

Genre Study
8th Grade ELA
Mrs. Leuenberger

NAME _____ DATE _____

Below you will find a sampling of different types of genres. This year you will be required to read ten different types of genres for independent reading (any **different** types-you choose). You will be asked to record the genres you read on a recording sheet. I will be checking these sheets approximately once per month. Your aim should be two different genres each quarter, ending with one genre in the last quarter of the year.

*Extra credit opportunity: If you read a “known” classic (decided by Mrs. L.), a National Book Award winner, a Pen-Faulkner Award winner, a Newbery Award winner, a Coretta Scott King Award winner, or a Michael Printz Award winner and you have your entry initialed by a Mrs. L. on your recording sheet, you will receive 2 extra credit points per award winning book.

Fantasy books are a type of fiction that contain elements such as characters or settings that could not exist in life, as we know it today. Examples include characters such as dragons or animals with human characteristics. Settings might be magical or otherworld.

Science Fiction books deal with the impact of imagined innovations in science or technology, often in a futuristic setting.

Historical fiction books are those that give a historically accurate portrayal of life during a particular time in history. They have a strong sense of place and time.

Mystery books are stories that involve a suspenseful event (often a crime of some type). The reader uses clues from the story and gradually discovers who has committed the crime to solve the mystery by the end of the story.

Realistic fiction books are those set in present-day. Characters encounter modern day difficulties and dilemmas. These stories could be true; they are plausible.

Nonfiction books are informational books written by credible authors. Nonfiction books explain how things work, tell facts about many different topics, and show us how to do various things.

Graphic Novels are a cousin of comic strips, a graphic novel is a story told in comic book format with a beginning, middle, and end. Graphic novels also include bound books conveying nonfiction information in comic book form.

Poetry books are those that include verses or poems. Poems may be humorous, serious, lyrical, or narrative (tells a story). Many poems have a rhythm and meter. Poems create imagery.

Biographies are histories of a person's life or parts of his/her life. A biography that is written by a person about his/her own life is called an autobiography.

Adventure books are novels that have adventure, or an exciting undertaking involving risk and physical danger as its main theme.

Comedy or Humorous books are usually a work of fiction in which the writer seeks to amuse the reader, sometimes with subtlety and as part of a carefully woven narrative, sometimes above all other considerations. It could indeed be said that comedy fiction is literary work that aims primarily to provoke laughter, but this isn't always as obvious as it first may seem.

Romance novels have a primary focus on the relationship and romantic love between two people, and must have an emotionally satisfying and optimistic ending.

There are oh so many genres to choose from. Here are just a few more... Parables, Fables, Fairy Tales (a compilation), Thrillers, Westerns, Educational books, Horror, Documentary...and many others!

***For full credit on the genre list you must have ALL TITLES and they MUST BE UNDERLINED! You must also read EACH BOOK FROM A DIFFERENT GENRE or you will not receive credit for a book that is doubled in a genre. The "Genre Recording Sheet" must be 100% complete for 100% credit. If you have opted for the extra credit, remember, and ELA teacher must sign those choices AS YOU READ THEM. We will not sign the genre sheets on the day they are handed in.**

*As part of you ELA grade you will be required to book talk a book each quarter. You will be expected to use one of the books from your "genre list" each time.

