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#### **Essay On Horror (Structure/Outline)**

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#### Introduction

Horror is an emotion of fear, dread, and shock that is aroused by the anticipation or presence of danger. It can be evoked in stories and films by creating an atmosphere of fear and suspense.

Horror has been a part of our lives for centuries, appearing in literature, art, film, television, computer games, and theatre. The genre of horror has been around since ancient times and has evolved over the years. Horror can be thrilling and exciting, but it can also be disturbing and disquieting.

#### **Types of Horror**

Horror can be divided up into different categories such as psychological horror, supernatural horror, slasher films, science fiction horror, and zombie films.

#### (1) Psychological horror:

Psychological horror is designed to create an atmosphere of tension and suspense. It focuses on the psychological aspects of fear, weaving a complex web of emotions that drive the story forward. Examples include The Shining (1980), Psycho (1960), and The Exorcist (1973).

#### (2) Supernatural horror:

Supernatural horror draws on themes from folklore and religious beliefs. These stories often involve ghosts, monsters, demons, and other

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supernatural forces that can't be explained by science or reason. Examples include The Ring (2002), The Grudge (2004), and 28 Days Later (2002).

### (3) Slasher films:

Slasher films are violent, gory movies with a focus on shock and suspense. These films often feature a killer or psychopath who stalks and kills their victims in graphic ways. Examples include Halloween (1978), Friday the 13th (1980), and Scream (1996).

#### (4) Science fiction horror:

Science fiction horror combines elements of science fiction with horror, creating an atmosphere of terror and tension. These stories usually involve killer robots, aliens, or other creatures from outer space. Examples include Alien (1979), The Terminator (1984), and Predator (1987).

#### (5) Zombie films:

Zombie films focus on the genre of horror that involves zombies, usually created by a virus or some kind of supernatural force. These films often feature humans struggling to survive against hordes of the undead. Examples include Night of the Living Dead (1968), Dawn of the Dead (1978), and 28 Days Later (2002).

#### **Causes of Horror**

The cause of fear and terror can vary depending on what kind of horror is being portrayed. Psychological horror often explores themes such as mental illness, trauma, grief, and guilt.

Supernatural horror often draws on themes from mythology and religion, while slasher films rely heavily on shock value and intense violence.

Science fiction horror usually has a scientific or technological explanation for the source of terror, and zombie films often involve the spread of infection or virus that turns people into mindless monsters.

#### **Characteristics of Horror**

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The main characteristics of horror are fear and suspense. Horror stories and films often use a combination of sound, visuals, music, and dialogue to create an atmosphere of terror and tension. Many horror films also use jump scares – sudden moments or scenes that shock the viewer with a loud sound or intense visual.

#### **Significance and Impact of Horror**

Horror has had a long history and impact on culture. It can be used to explore our fears, challenge societal norms, provide entertainment, and even as a form of social commentary. Many horror films have become cult classics, inspiring generations of fans and filmmakers alike.

#### Horror in Arts, Entertainment, and Media

Horror is a popular genre of art, entertainment, and media that has captivated audiences for centuries. It can be found in literature, film, television, computer games, and theatre. For Example Genres, Fictional Characters, Films, and Music are mainly observed

#### (1) Genres:

The horror genre is vast and includes subgenres such as psychological, supernatural, slasher, science fiction, and zombie.

#### (2) Fictional Characters:

Fictional characters in horror stories often serve as the source of fear or terror. Examples include Frankenstein's Monster, Dracula, The Mummy, and Pennywise the Clown from IT.

#### (3) Films:

Horror films often rely on shock value and intense visuals to create an atmosphere of fear and dread. Examples include The Shining, Psycho, Alien, and Dawn of the Dead.

### (4) Music:

Music is a key element in horror that can help to create suspense or evoke fear in viewers. It has been used extensively in horror films, from Bernard

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Hermann's score for Psycho to John Carpenter's classic Halloween theme. The horror genre has captivated audiences for centuries and continues to draw people in with its themes of fear and suspense.

Horror films, literature, music, and other forms of art have all contributed to the popularity of this genre, allowing us to explore our fears safely and entertainingly. They often highlight disparities between the privileged and less fortunate, as well as issues of power and control.

Ultimately, horror is a genre that continues to captivate audiences and can be used to explore our fears, challenge societal norms and provide entertainment. Even though it often relies on fear and suspense, horror can also offer meaningful insight into the human condition.

#### **Criticism on Horror**

Despite its popularity, horror has received criticism over the years for its violent content and potential to desensitize viewers. Critics have argued that it can be damaging to young minds, particularly those who are impressionable and vulnerable. It has also been accused of perpetuating negative stereotypes about certain groups or cultures.

Horror is an enduring genre with a long history and a dedicated fan base. Despite its detractors, the horror continues to captivate and entertain audiences around the world. Its ability to explore fear and evoke powerful emotions makes it an important part of popular culture.

#### FAQ's

### What is the history of Horror?

The horror genre has a long history, with roots in Gothic literature and folklore. It has been popularized over the years in films, television shows, music, and theatre.

### What makes horror so scary?

Horror is often used to evoke fear and dread in viewers. It can employ a combination of sound, visuals, music, and dialogue to create an

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atmosphere of terror and tension. Jump scares – sudden moments that shock the viewer with a loud sound or intense visual – are also common.

#### What horror does do to the brain?

Horror can affect the brain in various ways. It has been shown to stimulate the production of adrenaline and cortisol, which can cause feelings of fear and anxiety. It can also evoke a sense of control as viewers can explore their fears from a safe distance.

### What are people most afraid of in horror?

Common fears in horror stories include fear of the unknown, fear of being alone, and fear of death. Other popular horrors include supernatural entities, monsters, and serial killers.

#### What is a common criticism of horror?

Critics have argued that horror can be damaging to young minds and have the potential to desensitize viewers. It has also been accused of perpetuating negative stereotypes about certain groups or cultures.

#### What is the purpose of horror?

The horror genre is often used to explore fear and evoke powerful emotions in viewers. It can also be used to challenge societal norms, spark conversations on difficult topics and provide entertainment.