

Comedy =
Happy Ending
Cathartic - true?

random
Narrative voices

sarcasm
rambling
colloquial

START

Coincidence

Elements of Romantic Comedy?
Louise/Jackson

CONTRIVANCE

Exaggeration,
lack of realism
UNTYPICALITY

WWTBGN
Comedic
elements
Revision
sheet
NOT ALL IN MORE DETAILS!

Inter-textuality

Satire

Genre playfulness/
knowingness/
subversion

Black
humour/
Ironic
paralleling

Plotting / Pacing /
Plot Devices

Stereotypes /
Caricatures

Feminism: no clear male hero / men are flawed or criminals

Rambling narrative: tangents, digressions, subplots, backstories

Talk of police procedure + deduction

coincidence
Not typical crime novel makes for untypical J.B.
lack of detail in criminals

START

reduces may be focalised through / may be 1st person..
saves victim

drives the narrative

involved in climactic 'shoot out'

What is a conventional protagonist in crime fiction?

male? observant, cynical, rational, smart, maverick, flawed? "heroic mindset", addictions?

How does his presentation support ideas of postmodernism + feminism?

Brodie does not control shoot out / denouement process

Genre Hybrid - so is JB!

Section A Q1
To what extent does Jackson Brodie satisfy the reader's expectations of a detective hero in WWTBAN?
ARRIVE!

Outsiders? troubled past? domestic actions like a mess? heroic actions

hard boiled? marginalised in the plot

when do conventions become cliches?

fractured narrative focalisations

Louise

Brodie marginalised by strong women: Reggie, Joanna, Louise

Brodie overshadowed by other more typical protagonists

Reggie

subplot of Tessa + Brodie's CON

Consider how Atkinson introduces + develops the character

1st appearance UNUSUAL

tragic backstory

Cynical/sarcastic eg?

NB: in exam: you need specific quotes relating to him

incapacitated for most of novel

coincidental back story - JB 30 YB 140 - sentimental? contrived?

Does not provide CATHARSIS - JOANNA does
Only small part of novel devoted to "police work"

comedic?

soft boiled? sensitive, poetically presented

How does Jackson adhere to this stereotype and how does he challenge it?

Not in control

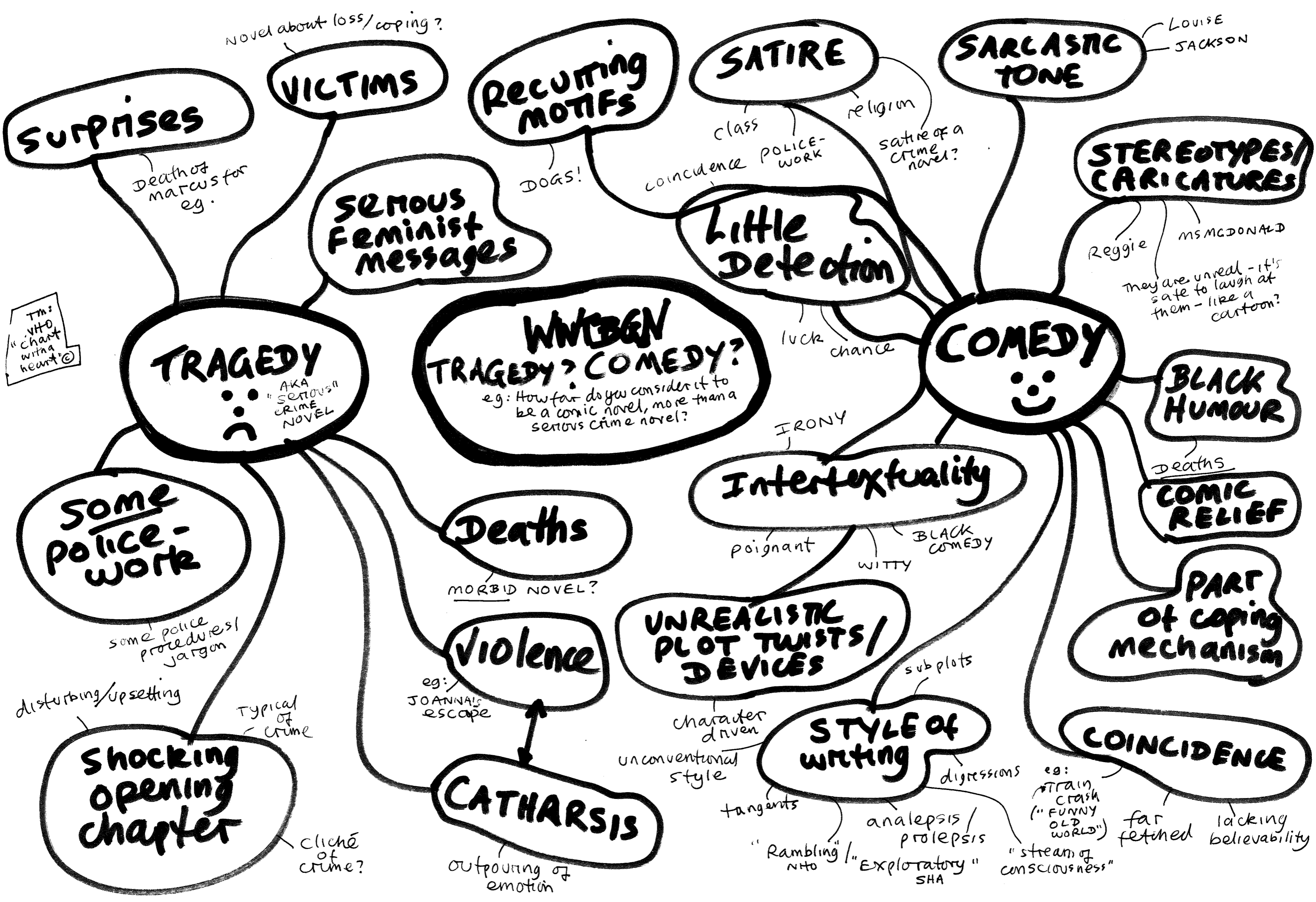
Does not drive narrative - women do!

