

Setting

Setting	Texts	Description	Example
Christmas	1	Set during the Christmas holiday, uses traditional Christmas symbolism	<i>A Christmas Carol</i>
Fourth Wall	3	Breaks boundaries of literary setting, often tied to metafiction, absurdism, surrealism, or all three	<i>If On a Winter's Night a Traveller</i>
Courtroom	3	Set during a trial, courtroom, jury room, or judge's chambers	<i>The Trial</i>
Space	7	Set in outer space, on a spacecraft (Earth or alien), or on an alien planet(s)	<i>Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i>
Ocean	11	Set at sea, ocean, deserted islands, or in various ports; seas and islands may be fictional	<i>The Caine Mutiny</i>
Naturalism	16	Primarily set in nature or sparsely populated areas; less populous than "country" or "pastoral"	<i>Lord of the Flies</i>
War	32	Set during war, during a specific battle, or uses war as a backdrop for other narrative structures	<i>Rob Roy</i>
Domestic	60	Primarily set in a single home, or the primary events of the text revolve around domestic life	<i>Northanger Abbey</i>
Mythic	67	Utilizes a mythic, legendary, or imagined setting, including alternate worlds, the afterlife, magical kingdoms, etc.	<i>Journey to the West</i>
Travel	83	Plot involves travel amongst numerous locations, or scenes take place in various locations without focusing primarily on one	<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>
Urban	130	Set primarily in a city, large village, or other densely-populated area	<i>The Postman Always Rings Twice</i>