

**What type of novel is this?**

1. Look at the genres listed below:
  - Historical
  - Horror
  - Thriller/detective/crime
  - Magical realism
  - Comedy
  - Romance
2. Write down what sort of storyline each of these involves and/or themes, images and language that you would expect in each one; you might want to do this work on a large piece of paper in a group so that you can share ideas. If you are unsure what some of the genres are, write down what you think would be included in the type of story.
3. Using your ideas from (2) above, write a definition of each of the genres. Don't just look up the terms in a literary terms dictionary - discuss your ideas and come to a consensus that you all agree on.
4. Look through the novel and find quotations and examples which fit each of the genres mentioned above. You need to find as much evidence as possible for each genre rather than one example for each. Again you might want to put this work on to a large piece of paper and display it in the classroom. Perhaps you can work in pairs and then rotate round the genres so that everyone has an opportunity to explore each of the categories in relation to the novel.
5. Once you have finished finding quotations and examples share the work amongst the group and discuss the results: you may find that there is some disagreement about some of the evidence provided.
6. Which genre has the most evidence? Is it what you expected? Are you surprised? Is more than one the 'winner'? Why do you think this might be? Will the results affect the way you read the novel now?

**Extension task:**

Prepare a short talk for the rest of the class which explores the genre(s) of *Perfume*. Use quotations and examples to illustrate your ideas. Use the information from the tasks above and offer your own opinion.