

# MY FAVOURITE FICTION

## Big Questions!

- What does fiction do? What kinds of things does it do to me, as a reader?
- Can we explain how an author uses language to make an immediate impact?
- What happens on the first page of a novel or story?
- What is evocative fiction? How do I write about it?
- What's happening with our emotions? Why is the author pulling our heart strings?
- What's the secret of a good story?

## KEY VOCABULARY TO USE WHEN DISCUSSING FICTION

worried	helpful	
miserable	attitudes	policy
previous	emerged	patient
concern	fair	elements
precious	categories	features
strain	invitation	increasing
confirm	parched	aspect
restrict	prank	insist
stumble	flexible	conclusion
passage	develop	avoid
signal	potential	primary
impact	description	proud
continuous	survey	expansion
question	climate	cause
discover	ordinary	frown
create	affect	research
enormous	responsible	massive
unexpected	amaze	attract
recognize	approach	eliminate
classify	calm	focus
major	revise	famous
complex	Insert	perceive
usually	unfamiliar	authority
analysis	wonder	similar
purpose	identified	contrast
obvious	energy	revolts
reluctant	stormy	vehicle
cooperation	injury	stomped
arrange		
wince		
plan		
subsequent		

## KEY KNOWLEDGE TO APPLY WHEN DISCUSSING FICTION

- author
- reader
- subject
- emotion
- expectations
- images
- convey
- tone
- evocative
- emotive
- to sow
- hook
- manipulate
- significant
- identify
- metaphor
- simile
- connotations
- concrete
- abstract

## Conventions of Fiction

- Stories and novels contain **characters** – the people who we follow and hear about during the narrative. The way characters are written about is called **characterisation**
- Novels often use **mysteries** or **enigmas** to maintain the readers' interest, sometimes (but not always) offering solutions and revelations at the end of the novel or further through the story. Awaiting those solutions and revelations generates **suspense** – this is thrilling for the reader.
- Writers use language purposefully to create an **atmosphere** – this is the tone or mood of the writing.
- Writers establish the **setting** of their stories by defining the time period, placement and possibilities of their storyworld.
- Novels usually have a **protagonist** or hero, who readers follow through the story – their enemy can be defined as an antagonist.
- Protagonists often face **dilemmas** or problems which must be solved to create a denouement.

## KEY WRITING SKILLS

### Pre-modification

Writers place information before nouns that modify how we view that noun. Nouns can be pre-modified using adjectives, but also verbs, articles, pronouns and determiners.

### Post-modification

Writers place information after nouns to add to, or limit how we understand the noun. Nouns are often post-modified with preposition phrases, past or present participle phrases.

## What is a quotation?



A quotation is a group of words taken from a text or speech and repeated by us – as students – in our own writing. We demarcate the words we have taken from another text using a pair of speech marks that look like this "....."

## How do I embed a quotation?

Here are two effective strategies you can use to embed quotations: you can set-off quotations or introduce quotations with a colon.

Set-off quotations are set off from the sentence with a comma.

Capitalize the first word of the quote. Notice the signal phrases (in bold print) used in the following examples.

1. As Jane Austen **writes**, "There is no enjoyment like reading!."
2. "No one is useless in this world who lightens the burdens of another." **according to** Doctor Marigold, Dickens' protagonist.

Introduce Quotations with a Colon

For this strategy, the signal is a complete sentence that goes before the colon. This sentence provides some information about the quotation to introduce it. The quotation follows the colon, and the first word in the quotation is capitalised. Look at these two examples.

1. In his novel about greed, Charles Dickens has Scrooge ask: 'Are there no workhouses?'
2. In Animal Farm language is a manipulative tool, especially when used by the character of Squealer: 'The others said of Squaler that he could turn black into white.'



# CATEGORIES OF LITERATURE: GENRES

## FANTASY

Stories set in magical worlds, where special powers are used by heroes with important fates; they're often tasked with a quest!

## DYSTOPIAN

Stories set in dark, future worlds, where heroes fight against a controlling government.

## GOthic

Stories set in dark, future worlds, where heroes fight against a controlling government.

## BILDUNGSROMAN

A story that follows a character as they grow up, experiencing obstacles and issues relatable to the contemporary reader.

## SCI-FI

Stories set in the future, sometimes 'off-world', where heroes use improved technology and face alien threats.

## TRAGEDY

Heroes experience a tragic downfall, usually due to their own fatal flaw. The text ends in death and destruction, but also realisation and learning. The audience cries!

## HISTORICAL

Stories set in the past, usually in an identifiable and lively period of history. Heroes' fictional lives and their dilemmas intertwine with events that really occurred.