

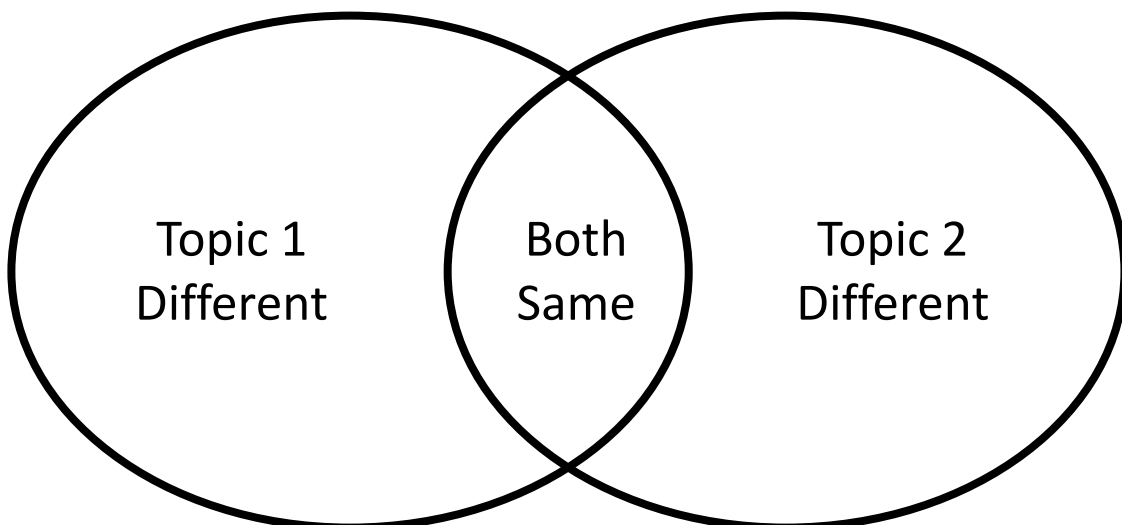
Compare & Contrast

The author finds similarities and differences in the people, places, or things they are writing about.

Possible Key Words

like, unlike, both, also, most, but, whereas, however, similar, as well as, too, same, different, on the other hand, yet

The reader can use a Venn Diagram to help them understand this type of text.



Questions to Ask

- What is being compared?
- How are they similar?
- How are they different?

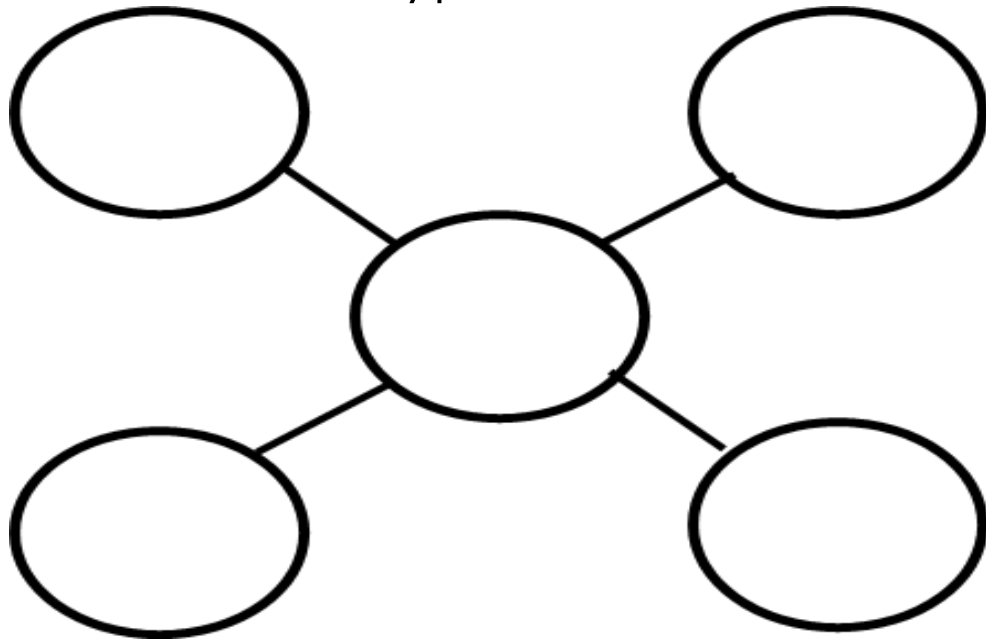
Description

The author describes a topic by its features or characteristics. The author will include lots of descriptive words.

Possible Key Words

to begin with, for instance, examples of, features include

The reader can use a web to help them understand this type of text.



Questions to Ask

- What is being described?
- What descriptive words are included?
- What important information do I need to remember?

