# Types of Stories

- Stories have probably been shared in every culture and in every land as a means of entertainment, education, preservation of culture and to instill knowledge and values morals. Crucial elements of storytelling include plot and characters, as well as the narrative point of view. Stories are frequently used to teach, explain, and/or entertain
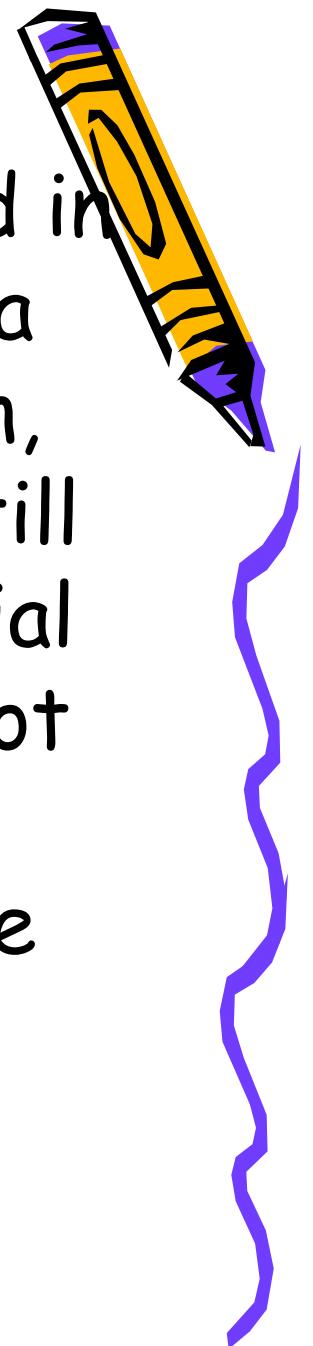
Plan:

- **Anecdote**
- **Fairy tale**
- **Fable**
- **Joke**
- **Political Jokes**
- **Legend**
- **Urban legend or urban myth**
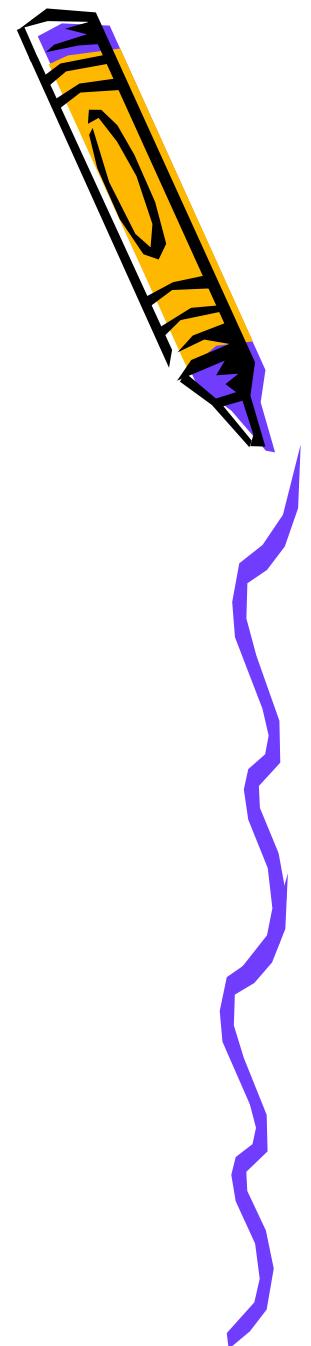
Anecdote
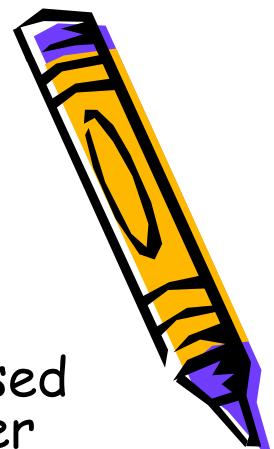
- An **anecdote** is a short tale narrating an interesting or amusing biographical incident.An anecdote is always based on real life, an incident involving actual persons, whether famous or not, in real places. However, over time, modification in reuse may convert a particular anecdote to a fictional piece, one that is retold but is "too good to be true". Sometimes humorous, anecdotes are not jokes, because their primary purpose is not simply to evoke laughter, but to reveal a truth more general than the brief tale itself, or to delineate a character trait or the workings of an institution in such a light that it strikes in a flash of insight to their very essence. The word *anecdote* ("unpublished", literally "not given out") comes from Procopius of Caesarea, the biographer of Justinian I, who produced a work entitled Ανεκδοτα (*Anekdota*, variously translated as *Unpublished Memoirs* or *Secret History*), which is primarily a collection of short incidents from the private life of the Byzantine court.

