

Name _____

DYSTOPIAN NOVELS

DIRECTIONS: List general characteristics of a science fiction book. Then add details about the dystopian book you are reading. Using your comparison list, create criteria that classify books in the dystopian genre.

	<i>Science Fiction</i>	<i>Your Book:</i>	<i>Dystopian Fiction</i>
MAIN CHARACTER(S)			
SETTING TIME PERIOD			
GOVERNMENT LEADERS			
SOCIAL STRUCTURE			
THEME(S)			

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	<i>Science Fiction</i>	<i>Your Book: The White Mountains</i> by John Christopher	<i>Dystopian Fiction</i>
MAIN CHARACTER(S)	Protagonist often deals with aliens, mutants, enhanced humans. Characters may have paranormal abilities such as mind control, telepathy, and telekinesis	Questions authority and the Capping Adolescent—13 years old Alone (leaves family)	The hero/protagonist sees the problem with society and wants to change the system
SETTING TIME PERIOD	In the future, in space, on a different world, or in a different universe or dimension	Future In a time when our society has been taken over by Tripods Ancient cities have been left to decay No technology	Future War or apocalyptic event has happened in the past to change society
GOVERNMENT LEADERS	New and different political and social systems and situations, including utopian, dystopian, post-apocalyptic	Tripods control minds of the humans	Dictatorship Autocracy
SOCIAL STRUCTURE	Predictions about life in the future.	Medieval Nobility on top (very few) Farmers/peasant on the bottom	Division of citizens into distinct groups or classes Individuals have little power
THEME(S)	The stories involve partially true partially fictitious laws or theories of science. It should not be completely unbelievable End of humanity Artificial intelligence Humans need to explore, colonize	Rebellion Freedom Independence	Environmental destruction Government, religious, or technological control Survival Loss of individuality, free will Control and order vs. freedom and chaos propaganda