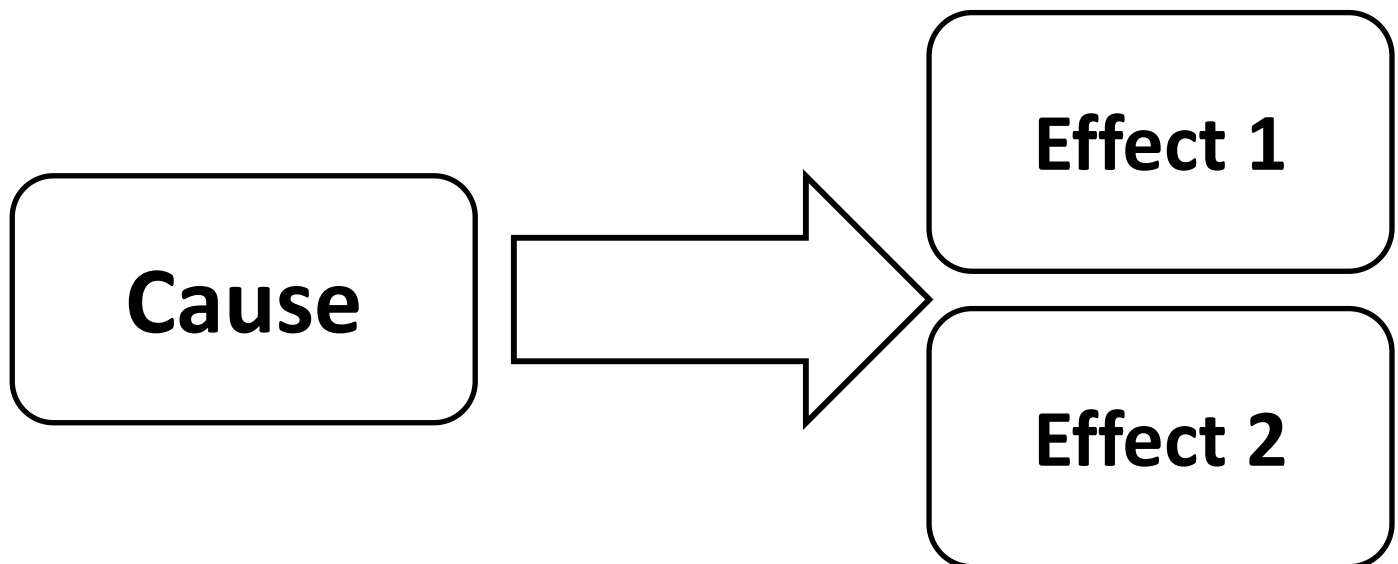
Cause & Effect

The author organizes the text in a way that explains what happened as a result of an event.

Possible Key Words

cause, effect, since, then, because, if, when, so, therefore, as a result, without, reason, due to, consequence

The reader can use a flow chart to help them understand this type of text.



Questions to Ask

- What happened?
- What caused it to happen?
- Was there more than one effect?

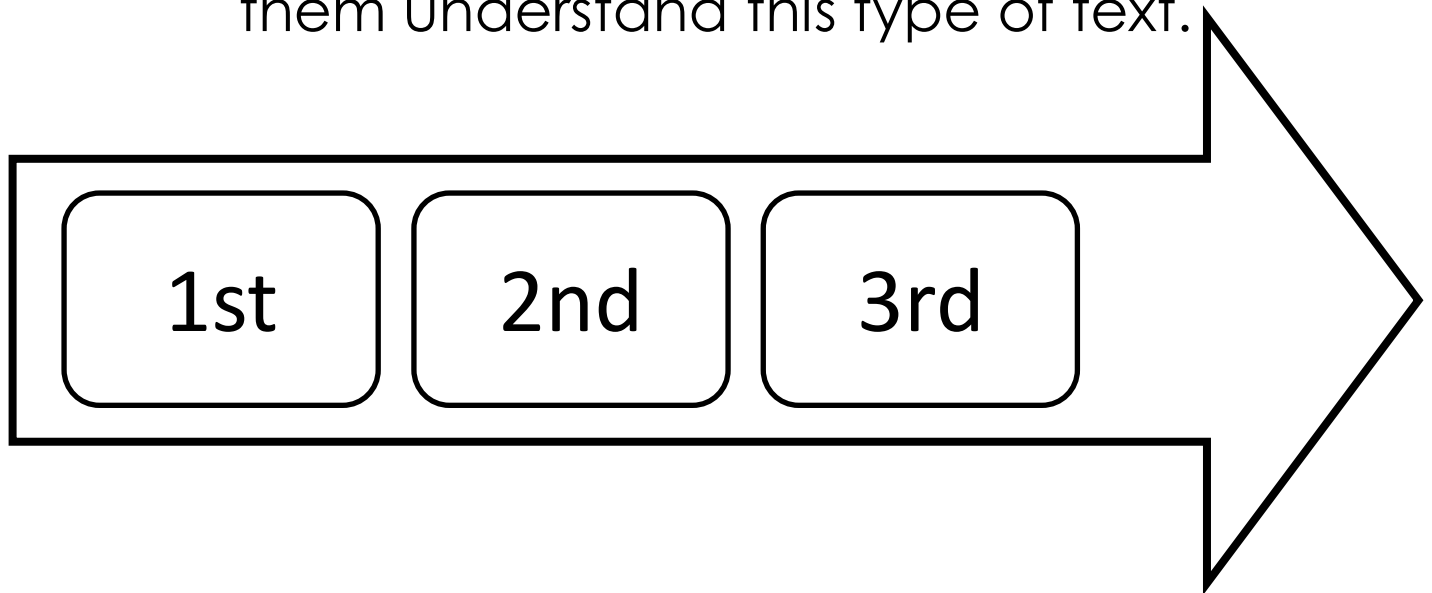
Sequence

The author writes about an event or procedure in the order it happens.