An Example of an anecdote

- Cary Grant is said to have been reluctant to reveal his age to the public, having played the youthful lover for more years than would have been appropriate. One day, while he was sorting out some business with his agent, a telegram arrived from a journalist who was desperate to learn how old the actor was. It read: *HOW OLD CARY GRANT?* Grant, who happened to open it himself, immediately cabled back: *OLD CARY GRANT FINE. HOW YOU?*
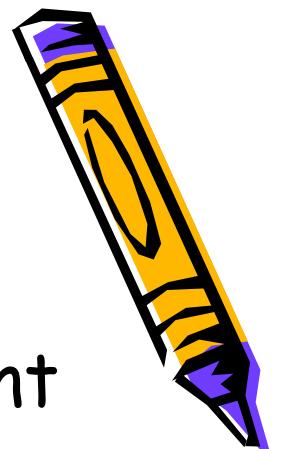
Fairy tale
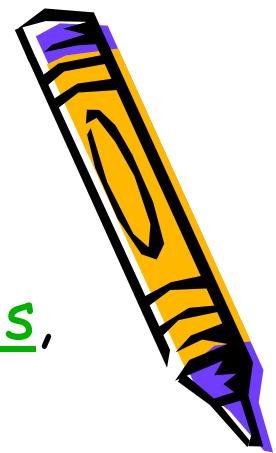
- A **fairy tale** is a story featuring folkloric characters such as fairies, goblins, elves, trolls, giants, and talking animals, and usually enchantments. In cultures where demons and witches are perceived as real, fairy tales may merge into legendary narratives, where the context is perceived by teller and hearers as having historical actuality. However, unlike legends and epics they usually do not contain more than superficial references to religion and actual places, persons, and events; they take place once upon a time rather than in actual times. Fairy tales are found in oral folktales and in literary form. the name "fairy tale" was first ascribed to them by Madame d'Aulnoy
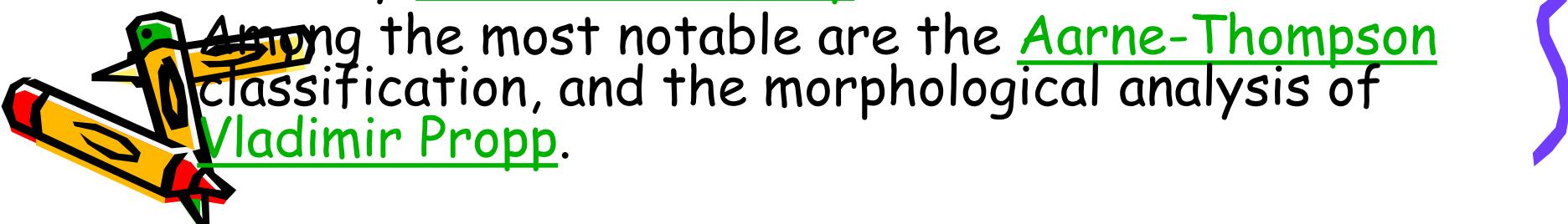
- Among the most notable are the Aarne-Thompson classification, and the morphological analysis of Vladimir Propp.

