

Task 1

Cave painting tends to refer to the prehistoric ages. The earliest cave painting appeared approximately 40,000 years ago in Europe and was the first form of visual storytelling. For a primitive man, it was not always possible to imagine a story so cave painting came into existence. Cave painting was accompanied with other forms of storytelling. The Australian aboriginal people told their stories using a combination of oral narrative, music, rock art and dance. Cave painting didn't just remain on cave or rock walls. People told stories using carved trunks of living trees and complex tattoos could also represent stories.

As speech developed, oral traditions came about; stories passed orally from one generation to another. Stories such as myths and legends came about in this way. Many people say that myths are accounts of historical events that have been distorted. Many myths are claimed to be the story of how the world and mankind assumed their present form. Folktale and legends are closely related to myth though there are differences between them. Folktales can be set in any time and place and unlike myths, are not considered true or sacred by the people that told them. Legends are the same as myths in the fact that they are considered to be true but they are set in a more recent time. Myths also tend to focus on characters that are considered superhuman while legends tend to have humans featuring as the main character.

Theatre became another form of storytelling through the combination of gesture, speech, song, music and dance. It is a form of fine art that uses live performers to present a story; whether it is a real or imagined event.

Written text appeared between the 7th millennium BC and the 4th millennium BC. However, it wasn't originally created with words. The written language started off in the form of symbols before words were written. For years and years, books have been a traditional form of storytelling and are still popular today. It allows the reader to take the descriptions from the pages and create images in their mind of what the world and characters of the story could look like. In this way, books open up a world of opportunities for the imagination.

The history of film began in the late 1880s when the first movie camera was invented. However, films created before 1930 were silent films so at this time, they may not have been the best form of storytelling available. When sound was finally added to movies, this increased the impact of the stories themselves; allowing the viewer to become immersed on what was happening on the screen. Nowadays, a lot of films are created based on books so there is a lot of controversy on whether books or films are better; though it does tend to come down to professional opinion. Television is a similar form of media to films in that the TV screen can show us films but it allows us access to this form of media within the home.

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