Possible Key Words

first, next, then, finally, before, after, second, third, meanwhile, during, dates listed in order

The reader can use a flowchart or timeline to help them understand this type of text.



Questions to Ask

- What events or steps are listed?
- What happened First? Next? Last?
- What is important about the order?

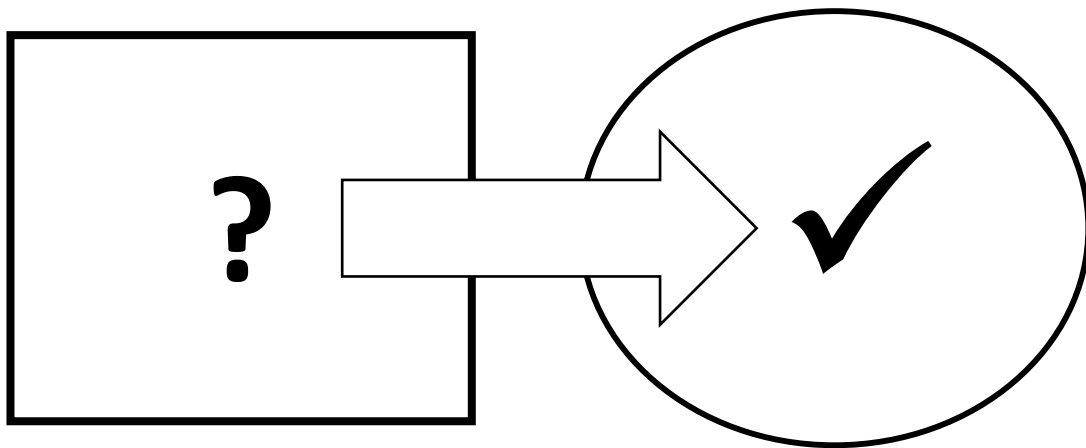
Problem & Solution

The author writes about an issue or problem and explains the solution or possible solutions.

Possible Key Words

problem, solution, because, since, the issue is, resolved by, dilemma, challenge, this led to, the answer to, one way

The reader can use a flowchart to help them understand this type of text.



Questions to Ask

- What is the problem?
- How was it solved?
- Is there more than one solution?

Plot Structure

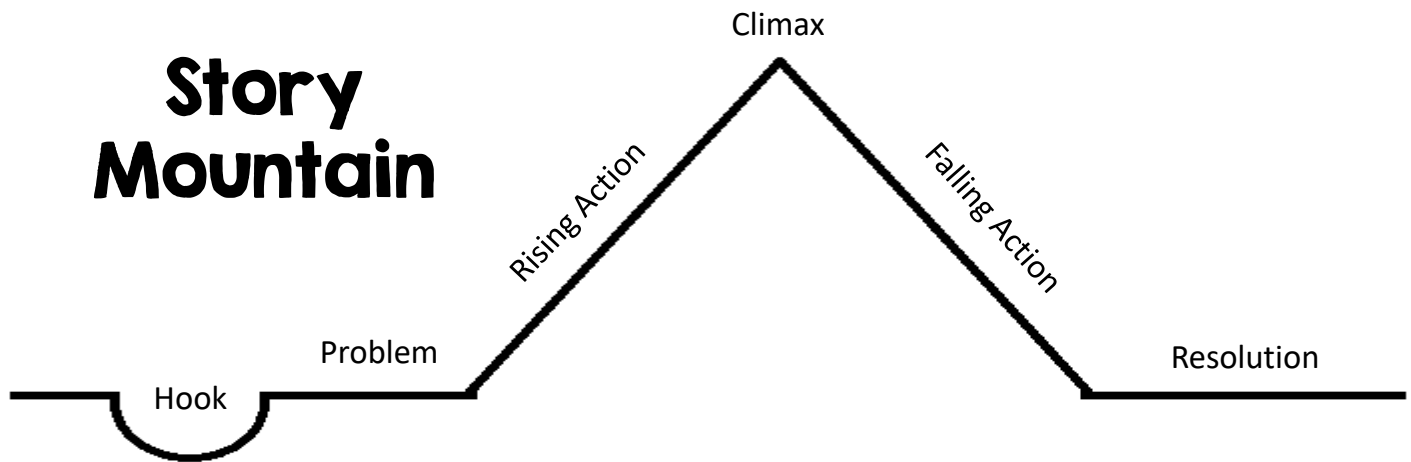
Plot = what happens in a story

Structure = the way the story is written

All stories tend follow the same plot structure.

This structure is sometimes known as a story mountain.

Story Mountain



Hook	The hook is the introduction. This is where the author will introduce the characters and setting of the story.
Problem	The problem or conflict is what the story will mostly be about. The author usually introduces the problem early in the story.
Rising Action	The rising action are the 2-3 events that help the reader understand the problem or conflict going on in the story.
Climax	The climax is the most exciting part of the story. It is usually the big event that you won't forget.
Falling Action	The falling action are the 1-2 events that happen after the climax. These events lead up to the solution of the problem.
Resolution	The resolution usually happens at the end. This is where the main problem or conflict gets solved.