Fable
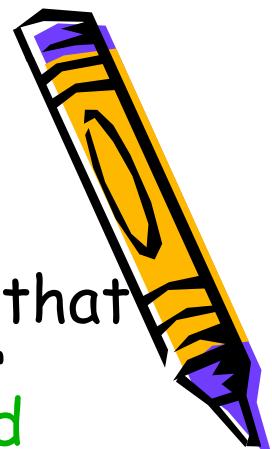
- A is a brief, succinct story, in prose or verse, that features animals, plants, inanimate objects, or forces of nature which are anthropomorphized (given human qualities), and that illustrates a moral lesson. The word, "fable," comes from the Latin "*fabula*" — a "brief narrative" or "tale" — and shares a root with "*faber*" ("maker," "artificer"). Thus a fable is an invention, a fiction. An author of fables is termed a **fabulist**.

- A fable often makes metaphorical use of an animal as its central character Whether a fable is handed down from generation to generation as oral literature or constructed by a literary tale-teller, its purpose is to teach a lesson or value, or to give sage advice. Fables also provide opportunities to laugh at human folly

Notable fabulists

Ignacy Krasicki.

Ivan Krylov.

Ambrose Bierce.
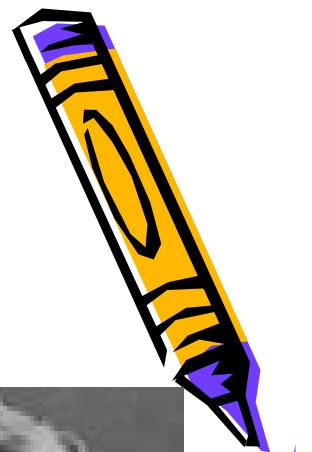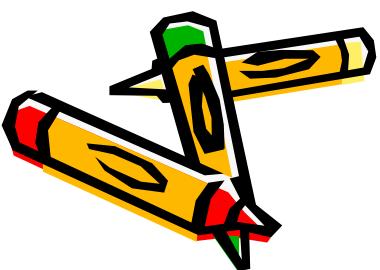
Joke

- A is a short story or series of words spoken or communicated with the intent of being laughed at or found humorous by either listener/reader or performer/writer. A practical joke differs in that the humor is not verbal, but mainly physical (e.g. throwing a custard pie in the direction of somebody's face). Some jokes are not funny.

- Jokes are performed either in a staged situation, such as a comedy in front of an audience, or informally for the entertainment of participants and onlookers. The desired response is generally laughter, although loud groans are also a common response to some forms of jokes, such as puns and shaggy dog stories.
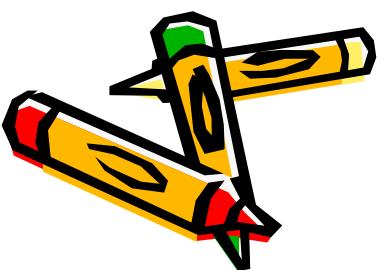
Political jokes

- *Political jokes* are usually a form of satire. They generally concern politicians and heads of state, but may also cover the absurdities of a country's political situation. Two large categories of this type of jokes exist. The first one makes fun of a negative attitude to political opponents or to politicians in general. The second one makes fun of political clichés, mottos, catch phrases or simply blunders of politicians. Some, especially the you have two cows genre, derive humor from comparing different political systems.

