Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keyes
Historical Fiction	Fiction writing set in the past, in a real place and time, with real or imaginary characters	The Book Thief by Markus Zusak The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck
Gothic/Horror	A story that involves ghosts, otherworldly beings, and mystical happenings that cannot be explained rationally, or one written to evoke a sense of fear	Frankenstein by Mary Shelley Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë
Mystery	A story in which the characters must solve a puzzle, often a crime. The solution usually isn't revealed until the end of the story.	Murder on the Orient Express by Agatha Christie The Westing Game by Ellen Raskin

Romance	A story that primarily focuses on the love story between two (or more) people	Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen The Fault in Our Stars by John Green
Roman à clef	A story about real-life people and events, thinly disguised as fiction	The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath Animal Farm by George Orwell
Satire	A work that ridicules a topic or person, in an attempt to provoke the reader into rethinking their opinions on the subject	Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift Catch-22 by Joseph Heller
Autobiography	The story of a person's life, usually from birth to the present, written by the person themselves	The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela
Biography	The story of a person's life, usually from birth to death, written by another person	The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot Alexander Hamilton by Ron Chernow
Essay	A short nonfiction work on a specific topic, usually a personal reflection on a subject	A Room of One's Own by Virginia Woolf Walden by Henry David Thoreau
Expository Nonfiction	Catch-all category that includes any nonfiction work that seeks to tell its readers about a specific topic	We Are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom Freakonomics by Stephen J. Dubner and Steven Levitt

Memoir	A reflection on a person's experiences during important or thematically linked parts of their life, usually written in the first person	All Boys Aren't Blue by George M. Johnson I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai
Narrative Nonfiction	Factual story of a real person or event told in a way that feels more like a fictional story	In Cold Blood by Truman Capote, Killers of the Flower Moon by David Grann
Travelogue	The factual story of a specific trip or series of related journeys, with the author's reflections on the people and experiences	A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson The Mosquito Coast by Paul Theroux