Main Idea

The Main Idea is what the entire text is mostly about. The details included in the text will connect back to the main idea.

You can:

- Write the main idea in 1-2 sentences.
- Write a main idea for an entire text, a paragraph, or a chapter.
- Write the main idea for non-fiction or fictional texts

Main idea:

Ice cream is the best summer treat.

Supporting Detail:

Ice cream is cold, and it refreshes you on a hot summer day.

Supporting Detail:

There are so many different types of ice cream, everyone can find a treat they enjoy.

Supporting Detail:

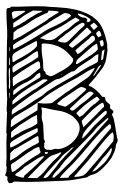
You can eat ice cream on a stick or in a cone, so it is a really easy treat to take with you on a busy summer day.

Summary

A summary is a shortened version of the story.
It retells all the important parts of the story.

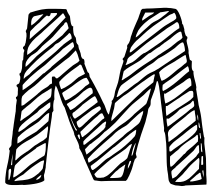
A Summary:

- is told in sequence
- can include the main idea, supporting details, and theme of the story
- can be written in 3-5 sentences



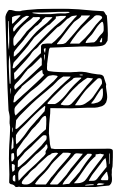
Beginning

- Who are the characters?
- What is the setting?
- What is the problem?



Middle

- What events happen to the characters?
- What is the climax of the story?



End

- How is the problem resolved?
- How have the characters changed?

Theme

The theme is the “BIG IDEA” or the lesson the author wants you to take away after reading the story.

To help you identify the theme you can ask yourself these questions after reading a story.

1. What was the problem or issue in the story?
2. What did the characters learn?
3. How did the characters feelings or actions change in the story?

Unlike the summary and main idea of a story, themes are general and could apply to multiple stories.

Common Themes

Love

Hard Work

Acceptance

Family

Overcoming Challenges

Friendship

Loyalty

Courage

Jealousy

Team Work

Self Confidence

Respect

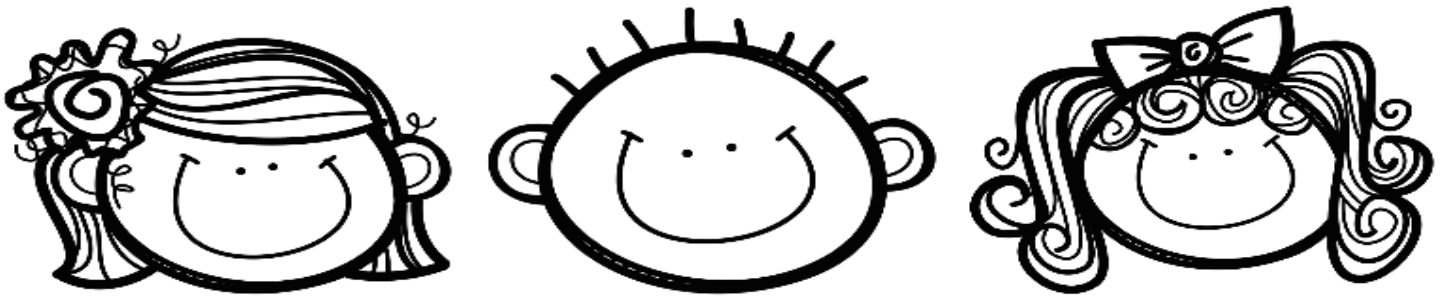
Hope

Honesty

Character

Feelings & Traits

The characters you read about in stories have feelings and personality traits just like you.



Character Feelings

Character's feelings are the emotions they have in response to a specific situation. They can change over time.

VS.

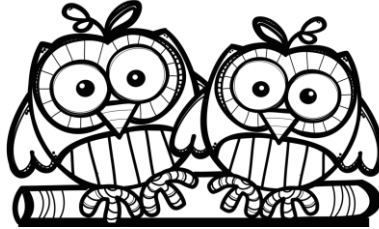
Character Traits

Character's traits are the part of their personality that is consistent over time. Traits don't change as quickly as feelings.

Character Feelings		Character Traits	
• Happy	• Sad	• Kind	• Generous
• Angry	• Upset	• Shy	• Rude
• Scared	• Jealous	• Respectful	• Principled

Point of View

The Point of View tells us who is telling the story.



1 st Person	2 nd Person	3 rd Person
The story is told by one of the characters in the story.	The narrator will talk to the reader as if they are having a conversation.	The story is told by the narrator who is NOT a character in the story.
The narrator will refer to themselves as "I".	The narrator will refer to the readers as "you".	The narrator will refer to characters by name or with the words he, she, they.

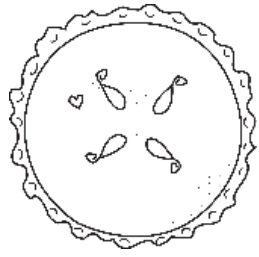
3rd person can be:

Limited

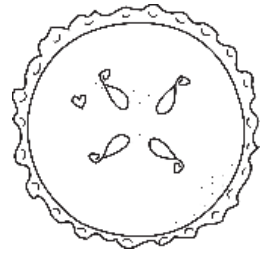
The narrator knows only the thoughts and feelings of one person.

