

Todorov: worksheet

Concept one: the three act narrative

1. Define what happens in each of the three stages of Todorov's ideal narrative.

Stage	Events that define this stage
Equilibrium	
Disequilibrium	
New equilibrium	

answers:
page 30

2. What is meant by the by the following narrative terms?

	Definition
Linear storytelling	
Proppian character use	
Single character transformation	

answers:
page 32

Media Theory for A Level

Learn it:
chapter 3
pages 28-35

3. Give definitions for the following terms and explain how they complicate Todorov's ideal narrative arc.

Term	Your explanation and explanation of how they complicate Todorov's ideal narrative
Plot and subplot narrative arcs	
Multi-equilibrium and disequilibrium use	
Flexi narratives	
Condensed equilibrium	

4. Why do you think contemporary media products subvert Todorov's narrative ideal?

Todorov: worksheet

Concept one: the three act narrative

5. Todorov's ideal narrative is routinely subverted by contemporary media products. Give definitions for the following nontraditional narrative techniques as well as examples of products you have seen that use these techniques.

answers:
page 33

Technique	Definition	Examples of products that use this technique
Anachronic devices		
In media res		
Multiperspec-tive narratives		
Unreliable narration		
Metanarration		
Frame narratives		

Media Theory for A Level



Life on Mars(BBC): contemporary audiences, arguably, expect narrative subversion in TV storytelling.