**Notes – 22/1/18**

**GENRE AND NARRATIVE**

Genre: the categorization of media or other texts according to their style or content.

**Luther 2015 Special: Trailer – BBC One** | What makes this a cop drama?

* Detective is central character
* Iconography: police vehicles, police tapes, guns, uniforms
* Location: urban environment
* Actors: large, serious, imposing, knowledgeable, tough

**Genre conventions** in Luther

* Centre character – male who: does not follow rules, dark history, mysterious, imposing
* Urban environment
* Unlimited resources – high tech
* Low key lighting and desaturated colours to show seriousness
* Dramatic music

***Foreknowledge***

Allowing audience to anticipate the plot, character and enigmas in the film (often in a trailer).

***Formulaic***

Following the norm to an extent it gets boring; no originality

-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**Notes – 23/1/18**

**Boscombe’s Theory of Iconography**

*There are certain icons associated with certain genres*. The following are icons that affect the genre.

• Location

• Characters: appearance, age, gender, size, body language

• Tools/objects: iconography

• Miscellaneous: lighting, palette, typography

**Subgenre**

Genres separate into subgenres, and often these subgenres are not very similar. Subgenres allow writers to follow the conventions so there is no ambiguity as to what the story is about.

E.g. **Crime drama** 🡪 Police Drama 🡪 Police Procedural

**Genre hybridity**

Genre hybrids are genres with characteristics of many genres combined into one.

E.g. **Luther** 🡪 Phycological Drama (lunacy, twisted crimes or methods) + Police Procedural (crime and investigation)

**Themes** (e.g.)

* Academic problems
* Romantic entanglements
* Parental conflict
* Bullying

**Analysis:** Freaks and Geeks (Teen Drama)

1. Location

* High school: canteen, breakout spaces, classrooms
* Traditional American home

1. Characters

* School uniform
* American teens
* Casual clothing
* Bullies: Long hair, threatening dialogue: “you’re dead!”
* Bullied: Curly hair, oversized clothing, large glasses

1. Icons

* Pompoms
* Lots of food conveying well-off family

1. Miscellaneous

* Saturated colours
* Relatively bright palette