Omniscient

The narrator knows the thoughts and feelings of all the characters.

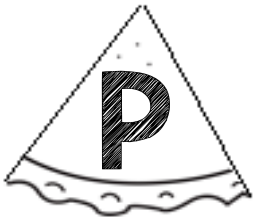


Author's Purpose

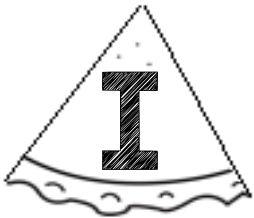


Author's Purpose is as easy as PIE.

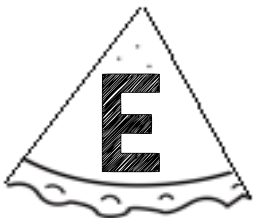
Authors write for a variety of reasons. Their purpose for writing will have an impact on the genre they write.



The author wants to **persuade** you to do something or think a certain way.
Examples: Commercials, Ads, Persuasive Letters



The author wants to give you **information**. They will share facts about a specific topic.
Examples: Science books, Biographies, Timelines

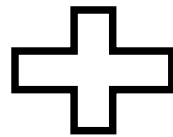
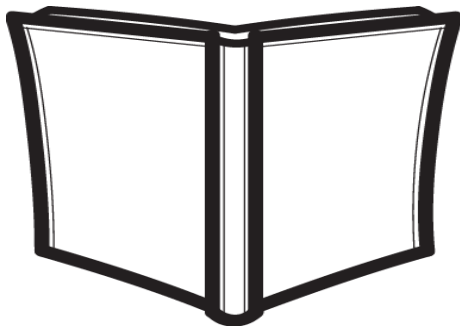


The author wants their writing to be **entertaining**. They want to keep you interested.
Examples: Stories, Fantasy, Poetry

Inference

Authors don't always tell their reader everything. They rely on the reader to use inferential thinking to understand everything going on in the story.

Text Clues



Background Knowledge



= INFERENCE

Text Clues

My heart started to race as I stared down at the broken pieces. "How will I be able to explain this when mom gets home" I thought to myself.

My Background Knowledge

I think the character is a kid because they mentioned their mom. I also think the kid is nervous because that is what happens when your heart races.

My Inference

The kid accidentally broke something important to his mom and he is nervous about telling her when she gets home.

Cause & Effect

Sometimes authors include cause and effect relationships in their stories.



The **effect** is what happened. The **cause** is what made it happen. They are connected.

Cause	Effect
It is raining.	You bring your umbrella.
I woke up late.	I missed the bus.
I didn't study.	I got a bad grade.
I ate too much candy.	I got a stomach ache.

Making Predictions

A prediction is a guess about what will happen next in the story. You can use pictures or text clues to help you make your predictions

Here are some ways to start your predictions:

- I predict that...
- I think _____ will happen because....
- When I read _____, it makes me think _____ will happen.
- I bet the character will...
- I wonder if _____ will happen next.

When can I make a prediction?

Before Reading	Look at the title and the pictures to help you make predictions.
During Reading	Stop every few pages to make a prediction about what will happen next.
After Reading	Think: Did I make accurate predictions? What clues helped me predict what would happen next?

Formulating Questions

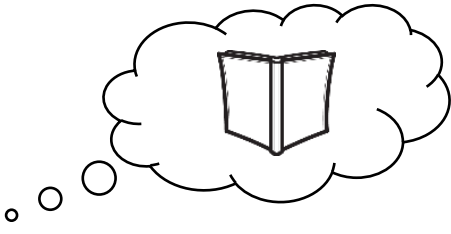
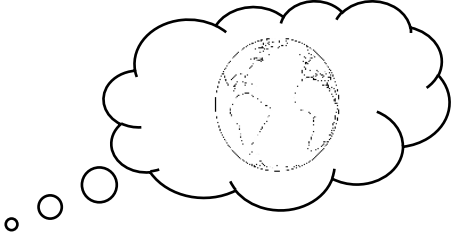
Strong readers will ask questions while they read. This helps them make connections, predictions, and understand what is going on in the story.

Before	• What will this story be about? • Who are the main characters? • What lesson might they learn?
During	• What are the characters feeling? • Why are they acting like that? • What will happen next?
After	• What were the most important parts of the story? • Why did the author choose to write this story? • What would happen in a sequel?

Don't forget to look for the answers while you read!

Making Connections

When you are reading, you naturally make connections. Readers can make different types of connections.

 Text-to-Self	It reminds me of something I did. • I can connect to the book because....
 Text-to-Text	It reminds me of another book. • This story reminds me of another book because...
 Text-to-World	It reminds me of something in the world. • This story makes me think of_____ because...

Fact & Opinion

Many times, authors will include facts and opinions in their writing. It is important to know the difference between them.

Facts

Vs

Opinions

A fact is a statement that can be proven to be true or false.

An opinion is a personal belief or feeling. An opinion can't be proven.

Author's include facts and opinions in their writing to help influence the reader.

Fact: Thanksgiving is in the month of November.

Ask Yourself: Can this be proven?

Opinion: Thanksgiving is the best holiday.

Ask Yourself: Could people disagree?

