

Introduction to
Science Fiction

**EQ: What are the elements of the
science fiction genre?**



Sci Fi Definitions

"A good science-fiction story is a **story about human beings**, with a human problem, and a human solution, which **would not have happened at all without its science content**"

"A form of fiction that draws imaginatively on scientific knowledge and speculation in its plot, setting, theme, etc."

What is Science Fiction?

- Science fiction is a writing style which combines science and fiction.
- It is only limited by what we presently know about the basic physical laws of nature.
- Science fiction stories contain some or all of the following elements:
 - **Time or Space Travel**
 - **Advanced Technology**
 - **Futuristic Setting**
 - **Parallel Universe /Society**

Writers take **Scientific Possibilities** and develop them step-by-step from known data to form a story.



Types of Science Common in Sci Fi

- Advanced technology
- Genetics
- Disease / Virus
- Exploration
- Super powers

Science can be the savior or the root of the problem

Science Fiction VS. Fantasy

- **Science Fiction** deals with improbable (unlikely) possibilities,
 - Technology, space, innovation
- **Fantasy** with plausible (believable) impossibilities.
 - Magic, mystical elements, supernatural creatures



SCI-FI

VS



FANTASY

Major Themes in Science Fiction

- Person versus Society
- Person versus Technology
- Self- Knowledge – understanding humanity or what it is to be human

Homework :

- Find 6 sci fi story films*