Does little detective work

His part in denouement is unusual + contrived / unnecessary? ..written?

Not 'officially' a police detective now - he's a Private Detective

Little deduction / inference



List 10 of
Kate Atkinson's
AUTHORIAL
METHODS
↳ provide specific
examples/
quotes

Extension:
COMPARE HER
METHODS WITH
GREENE G.N. | B.R.
→

inside mind of a killer...?
To Explore the Human Condition - psychology
born bad? - made bad?

corruption
The "Political" Crime novel - race - sex - Govt. - spies

VICARIOUS thrills - safe way to break law!
second hand thrills
enjoying disturbing experiences

MORAL REASSURANCE
restoration of order
villains punished
reassuring denouements
poverty
role model protagonist?
Good triumphs over evil

The Pleasures of Crime Writing

Wish fulfillment
Crime is enticing? Can satisfy 'wicked' thoughts in safe environment

Sex and Violence and Drugs
pulp fiction?

are many, varied and addictive...
Here are a few...

emulate danger
thrills ESCAPISM
glamour
reader is the 'sidekick'?
enigma intrigue

cheap thrills
genre has 'sleazy' reputation...
plots, codes, language
jargon
interviews
criminals
excitement
the court-room
the legal system
fascinating procedures + details
tight plots
thrills - pace
police language
A "secret world"
evidence
techniques
most crime novels are 'thrillers'

emotional outpouring
satisfy 'dark cravings'
Catharsis
An outlet for violent thoughts
A 'release or discharge'

Detection / solving the puzzle
links
Red herrings
intellectual challenge
clues
evidence
inference + deduction

LIST 10 CRIMES IN NOVEL

LIST 5 COINCIDENCES

START

LIST 10 PLOTS / OF SUBPLOTS

EXCITING!
Welcome to the final revision sheet on WWTBGN!!
THRILLING!
FILL IT IN!
NO NOTES!
ACCEPT NO SUBSTITUTE

