

# SMART™ Lesson

## Creating Historical Settings in Literature

### Introduction

Historical fiction is a genre of literature that takes place in a specific time period. In order for the story to be believable, the author must create an accurate historical setting. This includes everything from the language to the clothing to the social norms of the time. In this lesson, we will explore the key aspects of creating historical settings for literature.

### Key Aspects of Historical Settings

#### Language

The language used in historical fiction should be accurate for the time period. This means using vocabulary and grammar that were in use at the time. Slang and idioms that are common today should be avoided unless they were also in use during that time.

#### Clothing and Appearance

The clothing and appearance of characters should also be accurate for the time period. This means researching what was worn during that time and making sure the characters are dressed appropriately. Additionally, characters should have the appropriate hairstyles, makeup, and other physical features that were popular at that time.

#### Social Norms

The social norms of the time period should also be considered when creating a historical setting. This includes everything from the way people behaved in public to the types of jobs that were available to men and women. It's important to research these social norms in order to create a believable and accurate historical setting.

### Questions

1. What is historical fiction?
2. Why is it important to create accurate historical settings?
3. What should an author consider when creating historical settings?
4. Why is research important when creating historical settings?