

SMART™ Lesson

Literary Genres: Mystery and Suspense

What is a Mystery?

A mystery is a type of story that involves a puzzle or a problem that needs to be solved. It often involves a crime, like a murder or a theft, and the main character is usually a detective who is trying to figure out who did it.

What is Suspense?

Suspense is a feeling of excitement, tension, and uncertainty while waiting for something to happen. In literature, suspense is often created by a sense of danger or impending doom. It keeps the reader engaged and eager to find out what happens next.

Examples of Mystery and Suspense Books

Some popular books that fall into the mystery and suspense genre are:

- "The Hardy Boys" series by Franklin W. Dixon
- "Nancy Drew" series by Carolyn Keene
- "Sherlock Holmes" series by Arthur Conan Doyle
- "The Da Vinci Code" by Dan Brown
- "Gone Girl" by Gillian Flynn
- "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins

Questions

1. What is a mystery?
2. Who is the main character in a mystery story?
3. What is suspense?
4. What creates suspense in literature?
5. Can you name three popular books that fall into the mystery and suspense genre?

Answers

1. A mystery is a type of story that involves a puzzle or a problem that needs to be solved.
2. The main character in a mystery story is usually a detective.
3. Suspense is a feeling of excitement, tension, and uncertainty while waiting for something to happen.
4. Suspense is often created by a sense of danger or impending doom in literature.

5. Accept any three of the six examples listed: "The Hardy Boys" series by Franklin W. Dixon; "Nancy Drew" series by Carolyn Keene; "Sherlock Holmes" series by Arthur Conan Doyle; "The Da Vinci Code" by Dan Brown; "Gone Girl" by Gillian Flynn; and "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins.

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Mystery and Suspense

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