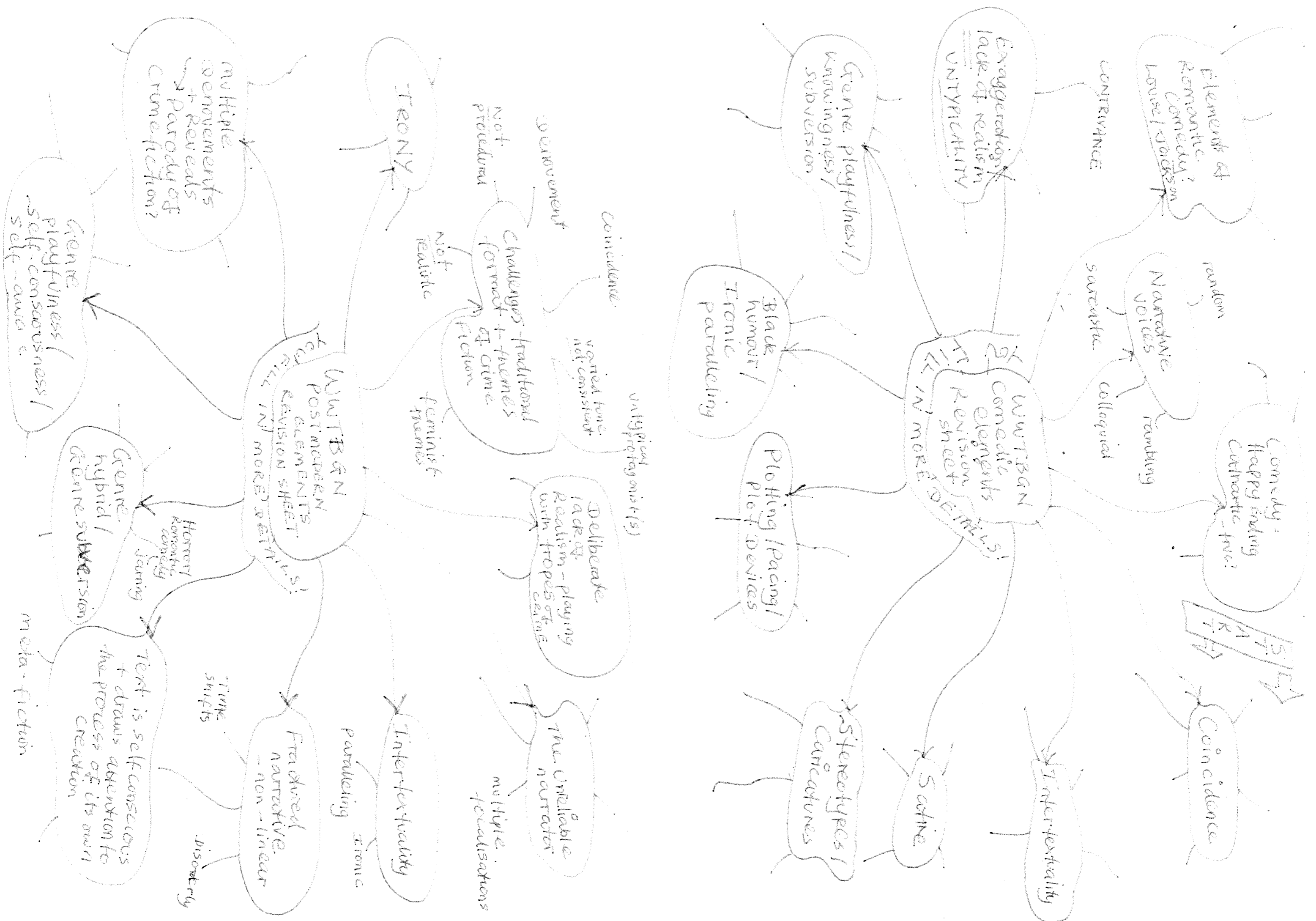
LIST 10 AUTHORIAL METHODS IN THE NOVEL

LIST 10 EXAMPLES OF FLASHBACKS

LIST 20 CHARACTERS IN THE NOVEL

LIST 10 POST-MODERN ELEMENTS IN NOVEL

Extension Overleaf:
List 5 ways that ATKINSON is:
- "SURPRISING"
- "FUNNY"
- "QUIRK"
- "LIFE AFFIRMING"
- "EXHILARATING"
AND then think 5 ways in which she is NOT those things (ie ways in which she is the opposite)



black comedy
VIOLENCE
grab attention / shock
Catharsis

DELAYED REVELATIONS + TICKING TIME BOMB PLOT DEVICE
Reggie's mum
Decker
Needler

NON-LINEAR NARRATIVES / FLASHBACKS
"Harvest"
(traditional to use flashback at start of CRIME NOVEL)

MANY TONE SHIFTS
- poetic
- blunt
- satire

CHARACTERS
- character driven (NOT PLOT DRIVEN) unusual
- characterisations
using teenage protagonist
lots of backstory!
varied pace

