

LIBRARY LESSON

## GRADES

6-12

## Lesson + Scrolling Slideshow + Bookmarks

# THREE FORMATS 

## LET'S TALK ABOUT

## FANTASY!

What does fantasy mean? What kinds of characters, objects, places represent f

What are your favori TV shows or mo

## OTHERWORLDLY SETTINGS

- Believable worldbuilding is crucial to great fantasy stories.
- The world may be very different from ours, but it must still be believable to the reader.
- Fantasy worlds often have their own history, culture, mythology, legends, languages, and rules.
- Clothing styles, geography, housing, gender roles, and social rules are also part of worldbuilding.


All slides and bookmarks are editable in Google Slides and PowerPoint. Bookmarks also include editable PDF format.

# PART I - WHOLEGROUP LESSON 

## MAGICAL OBJECTS



- These are objects that are magical or powerful


## HEROES AND VILLAINS

- Fantasy novels often have a clear hero and a clear villain
- Both hero and villain have sidekicks - friends or followers who help them achieve their goals along the way
- Typically, the hero is "good," and the villain is "evil."
- The hero and villain may have some sort of past connection.
- The hero and/or villain are often scarred, either physically, or emotionally, or both.

Part I reviews genre and describes characteristics of the fantasy genre, subgenres, and genre blends. Includes special emphasis on magical realism, epic fantasy, and fairytale fantasy, plus characteristics and examples of each.

# FOCUS ON THREE SUBGENRES 

## MAGICAL REALISM

- Usually set in the real world

- Characters are realisti
humans, and animals


## CHARACTERISTICS OF EPIC FANTASY

- Vast and imaginative worldbuilding - This is an intricate world with lots of detail about history, culture, power hierarchies, languages, and language systems.
- Magical elements are
story is mostly realistic


## - Complex, well-developed characters



## FAIRY TALE FANTASY

Based on classic fairy tales ("Cinderella," "Sleeping Beauty," etc.)
Strong protagonists, particularly females challenging traditional gender roles

- Adventure, escape, belonging
- Romantic subplots
- Themes may include: identity, transformation, growing up, societal expectations, rags-to-riches, family

Magical Realism, Epic Fantasy, and Fairytale Fantasy-<br>Each includes characteristics and YA \& MG sample titles

## PART II SCROLLING SLIDES

## 5 TIPS FOR WRITING FANTASY NOVELS

Number I: Read widely!


- Read lots of different fantasy books.


# TRIVIA QUESTION 

How old was author Christopher Paolini when he first started writing Eragon, the first book in the Inheritance series?
a. 13
b. 15
c. 19
d. 22


Part II includes classic fantasy genre quotations, trivia questions, vocabulary, Would-You-Rathers, why read fantasy, and 5 things to include in every fantasy genre story.

## FUN FACTS \& TRIVIA

## TRIVIA QUESTION

hese classic epic fantasy stories is oldest?
a. The Odyssey (Greek)
b. The Epic of Gilgamesh (Sumerian / Mesopotamian)
c. The Book of One Thousand and One Nights (Arabian)
d. Sir Gawain and the Green Night (English)

## WOULD YOU RATHER



Have the ability to communicate with animals


Have the ability to perform ancient spells

## 5 TIPS FOR WRITING

 FANTASY NOVELS
## 5 TIPS FOR WRITING FANTASY NOVELS <br> Number 4: Be unique.

- The fantasy genre is huge, with many, many books and series. How will your story stand out among so many great fantasy stories?
- Think about how vour storv differs from other fantasv novels


Remember, you o

- Stay true to your
- Take creative risk


## 5 TIPS FOR WRITING FANTASY NOVELS

## Number 5: Write regularly.

This is another great tip for any kind of writing. Practice, practice, practice!

- Create a writing schedule and stick to it.
- Use writing prompts if you are stuck for topics. There are lots of free writing prompt websites for teens online.
- Designate a writing space. Clear it of all distractions. Put your phone in another room. If writing on your computer, close all other tabs.
- Write first, edit later. Don't worry about perfection in first drafts.


## CLASSIC FANTASY QUOTATIONS

"The Queen let another drop fall from her bottle on to the snow, and instantly there appeared a round box, tied with green silk ribbon, which, when opened, turned out to contain several pounds of the best Turkish Delight.


Each piece was sweet and light to the very centre and Edmund had never tasted anything more delicious."

## "We are all mad here."

~The Cheshire Cat, Alice in Wonderland,

Lewis Carroll

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FANTASY GENRE RECOMMENDATIONS (GRADES 6-8)

GENERAL FANTASY
Skellig (Almond)
Crenshaw (Applegate)
Leviathan (Westerfeld)
Alice in Wonderland (Carroll)
Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in
the Sky (Mbalia)
Paola Santiago and the River of
Tears (Mejia)
The BFG (Dahl)
MAGICAL REALISM
The Night Gardener (Auxier)
Mañanaland (Ryan)
Ghosts (Telgemeier)
When You Trap a Tiger (Keller)
The Memory of Forgotten Things (Zhang)
Tuck Everlasting (Babbitt)
EPIC FANTASY
The Ruins of Gorlan (Flanagan) Eragon (Paolini)
Percy Jackson and the Olympians
(Riordan)
The Land of Stories (Colfer)
Fablehaven (Mull)
The Lion, the Witch, and the
Wardrobe (Lewis)
erarnr the Overlander (Collins)

## FANTASY GENRE RECOMMENDATIONS (GRADES 9-12)

## GENERAL FANTASY

The Cruel Prince (Black)
The Iron King (Kagawa)
Six Crimson Cranes (Lim)
Three Dark Crowns (Blake)
The Red Queen (Aveyard)'
Animal Farm (Orwell)
City of Bones (Clare)
Shiver (Stiefvater)
The Scorpio Races (Stiefvater)

## MAGICAL REALISM

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar
Children (Riggs)
Bone Gap (Ruby)
The Strange and Beautiful Sorrows
of Ava Lavender (Walton) Bruiser (Shusterman)
Dig (King) Dig (King)

## EPIC FANTASY

The Lord of the Rings (Tolkein)
Grisha trilogy and Six of (Bardugo)
Graceling (Cashore)
Children of Blood and Bone
(Adeyemi)
Seraphina (Hartman)
Sabriel (Nix)
The Demon King (Chima)
FAIRYTALE FANTASY

Editable list of recommended fantasy books for Grades 6-8
and Grades $9-12$. Since the presentation focuses on magical
realism, epic fantasy, and fairytale fantasy, the bookmarks give multiple suggestions for each (plus additional titles).

# MORE FOR GENRE LESSONS 

## FOR SECONDARY LIBRARIES



