**Horror Fiction Unit Notes Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**What is horror fiction?**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is fiction in any medium intended to scare, unsettle, or horrify the audience.
* Historically, the cause of the “horror” experience has often been the intrusion of an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ supernatural entity into everyday human experience.
* Since the 1960’s, any work of fiction with a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ theme has come to be called “horror.”
* Horror often overlaps with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and falls into the classification of supernatural fiction.

**Origin and History of Horror**

* Many of today’s horror \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ can be found in tales and folklore of ancient cultures.
* Modern horror fiction found its roots in gothic novels such as Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein* (1818) and Bram Stoker’s *Dracula* (1897).
* The first published American horror story was Washington Irving’s short story, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Other early American horror writers include \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, both best known for their short stories.

**Contemporary Horror**

* Early horror works used \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to deliver an eerie and otherworldly flavor, but usually avoided the explicit violence.
* Some modern horror writers use vivid depictions of extreme violence or shock to entertain, but many contemporary writers such as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ can usually pull off the horror effect without such extreme violence.
* Despite the often graphic or adult subject matter of horror stories and films, authors such as King have noted that horror as a genre is actually concerned with re-establishing normalcy and morality. Some ways that this can be seen include: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Horror fiction is now not just confined to paper though. Countless horror films have been released in the 20th century, such as *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,* etc.

**Horror Archetypes**

* An \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is a model of a character or something else that recurs throughout literature.
* In Stephen King’s guide to horror fiction, *The Danse Macabre,* he cites that there are four major horror archetypes: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* However, there are many more archetypes such as: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, etc.

**Elements of Horror**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—Fear that imposes itself on and causes unnatural effects on the mind. (The thing that makes you shudder)

**Example from Clip:**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—Fear that one’s body or life is actually in danger.

**Example from Clip:**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—Anything characterized by ludicrous or freakish distortion of appearance or manner.

**Example from Clip:**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—Anxiety or apprehension resulting from an uncertain, undecided, or mysterious situation.

**Example from Clip:**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—A secondhand story told as truth about some horrific series of events that “supposedly” happened to a real person.

**Example from Clip:**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ --A funny character or scene in a *serious* work, designed to relieve tension in the audience momentarily

**Example from Clip:**

* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—When the opposite of what you expect happens
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—Occurs when the audience knows something that the characters do not.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—When someone says something but means the opposite.
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—Presenting an indication or suggestion beforehand of things to come.