

Adventures in Science Fiction Writing

Science Element – The Problem

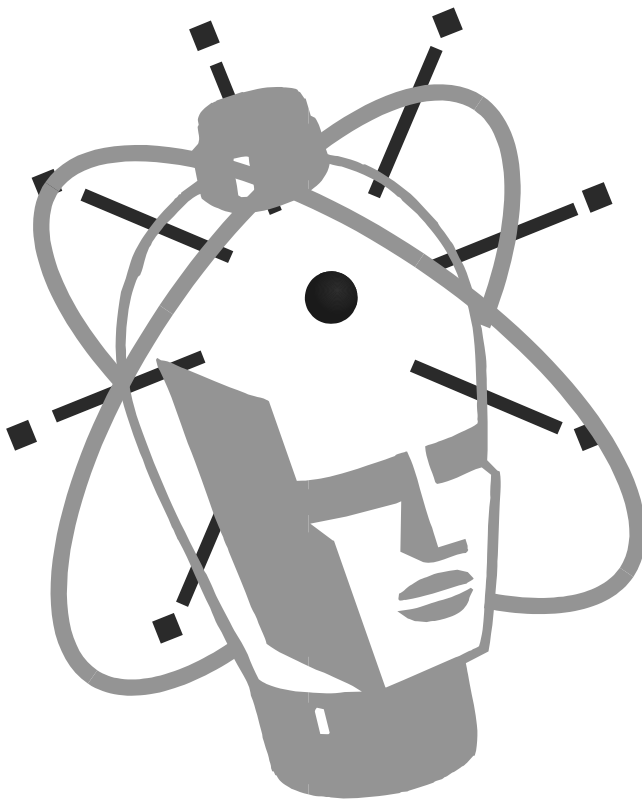
For the Teacher

This lesson focuses on the science element contained in the science fiction genre. Many times the science theory or technological invention has been exaggerated to the point it has become the central problem within the plot. It is interesting to imagine how our world will be different in another century. The “What If?” element is very prominent in this genre.

The class should read the examples and discuss the science elements and how they have gone wrong creating the problems. It should be noted that science fiction problems seem like they really could happen. There is a sense of realism. It’s not complete fantasy.

Students will be required to write their own science fiction problem that stems from an exaggerated science element. The paper needs to be a half to a full page in length.

Steps Involved:



1. Teacher should lead a discussion on the examples discussing the science element and the problem created.
2. Brainstorm ideas for a science fiction problem.
3. Students should write about their own problems. They may need to research some of their ideas to obtain the factual background for the theories gone bad.
4. Sharing time is recommended.
5. Students should place these pieces in their portfolio for further writing and discussion.