

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DOCUMENTARY AND FICTION FILMS

Documentary is a type of non-fictional motion picture that aims to document reality while fictional film is a type of motion picture that tells a story that is not based on real events.

Generally speaking there is a clear distinction between documentaries and fiction films and a viewer should be able to tell whether what he is watching is fiction or documentary. The clearest distinction between the two is their relationship with reality. A fiction film presents a story that is not based on reality or at least not in the form it is represented. A documentary however tells something about the reality of our world, shows the real world.

There are several cases where it is difficult to draw distinction between fact and fiction even the experts fail to make this distinction. Conceptually there is a significant difference between documentary and fiction film. Traditionally documentaries are generally short films and are based on fact while fiction films are not based on fact. This traditionalist's view of documentaries has changed slightly in recent years which has been providing documentaries which are heavily edited.

Key differences between documentary and fiction film. These differences are used to discuss the key differences in documentary making and fiction film making. Beginning with definition of key terms this paper explores the key differences between documentary and fiction film making from a conceptual point of view. Following, it uses evidence from real-life cases of documentaries and fiction film makers to access the functional differences between the two. It investigates distinction between the two comparing structural attributes and views, interpretations and concludes that it is the latter which determines whether a film is a document or a fiction.

The difference between documentary and fiction is that documentary is a type of film that aims to present factual information about real events, people or phenomena while fiction is a type of film that creates imaginary stories, characters and situations.

Documentary film usually uses real footage, interviews or narration to convey their message while fiction films use scripted dialogue, actors and special effects to create their narrative. Documentary films are often intended to inform, educate or persuade the audience about a certain topic, while where else fiction films are mainly made for entertainment or artistic expression.

In conclusion the distinction between documentary and fiction is not always clear in all films because it may combine elements of both genres but despite the combination in most cases where a film is a reality it is a documentary and a documentary is not all about actors unlike like film where actors are involved and it's for entertainment purposes.