

Assessment Task 2 Essay

Fantasy texts use plot, character, setting and theme to create a story from the fantasy genre. The settings in 'A Wrinkle in Time' by Madeline Langel, the characters in 'Northern Lights' by Phillip Pullman, the plot in 'Ready Player One' by Ernest Cline and the themes present in 'Heir of Fire' Sarah J Maas all use characteristics to create the fantasy genre.

The settings present in 'a wrinkle in time' specifically Uriel, exhibit characteristics and conventions which categorise the text as an example of fantasy. Uriel is a planet of utmost beauty, surrounded by rivers and streams, and beautiful flora, Uriel is a planet of unnatural beauty that is only found in texts and books that are in the fantasy genre. This quote from the text, a wrinkle in time displays the beauty and serenity of Uriel 'The grasses of the field were a tender new green, and scattered about were tiny, multi-coloured flowers...From the trees at the base of the mountain came a sudden singing of birds.' The use of description in the text while describing Uriel allows for Uriel to become a tranquil place, the use of imagery is also very frequent in the text as it allows the reader to 'travel to Uriel and become enveloped in the story'. Therefore, 'a wrinkle in time' shows characteristics of fantasy through ethereal flora and fauna.

The characters in the text 'The Northern Lights' are examples of Fantasy as they exhibit conventions that categorise them as such. The protagonist of the story Lyra Belacqua is 11 years, she has a Daemon named Pantalaimon and a best friend named Roger, as far as Lyra knows her parents died in a Zeppelin crash. She is described as courageous, curious and has a knack for telling tall tales, a contrast to her Daemon Pantalaimon. She is cared for by her uncle, the dark and dangerous Lord Asriel. She's destined for a huge role in the fate of humankind, which, at first, is totally unaware of. She is also an extremely contradictory character. This is displayed in the quote, " There is a curious prophecy about this girl: she is destined to bring about the end of destiny." Pullman uses repetition in the quote to demonstrate the importance of destiny and fate, it also displays the irony and paradox the character continuously demonstrates throughout the entirety of the text. The text, the 'Northern Lights' is categorised as fantasy as the characters display characteristics of fantasy, such as anamorphic creatures and heroes/heroines.

'Ready Player One' displays conventions of fantasy through its plot as it has unrealistic ideas such as a real world and a virtual world. It also displays characteristics of fantasy through the journey to find the Easter egg to save the Oasis. It displays conventions of fantasy through the main character, Wade Owen Watts going into the OASIS, a virtual world, that later sparks a journey to get the Easter egg. This displays fantasy through a quest with obstacles to overcome. This is displayed in the quote 'There seemed to be an equal number of men and women, but it was hard to tell, because nearly everyone shared my pale complexion and total lack of body hair and we all wore the same grey jumpsuits and grey plastic shoes.' Through the negative connotations, the reader can infer that Wade is in danger when he's pursued by IOI. Therefore, Wade needs to be a protagonist and save the Oasis world from this threat. In conclusion, the book, 'Ready Player One' displays characteristics of fantasy through its plot, through a quest with obstacles to overcome so the Oasis is safe.

The 'Throne of Glass series' shows characteristics of fantasy through its theme through a battle of good and evil. This is displayed through the third book in the 'Throne of Glass' series called 'Heir of Fire', by Sarah J Maas. The characteristics of fantasy are exhibited during a battle when the main character Aelin Ashryver Galathynius rightful queen of Terrasen, she has the power of fire, versus

Prince Narrok, someone who has been possessed by Erawan, the King of Darkness. She battles Prince Narrok and two others with her power, to save the Fae and Demi-Fae living in Mistward. This is exhibited through the quote "It would not take a monster to destroy a monster-but light, light to drive out the darkness." This quote displays how she would fight the darkness which is symbolic for evil. She would fight the darkness with her light which is also symbolic for good or in this case, her fire, and defeat the darkness. In conclusion, the text 'Heir of Fire' by Sarah J Maas displays attributes of fantasy through its theme of good and evil.

To conclude, the ways that authors integrate plot, character, setting, and theme help categorise their texts as works of Fantasy. The fantasy setting of Uriel in 'A Wrinkle in Time', the characters, Pantalaimon and Lyla Belacqua in 'Northern Lights', Wades quest to save the world in 'Ready Player One' and the theme good versus evil in 'Heir of Fire' all work to reflect elements of Fantasy. Therefore, fantasy is discovered in all varieties of texts that contain completely different storylines, so long as they adhere to the characteristics of fantasy.