Legend

- A ([Latin](#), *legenda*, "things to be read") is a [narrative](#) of human actions that are perceived both by teller and listeners to take place within human history and to possess certain qualities that give the tale [verisimilitude](#). Legend, for its active and passive participants, includes no happenings that are outside the realm of "possibility", defined by a highly flexible set of parameters, which may include [miracles](#) that are perceived as actually having happened, within the specific tradition of [indoctrination](#) where the legend arises, and within which it may be transformed over time, in order to keep it fresh and vital, and [realistic](#).
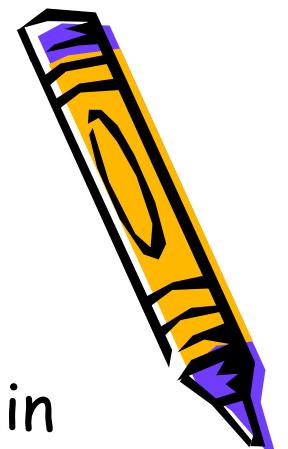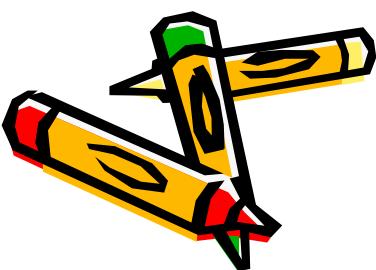
- A legend or legend fragment is a meme that propagates through a culture. It may be crystallized in a literary work that fixes it and which affects the future direction it will take. Such an example of this is the contrast of *Hamlet* the legend, and Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. When a legend that is rooted in a kernel of truth is so strongly affected by an ideal that it conforms to expected literary conventions of behavior, in certain cases it turns into a Romance. Such may well be the case with a historical Arthur (see Historical basis for King Arthur), around whom legends accumulated and were expressed in the purely literary magical atmosphere of surviving Arthurian romances: the "Matter of Britain".
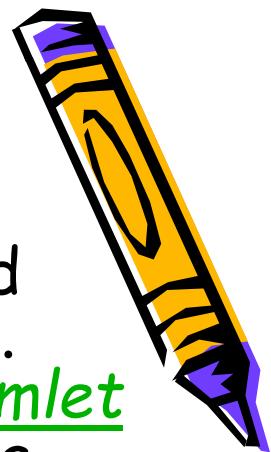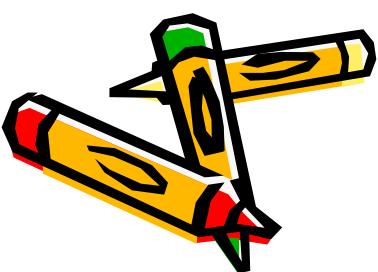
Urban legend or urban myth

- An **urban legend** or **urban myth** is a kind of modern [folklore](#) consisting of stories often thought to be factual by those circulating them. (The term is often used with a meaning similar to that of the expression "apocryphal story"). Urban legends are not necessarily untrue, but they are often distorted, exaggerated, or sensationalized. Despite the name, a typical urban legend does not necessarily originate in an urban setting. The term is designed to differentiate them from traditional folklore in preindustrial times.
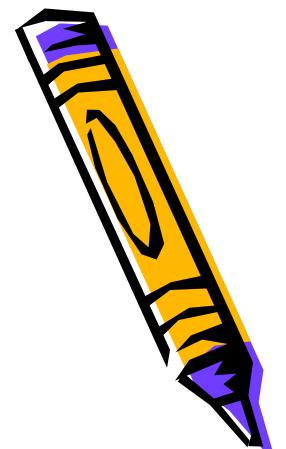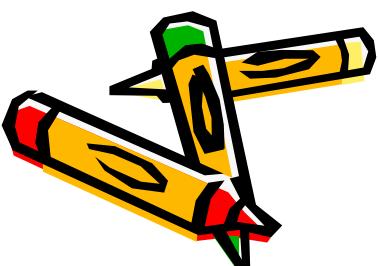
Topics of urban legends

- Barometer question
- Li Qing Yuen A long lived Chinese sage often cited by sellers of herbal medicine, for whom no documented record exists.
- Fan death (South Korea)
- Great Wall of China (re: visibility from space)
- Coriolis effect (re: toilets/ bathtubs flowing in opposite direction below the equator)
- Water-fuelled car & gasoline pill
- Oak Island-Alleged buried treasure but see article sections "Early History";"Documented History"; & "History or Legend"
- Chase Vault-Legendary alleged unexplained moving of coffins but see article section "Origins of Story"
- John Wesley Hardin -legendary killer but see article section "Hardin and unconfirmed claims"
- Lost Dutchman's Gold Mine -legendary lost mine but see article sections "Stories About the Mine" & "The Historical Jacob Waltz"
- Bermuda Triangle-Legendary alleged unexplained mystery of vanishing ships and planes but see article section "Kusche's The Bermuda Triangle Mystery Solved".
- The Little Girl - a country song based on an unconfirmed urban legend
- Lake Bodom murders - teenagers on camping trip get butchered by monster-like character