

Learning objective: Understand the various types of stories and how we can identify them. Have a go at writing or telling a story of a particular genre.

Starter:

Give the students the set of words and ask them to identify what they think the words are to do with (resource sheet 1).

Hopefully someone will spot that they are all types (genres) of stories!

Introduction:

Explain to students that we are going to think about the different types of story we might read, think about how stories fit into categories (or genres) and then how we might parody (or make comical) the genre.

Discuss the type of words or phrases that might appear in each type of story that would enable us to identify it and record students' ideas on resource sheet 1. For example students might well say, 'Once upon a time ...' for a fairy story.

Development:

In pairs give out the sheet with the different story types on it (resource sheet 2). Ask students to go through and identify which type of story they think each sentence comes from. If students have different coloured pens available they can highlight important words in different colours.

Discuss students' thoughts and why they have chosen the various genres.

Extension:

Ask students to choose one of the story genres and continue the next few lines of it.

Plenary:

Students put all books and papers away. Ask them to put hands up to recall the different story genres there are and words which we might associate with each one. Alternatively, see if you can create a story round the room using words from a particular genre! Fairy stories are the easiest so the first student could start, 'Once upon a time ...' See how far you can get with each student adding in one important element of a fairy story.

Resource sheet 1

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Fairy | |
| School | |
| Detective / crime | |
| Western | |
| Ghost | |
| Historical or biblical | |
| Animal | |
| War | |
| Sports | |
| Science fiction | |
| Romance | |
| Nonsense | |

Resource sheet 2

Look at the sentences below, which are all the beginnings of stories. Identify which genre each story belongs to. For example, the first one is obviously a fairy story and you can identify it because of the words 'once upon a time'.

| | |
|-----|---|
| 1. | Once upon a time in a far away kingdom there lived a King and a Queen, who longed for a child. |
| 2. | I was born in the small village of Eyam in the year of our Lord, 1665. |
| 3. | Once there lived a blue crocodile called Horatio who ate raspberries for tea and shared his three-bedroom house with a trumpet blowing heron. |
| 4. | Sheriff Bart Henderson stared down the dusty street of Tombstone. |
| 5. | She gazed at him, her blues eyes sparkling with tears. He stared at her without answering, his face unreadable but still handsome. |
| 6. | Jake54 climbed into his flying car and programmed it to fly to Mars. |
| 7. | The prefects of St Ursula's were travelling back to school together, as they always did, in a reserved carriage of the train. |
| 8. | He pulled his hat lower over his face, stood for a moment under the streetlight and then silently pulled the gun from inside his coat. |
| 9. | Rosie was a large, intelligent dog who, on more than one occasion, had rescued the family from disaster. |
| 10. | "Bleep! Bleep!" Dr Kildare's pager interrupted his thoughts as he sat having a brief break and his third cup of coffee. |
| 11. | The men slipped and slid through the mud of the trench, weighed down by their packs and guns. |
| 12. | 'Goal! Goal!' shouted the commentator as Lampard scored again. |
| 13. | The door creaked shut and the candle Emily was holding went out. She held her breath as the curtain billowed: all the windows were shut. |