Visualization

Strong readers will visualize while they are reading.
When you visualize, you create a picture in your head of what you are reading.



Readers pay attention to...	Readers ask themselves...
• Illustrations in the story • Character's actions • Character's emotions • The description of the setting • Sensory language • Highly emotional parts of the story	• Can I create a mental movie in my head of what is happening? • Can I "see" the story happening? • Can I connect what is happening to something else I have experienced to help me understand?

Context Clues

When strong readers come to an unfamiliar word, they can use context clues to help them determine the meaning of the unknown word.

There are different types of context clues.

I	Inference – the meaning is not given so you must use text clues	<i>Don't want to work with Ricardo, unless you want to hear him talk about himself. He is so arrogant.</i>
D	Definition – the meaning of the word is explained in the sentence	<i>Ricardo is so arrogant. He thinks he is more important than everyone else.</i>
E	Example – an example of the word is in the sentence or nearby sentences	<i>Ricardo is so arrogant. He is always bragging about how great he is at sports.</i>
A	Antonym – a word with opposite meaning is used in the sentence or near by sentences	<i>Ricardo is so arrogant. He needs to learn to be humble like his little brother Jose.</i>
S	Synonym – words with similar meaning are used in or near the sentence	<i>Ricardo is so arrogant, proud, self-centered, and over-bearing.</i>

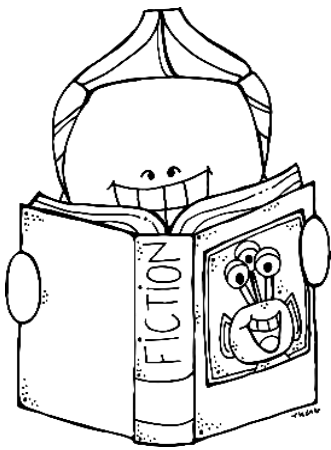
Strong readers will always read the sentences surrounding the unknown word to look for clues.

Realistic Fiction

What is Realistic Fiction?

Realistic Fiction is a story that is made up. The characters, setting, and events are all fake, but they could happen in real life. It is a story that could happen to real people.

Characteristics of Realistic Fiction



- The setting is real.
- The characters are people.
- There is a problem in the story and a realistic solution.
- The author does not use I, me, or my when telling the story.
-

Why do authors write realistic fiction?

Authors usually write realistic fiction to entertain their readers. The goal is to create a story or character that their reader can connect and relate to.

Examples of Realistic Fiction

Frindle

by Andrew Clements

Double Fudge

by Judy Blume

Ramona Quimby, Age 8 by

Beverly Cleary

There's a Boy in the Girls Bathroom

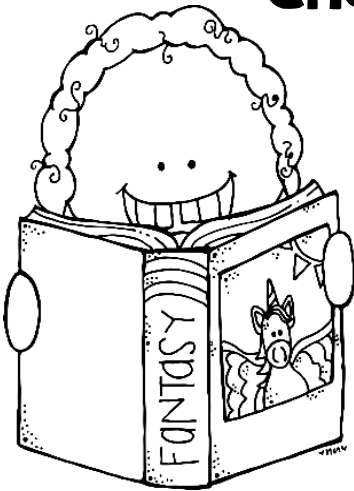
by Louis Sachar

Fantasy

What is Fantasy?

An imaginative story that is entirely made up. Fantasy stories have events that could not occur in real life.

Characteristics of Fantasy



- Unrealistic characters. (This could mean animals are able to talk or the characters have magical powers.)
- Unrealistic events happen (Example: magic carpet rides or traveling through time.)

Why do authors write fantasy?

Authors write fantasy to entertain their readers. They can be creative and come up with a silly or crazy story that will keep the reader engaged in reading.

Examples of Fantasy

The Chronicles of Narnia

By C.S. Lewis

Harry Potter

By J.K. Rowling

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

By Roald Dahl

Inkheart

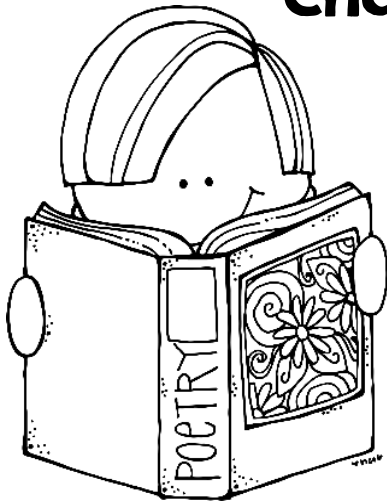
By Cornelia Funke

Poetry

What is Poetry?

Poetry is text that is focused on expressing thoughts, feelings, and emotions through using specific stylistic elements.

Characteristics of Poetry



- Is written in lines and stanzas
- Can use rhythm and rhyme
- Includes figurative language

Types of Poems: Free Verse, Haiku, Acrostic, Limerick, Narrative, Cinquain

Why do authors write poetry?

Authors write poetry to entertain their readers. They write to express feelings, thoughts and emotions.

Examples of Poetry Books

Where the Sidewalk Ends

By Shel Silverstein

It's Raining Pigs and Noodles

By Jack Prelutsky

Vile Verses

By Roald Dahl

The Llama Who Had No Pajamas

By Maryann Hoberman

Mystery

What is Mystery?

