Narrative Conventions

* Themes, symbols and motifs.
* Setting.
* Characterisation.
* Narrative point of view – Who tells the story?
* Structure – When did it occur?
* Plot – How does it affect the novel?

Generic Conventions of Climate Fiction

Setting:

* Near-future, often assuming climate change has already been passed.
* Cities enduring destruction from extreme weather.
* Islands or land disappearing under rising water levels.

Plot:

* Disastrous climactic event and dystopian aftermath.
* Loss of home.
* Anthropogenic climate change.

Characters:

* Intergenerational responsibility.
* Base human nature.
* Climate refugees.

Themes:

* Individuals impacted by climate change.
* Communities and societies reshaped by climate change.
* Moral responsibility when under threat.

Style

* Syntax.
* Diction.
* Voice.

Persuasive Structures

* Appearance vs reality.
* Case studies.
* Cause and effect.
* Compare and contrast.
* Mistaken critic.
* Occurrence and possibility.
* Ubiquity.

Persuasive Language Features

Pathos (emotion):

* Anaphora – Repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses.
* Cumulation (rule of 3).
* Colloquialism.
* Emphasis.
* Emotive language.
* Repetition.
* Rhetorical question.
* Inclusive language.
* Hyperbole.
* Generalisation – Suggests that what’s true for some is true for most or all.

Logos (logic):

* Anecdote.
* Evidence.
* Expert opinions.
* Formal language.
* Jargon.
* Statistics.

Visual Elements

Lighting:

* Colour.
* Contrast.
* Key.

Setting:

* Environment.
* Props.

Subject:

* Costume – Essential in establishing people’s character.
* Body language – Postures, facial expressions and actions.

Composition

Camera angle:

* Low angle – Suggests that the subject has dominance or power in some way.
* Eye level – Suggests equality between the subject and the viewer.
* High angle – Suggests the subject is powerless or inferior in some way.
* Oblique – Captured on an angle.

Shot type:

* Long shot – Creates emotional distance or reveals the subject’s small stature.
* Medium shot – Only shows the subject’s torso and head.
* Close-up – Force the viewer to get up close and personal with the subject.

Language Features

Imaginative language features:

* Adjectives and adverbs.
* Connotation.
* Sensory details.

Figurative language:

* Anthropomorphism.
* Personification.
* Pathetic fallacy.
* Metaphor.
* Simile.
* Symbolism.
* Zoomorphism.

Sound devices:

* Alliteration.
* Assonance.
* Onomatopoeia.
* Rhyme.

Intertextuality:

* Allusion.
* Analogy.
* Quotation.