

## Literary Genres- Reference Page- KEY

What is a genre?           a division or type of literature          

GENRE	DEFINITION
Science fiction	Fiction dealing with the impact of real science or imaginary super science on human or alien societies of the past, present, or future
Historical fiction	A novel, play, short story, or narrative poem that sets fictional characters against a historical backdrop and contains many details about the period in which it is set
Realistic fiction	Fiction dealing with events that could actually happen in life
Fantasy	Fiction that explores unreal worlds of the past, present, and future
Nonfiction	Factual, prose writing that deals with real people and experiences; categories include biographies, autobiographies, and essays
Poetry	A form of literature that emphasizes the line as the unit of composition; often contains figurative language, rhyme, and stanzas
Short Story	A brief fictional narrative in prose; elements include plot, characters, setting, point of view, and theme
Novel	A book-length fictional prose narrative
Myth	A traditional story of anonymous origin that deals with goddesses, gods, heroes, and supernatural events
Fable	A short, usually simple tale that teaches a moral and sometimes uses animal characters
Legend	A traditional story handed down orally, based on history and an actual hero; usually exaggerated and gains elements of fantasy over the years
Drama	A story usually performed by actors on a stage or before movie or TV cameras; two basic types are tragedy and comedy