



Introduction to Thriller

The thriller has been described as 'a film with an exciting plot, typically involving crime or espionage'. Can you name any films that fit this description?

What experiences have you had with this genre?

What type of audiences would you say typically enjoy this genre?

Task

Click through the following webpages that provide examples of thrillers

<https://goo.gl/Kj9tCO>

With a partner, make a list of generic features you may expect to find in a Thriller.

Seminal text

Use the digital resource to consider how the genre has developed over time

Media Industries

Because of the manifest potential for hybridity, the thriller has been a perennial genre throughout cinema. The key emotional ingredients of the thriller- suspense, excitement - are also integral to many other genres, after all. The power of a thriller is created by the efficiency of its storytelling: the plot should keep us on the edge of our seat, and the film making should create suspense. Thrillers are generally inexpensive to produce, as they often do not have to rely on special effects, although star power can be used to provide USPs and to distinguish products. The low budget thriller has been the starting point for several successful directors, including the Coen Brothers, Tarantino and Scorsese.



Audiences

Science Fiction often offers a variety of audience pleasures. Primarily, there is the thrill of experiencing plots unfold. The thriller encourages audience investment through a variety of narrative codes.

The *psychological thriller* offers insight and identification pleasures. The representation of women is integral to this subgenre and often takes aspects of specifically female psychology as subject matter.

The action thriller is generally more popular with young male audiences and has experienced a renaissance recently, with the likes of the *Taken* franchise. Thrillers often have a strong shelf life, gaining success on other media platforms such as streaming following their cinema releases.

Task

Read [this blogpost](#) and make notes on the ways that thrillers can position audiences.