A mystery is a story in which the character is focused on solving a crime or unusual problem.

Characteristics of Mystery



- Special characters such as detectives, sleuths, victims, suspects, or witnesses.
- Clues that will help the mystery get solved.
- The author includes foreshadowing to help the reader solve the mystery.

Why do authors write mystery?

Authors write mysteries to entertain their readers. The goal of writing the mystery is to keep the reader engaged and guessing the solution up until the very end of the story.

Examples of Mystery

From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler

By E.L. Konisburg

The Westing Game

By Ellen Raskin

Chasing Vermeer

By Blue Balliet

The Boxcar Children

By Gertrude Warner

Fairy Tale

What is a Fairy Tale?

A fairy tale is a type of folktale. Fairytales often tell a story of good vs. evil that involve magic and royal characters.

Characteristics of Fairy Tales



- Begins with "Once upon a time..." and ends with "They lived happily ever after..."
- Takes place in far away places.
- Characters are often kings and queens .
- Has both good and evil characters.

Why do authors write fairy tales?

Authors write fairy tales to entertain their readers. Fairy tales are classic stories that get told over and over again. When an author writes a fairy tale, they are adding their spin on a traditional story to entertain their readers.

Examples of Fairy Tales

Cinderella

By Marcia Brown

Rapunzel

By Paul O. Zelinsky

Rumpelstiltskin

By Paul O. Zelinsky

Peter Pan

By J.M. Barrie

Alice in Wonderland

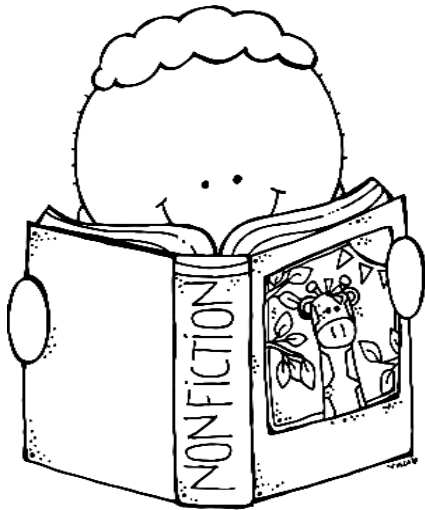
By Lewis Carroll

Informational

What is an Informational Text?

Informational texts are non-fiction texts. They are true texts that provide the reader with facts, details, and information about a specific topic.

Characteristics of Informational Texts



- Provides facts and details about a topic
- Very direct and informative
- Include several Non-fiction text features: title, headings, table of contents, index, glossary, pictures, captions, maps, graphs

Why do authors write informational texts?

Authors write informational texts to inform their reader about a topic that they believe is really important.

Examples of Informational Texts

A Dinosaur Named Sue: The Find of a Century

By Fay Robinson

Do Stars Have Points?

By Gilda Berger

Galaxies, Galaxies!

By Gail Gibbons

The Best of Times

By Greg Tang

Biography

What is a Biography?

A biography is a text that is written to inform the reader about a real person's life. The person the biography is written about can be alive or deceased.

Characteristics of Biography



- The author is someone other than the person featured in the biography.
- Includes important events from the person's life.
- The author can use narration to share snippets from the person's life.

Why do authors write biographies?

Authors write biographies to inform their readers. Authors believe the person they wrote the biography about is important or made a contribution that other people need to know about.

Examples of Biographies

Talkin' About Bessie: The Story of Aviator Elizabeth Coleman

By Nikki Grimes

Anne Frank: Young Diarist

By Ruth Ashby

Hellen Keller's Teacher

By Margaret Davidson

Ben Franklin

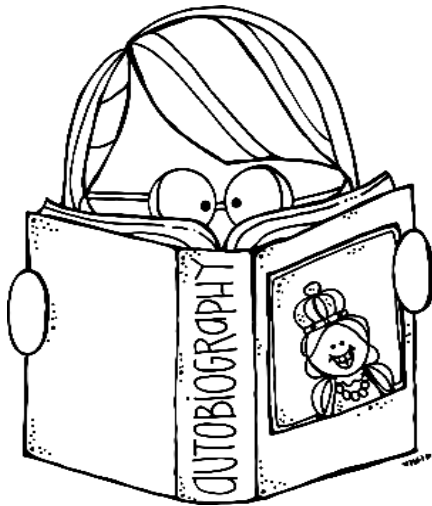
By Augusta Stenson

Autobiography

What is an Autobiography?

An autobiography is a text that is written to inform the reader about a real person's life. The author of the text is the person featured in the autobiography.

Characteristics of Autobiography



- The author is the person featured in the autobiography.
- Written in first person (uses I, me, my).
- Shares important events and details from the person's life.
- All the events are true.

Why do authors write autobiographies?

Authors write autobiographies to inform the read about their actual life. They want to share the important events that shaped who they are.