List 10 of Kate Atkinson's AUTHORIAL METHODS
provide specific examples / quotes

MULTIPLE P.O.V. FOCALISATIONS NARRATIVE VOICES
Reggie Jackson
Louise
Billy
"High Noon" / "Sats House"

Comic INTERLUDES = PACING IN GENERAL

change of mood
poetic interludes
PARENTHESES
S.O.C.
stream of consciousness
genre aware
set inside character thoughts

ELEMENTS OF POST-MODERNISM
Extension: compare her methods with GREENE G.N. B.R.
playing with genre
lack of moral order
COINCIDENCE

INTER-TEXTUALITY
- ironic
- funny
- poetic / touching

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ARGUE!

what is a hero?

fractured narrative focalisations

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EXAM FEEDBACK

Lack of clear morality - Relativism

Loise + her marriage?
JB's CON

NO arrests for JO's KIDNAP
Billy free
double suicides

NOVEL MORE about victims / SURVIVORS than CRIMINALS + feminism!

Impact of CRIMINAL diluted by how many there are!
lacks sharp focus of CRIME

Things are resolved by chance / violence rather than detection per se

What's UNSATISFACTORY?

too cosy / neat in final chapter

loose ends - book is part of Quartet! sequel!

traditional in some ways: horrific flashback crime in chapters

WWTBAN
CRIMINALS

post modern Novel not typical! + satire

is it rational / believable? NO! why?
is it moral? why? YES / NO

WWTBAN
Endings

killers die
satisfactory?

feminist

catharsis from violence?

lack of overriding moral message
complex ambiguous

little back story

Criminals are ill-defined

Criminals not typical

postmodern: multiple denouements

focalisation

Decker
Neil Hunter
Needler

Who are Criminals?
Anderson
Billy? kidnappers
Ms McDonald!

lack of CLOSURE
"broadens" not "narrows" "Blank"?

There is no Godtha postmodern world - don't expect traditional sense of right/wrong/justice

How believable is the novel's denouement?

NB: believability is key ingredient of crime fiction

Do we care?
Does it subvert genre conventions?

Final Part - "Christmas"
- sense of a CODA - slow graceful ending, calm after storm etc



Denouement = unravelling

Sense of moral justice / restoration of order / reassurance

how clear is this? subverted?

Which "loose ends" are tidied up?

Reggie's future, The Brodie set up

The name of the dog! (scout!)
Andrew Decker

String of ironic coincidences at end
Jo + Billy + the gun
Brodie found 30 yrs ago!

The Denouement
What is Atkinson doing?!
from pg 406....

Pacing
- look at chapter length - shorter
- variety of focalisation
- speeding up....

Needler case
Novels end with violence - emotional release

Jo's escape

Tessa? Lovise?

Feminist angle?

Joanna as true heroine of novel?

Too neat? playing with narrative

Resolution of issues

too many?
contrived?

Closure
- how is this managed?
do we feel it?

High Noon
western shoot out
inter-textuality

Jo's killing of villains

Reggie? the victims
Joanna's cover-up

Shock / Surprise

believable? multiple denouements?
body in flat?

too quick?

blunt violence inflicted on man by woman (hurrah!)
- role reversal.

Needler subplot - jarring reappearance
Brodie set up
Marus's death (Marus's mother's death?)

Catharsis / relief / satisfaction

killing of criminals by Jo

**Pacing/
Structuring
the Novel**

Digressions
- random themes
- seemingly not relevant?

The Cliffhanger

Backstory/
flashbacks

differing
focalisation

Subplots

The
CRITICAL
event!
to bring together
people
PLOT DEVICE

The 'Ticking
Time Bomb'
- Under the
surface events

Echoing / foreshadowing
paralleling -
Ironic links
inter-textual links

Comic
Relief/
mood.
shifts

Bursts of
unexpected
violence/
shock

Shorter/
"poetic"
passages
- slow
- moving

Find evidence from the text to illustrate these elements of Atkinson's craft



Find specific quotations from the text

NHO NOV 2015

WWTBAN: REVISION

LIST 10
TYPICAL /
STEREOTYPICAL
ingredients of a
PROTAGONIST in
a CRIME
NOVEL

LIST 10
WAYS IN WHICH
KATE ATKINSON
SUBVERTS THE
CONVENTIONS OF THE
CRIME GENRE

* ON REVERSE: LIST ALL THE AUTHORIAL METHODS ATKINSON USES IN THE NOVEL