

## **Setting**

### **WEEK 1 Novel Study**

The setting is where the story takes place. It might include historical background, time, local color. Local color is characteristics that sets the place apart and makes it different from other places.

Often the author doesn't say the story takes place in a certain location, at a certain time, instead the author provides details describing the location and the time. It allows the readers to paint a picture in their mind.

1. What is the setting of the novel? Describe in great detail.
2. How does the author make you paint a picture of the setting in your head?
3. Find at least four examples of how the author makes you see, smell, and hear something in the story? Please copy the exact sentences and page in novel.

## **Characters**

### Week 2 Novel Studies

**Major Characters** are characters around which every scene develops. They are responsible for plot development. They are usually introduced in the first chapter.

**Minor Characters** are characters that are not needed for plot development, but provide detail and link various parts of the story or events together.

**Developing Characters** are usually major characters who change for the good throughout the novel. They become a better person through what they say or do.

**Deteriorating Characters** are usually major characters whose actions and involvement become evil and grows worse throughout the novel.

**Static or Flat Characters** are major or minor characters that stay the same throughout the novel. Their personalities, beliefs, and outlooks do not change.

1. Write the names of the major characters in your novel? Give details about what they look like, how they act and their personality?
2. List the minor characters you have been introduced to in the novel so far and tell how they are connected to other characters or the plot.

## **Genre**

### **Week 3 Novel Study**

Genres are certain styles of novels. It is a way to classify novels that have similar characteristics. For example, biographies, novels, and how-to books are well-known genres.

There are potentially an infinite number of books, and there are potentially an infinite number of book genres. After all, each book is unique in some sense.

\* Fiction

Suspense/ Thriller, Mysteries, Action/Adventure, Romances, Westerns, Fantasy, Horror

\* Nonfiction

Biography, How-to, Field guides, Anthologies

As a class discuss these questions:

1. What are some different types of novels you have read?
2. Of the books read for the novel studies, classify yourselves according to different genres. This is your group for today.

Group discussion questions: (One person should record the answers)

You will make a list of at least 5 common characteristics for your type of genre. Use these questions as a guide.

1. What types of characters are in the novel? Are they realistic, fantasy? Did the author give a lot of description or very little? Can you relate to the characters? Is there always a detective or a hero?
2. Is the setting realistic? Did the author give a lot of detail? Is there any common characteristics of the setting? For example, does it always happen in the wilderness, a rural or an urban setting.
3. What is common in the plot? Does a mystery always get solved? Is the pace of the plot fast or slow? Is there suspense and how does the author make it?

