

**RAINFORD HIGH ENGLISH DEPARTMENT KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: Year 7 –Science Fiction**

<p><b>Definition:</b> A form of fiction that draws imaginatively on scientific knowledge and speculation in its plot, setting, theme, etc.</p> <p>Science fiction is a genre of fiction in which the stories often tell about science and technology of the future. It is important to note that science fiction has a relationship with the principles of science—these stories involve partially true-partially fictitious laws or theories of science. It should not be completely unbelievable, because it then ventures into the genre fantasy.</p>		<p><b>Sci-Fi Narrative conventions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Setting in an alternative world:  One thing we'll find over and over again in sci-fi is a setting that is strange, different, or faraway.</li> <li>• Non-human characters:  It's about robots, aliens, or people who are just a little bit more (or less!) than human, like <i>Frankenstein's</i> monster or <i>Hyde</i>.</li> <li>• Allegory in Sci-Fi:  Sci-fi tends to be allegorical: the best sci-fi works often have a hidden meaning, because they work as a commentary on our own world and our own social and political systems.</li> <li>• Science and Technology:  What makes a sci-fi text is the fact that their settings, their plots, their characters, their conflicts, all center around science and technology in some sense.</li> <li>• Time travel  Often, the whole plot of a sci-fi work is set in a distant time, usually in the future. Sci-fi writers are obsessed with exploring times that are very different from ours.</li> <li>• Journey  We'll find a lot of journeys in sci-fi. People are traveling all over the place; they might zip from galaxy to galaxy, or from time to time.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Vocabulary:</b> Microscopic <i>so small as to be visible only with a microscope.</i> Cacophony: <i>cacophonies (plural noun)</i> <i>a harsh discordant mixture of sounds.</i> Eclectic: <i>deriving ideas, style, or taste from a broad and diverse range of sources.</i> Catastrophic: <i>involving or causing sudden great damage or suffering.</i></p>	<p><b>Terminology:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dystopia: <i>an imagined state or society in which there is great suffering or injustice</i></li> <li>• Utopia: <i>an imagined place or state of things in which everything is perfect</i></li> <li>• Futuristic: <i>having or involving very modern technology or design.</i></li> <li>• Technological: <i>relating to or using technology</i></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Key texts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Wrinkle in Time</li> <li>• The Hunger Games</li> <li>• A Sound of Thunder</li> <li>• The Time Machine</li> <li>• Stranger Things</li> <li>• Doctor Who</li> <li>• Avengers</li> <li>• Iron Man</li> <li>• Jurassic World</li> <li>• The Incredibles</li> </ul>	<p><b>Devices:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flashback: <i>a scene in a novel set in a time earlier than the main story.</i></li> <li>• In Medias Res <i>Starting in the middle of a narrative</i></li> <li>• Time-travel: <i>time travel is the concept of movement between certain points in time</i></li> <li>• Pathetic fallacy: <i>referring to weather features reflecting a mood.</i></li> <li>• Motif: <i>a repeated symbol forming a pattern</i></li> </ul>	