

## Narrative Genre: Game 1

Each card describes a different narrative genre. Match the name of the genre (see top of the page) to its description by clicking on and dragging the name to the gap (shown by \_\_\_\_\_.)

Word list: gothic, tragicomedy, historical, drama, realistic, non fiction

1.

- This genre often **shares similarities with horror and psychological thrillers**, but the frightening aspects of this type of narrative tend to be more **subtle and suspenseful**.
- Yet, **romantic themes** are also commonly found in narratives belonging to this genre.
- The reader/audience may be encouraged to feel **sympathy/liking for an antihero** (or apparent antihero.)

**Other themes/keywords may include:**

- 'dark'/'spooky'/'**disturbing** imagery;
- Wild and/or lonely landscapes and areas where nature cannot be controlled;
- darkness and/or stormy weather;
- frightening and dangerous forces of nature;
- large houses or castles with few people living in them and/or secret/forbidden areas;
- **suggestions** (hints) of **madness/obsession**;
- **actual ghosts**, a fear of being haunted and/or '**symbolic ghosts**' (memories of the **past** and strong fears);
- **the uncanny**;
- **motifs** (recurring images and sounds) associated with death and/or religion, such as gravestones, crucifixes, churches and organ music.
- **feelings of claustrophobia** (being enclosed/trapped.)

This may be physical and/or psychological (for example, someone is '**haunted**' by the past or an unresolved and possibly disturbing **mystery**).

This card describe the \_\_\_\_\_ genre.

2.

**This genre is set in the past.**

Some texts belonging to this genre were written **during the time in which the author lived**, while **others were created at a later date** about a previous era.

For example, Toni Morrison's *Beloved* was **written in 1987** but **set between 1861–1865**.

This card describe the \_\_\_\_\_ genre.

3.

- Narratives belonging to this genre tell stories about events that have happened in real life.
- They may be **autobiographies** (the life story of the author), **biographies** (a person's life story written by someone else) or **memoires**.

**Memoires** tell stories about key events or a specific period of the author's life. For example, *Call the Midwife* by Jennifer Worth details the author's experience of working as a midwife in a poverty stricken district of London in the 1950s.

Autobiographies and memoires are usually written **in first person narrative** (that is, telling the story using the words 'I' and 'Me'.)

This card describe the \_\_\_\_\_ narrative genre.

4.

This type of fiction has a **real world setting** and is often written in a **similar style to nonfiction** narratives. As such, it may be difficult to tell the difference between the two genres.

Although this genre **deals with fictional events**, the reader/audience could easily believe that the narrative is describing a real life story (indeed, some texts belonging to this genre are partly based on real events.)

This card describe the \_\_\_\_\_ narrative genre.

5.

This genre incorporates strong elements of **comedy and tragedy**.

For instance, the narrative may be **largely comical until a tragic ending**. Examples: *My Girl* and *Thelma and Louise*.

This card describe the \_\_\_\_\_ genre.

6.

This genre usually **features powerful and harrowing\*** events that *could* happen in reality. However, some narratives may contain elements of horror or fantasy.

**Many narratives belonging to other genres will also fit this genre.**

This genre often portrays **emotional journeys and relationships** that have a deep impact on the major characters.

**They may also feature:**

- criminals and crime activities;
- crisis situations;
- danger;
- false accusations and/or miscarriages of justice\*\*;
- abusive, exploitative and/or oppressive situations.

\* Harrowing- extremely upsetting because connected with suffering (definition: <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/harrowing>)

\*\* Miscarriage of justice- somebody is unfairly punished for something they have not done.

This card describe the \_\_\_\_\_ genre.