

Elements of Fiction and Nonfiction

Elements of Fiction

- **Setting-** time and place where the story takes place.
- **Plot-** sequence of events that takes you through a story.
 - **Conflict-** problem
 - **Resolution-** conclusion
- **Characters-** people of animals that take part in the story.
 - **Character traits-** qualities that affect his or her thoughts and actions.
- **Point of View-** perspective from which the story is told.
 - **First person-** perspective of the character.
 - **Third person-** perspective of the narrator outside of the story.
- **Theme-** message about life that a story conveys to it's reader.

Types of Fiction

- **Short Stories-** brief works of fiction made up of plot, character, setting, point of view, and theme. Focus is on one main plot and conflict.
- **Novels-** longer works of fiction that contain the same elements of short stories- characters, plot, conflict, and settings. They also contain many **subplots**, or independent, related stories and conflicts.
- **Novellas-** works of fiction that are shorter than novels, but longer than short stories.
- **Historical fiction-** literature that draws, in parts, on real people and events to tell invented stories.

Elements of Nonfiction

- **Nonfiction-** stories that involve real people, events, or ideas. They are also narrated from the perspective of the author, who is a real person.
- **Mood-** overall feeling that the work evokes in the reader.
- **Author's Style-** consists of every feature of a writer's use of language, such as rhythm, language, and methods of organization.

Purposes of Nonfiction

- **To Persuade-** speeches and editorials are often written to convince an audience of a certain idea or opinion.
- **To Inform-** articles, reference books, historical essays, and research papers present facts and information.
- **To Entertain-** biographies, autobiographies, and travel narratives are often written for the enjoyment of the audience.