

Genre Characteristics

Nonfiction	writing that is true	Example
Genre	Definition	
Informational	texts that provide facts about a variety of topics	
Biography	the story of a real person's life written by another person	
AUTOBIOGRAPHY	the story of a real person's life written by that person	

Fiction	writing that is not true	Example
Genre	Definition	
Realistic Fiction	a story using made-up characters and events, but it could really happen	
HISTORICAL FICTION	a made-up story that takes place in a particular time in the past; the setting may be real, or the characters may be based on real people	
HUMOR	written to make the reader laugh	
Fantasy	a story including elements that are impossible, such as magic or talking animals	
Science Fiction	a type of fantasy that deals with science, technology and the future	
Traditional Literature	cultural stories that are passed down through generations by word of mouth, such as folk tales, legends, fables, tall tales and myths	
Mystery	a suspenseful story about a puzzling events, such as a crime, and is solved at the end of the story	

Other		Example
Genre	Definition	
POeTRY	written to create emotion; often has imagery, rhythm and rhyme	
Drama	usually for theatrical performance where conflicts and emotion are expressed through dialogue	
CLASSIC	a story that has stayed popular throughout time; it is a representation of the time period in which it was written; has a universal appeal (many types of readers like the book)	