Examples of Autobiographies

Boy: Tales of Childhood

By Roald Dahl

Red Scarf Girl

By Ji-li Jiang

26 Fairmount Avenue

By Tomie dePaola

Bill Peet: An Autobiography

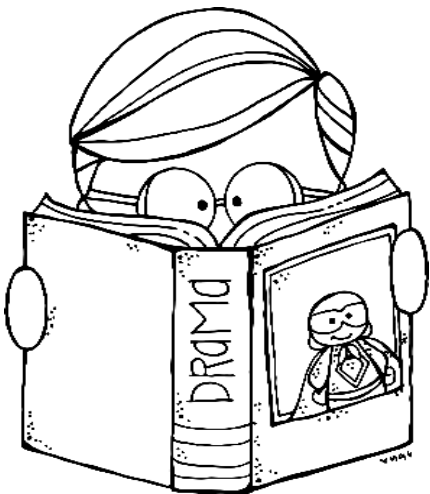
By Bill Peet

Drama

What is a Drama?

A drama is also known as a play. It is a story that has a script and can be acted out in front of an audience.

Characteristics of Dramas



- Has a cast of characters that includes a narrator.
- Is written in scenes and acts.
- The script includes stage directions as well as suggestions for the actors on how to speak or show emotions.

Why do authors write dramas?

Authors write dramas to entertain their readers. Many times they will take a well known story and adapt it into a script that can be acted out. It adds another level of entertainment.

Examples of Dramas

**The Elves and the Shoemaker:
A Play for Kids**

By Susan Srikant

**The Emperor's New Clothes: A
Play for Kids**

By Susan Srikant

The Witches: Plays for Children

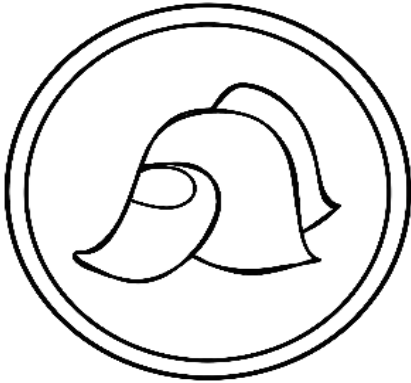
By David Wood

Historical Fiction

What is Historical Fiction?

Historical Fiction is a made up story created by the author. The setting and many details included in the story are based on real historical events.

Characteristics of Historical Fiction



- The setting is a real location with a set time period.
- The characters are real people that could be real or made up.
- The plot is a mixture of made up events and events that really happened.

Why do authors write historical fiction?

Authors usually write historical fiction to entertain their reader. They also might be trying to share some information about a time period that is really interesting to them.

Examples of Historical Fiction

Little House on the Prairie by
Laura Ingalls Wilder

Number the Stars

By Lois Lowry

**The Adventures of
Huckleberry Finn**

By Mark Twain

Bud, Not Buddy

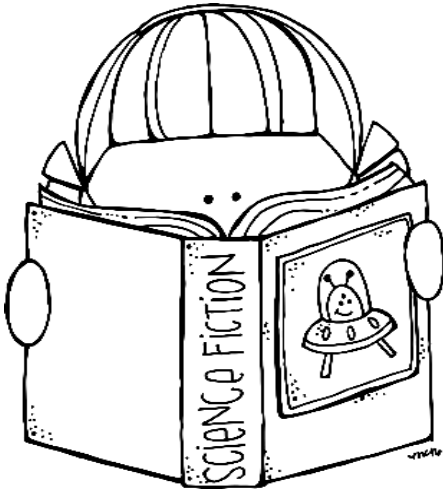
By Christopher Paul Curtis

Science Fiction

What is Science Fiction?

Science Fiction is a made up story that has a focus on futuristic science or technology. The setting might take place in space or on a made up planet.

Characteristics of Science Fiction



- Fictional or narrative story.
- Incorporates elements of technology or science.
- Tells about supernatural events.
- Events that happen in the story could not happen in real life.

Why do authors write science fiction?

Authors write science fiction to entertain their readers. They want to share a creative story that allows their reader to imagine the future.

Examples of Science Fiction

The Giver

By Lois Lowry

A Wrinkle in Time

By Madeline L'Engle

Have Space Suit, Will Travel

By Robert Heinlein

Fortunately, The Milk

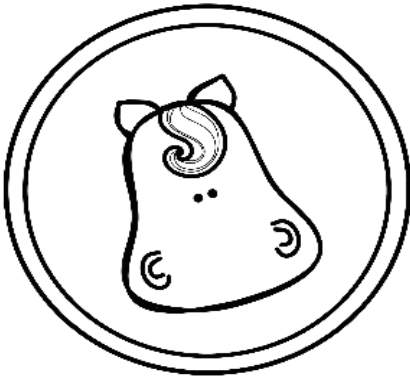
By Neil Gaiman

Fables

What is a Fable?

A fable is a type of folk tale that ends with a lesson. The characters are always animals that are able to talk and have human-like behaviors.

Characteristics of Fables



- Only 2-3 characters
- Talking characters
- The setting is usually outside
- Very short story
- There is an element of trickery included
- Lesson or moral will be stated at the end

Why do authors write fables?

Fables are written to entertain their readers. Additionally, all fables have a lesson in them so authors might be trying to persuade their readers to act a certain way based on the lesson in the fable.

Examples of Fables

Country Mouse and City Mouse
The Tortoise and the Hare
The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing
The Goose Who Laid the Golden Egg