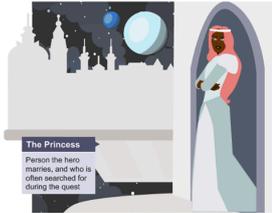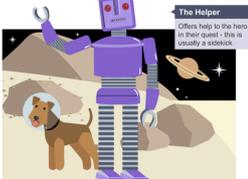# GCSE Media Studies Component 2a – Crime Drama – Media Language Propp Theory

Vladimir Propp was a folklorist researcher interested in the relationship between characters and **narrative**. Propp argued that stories are character driven and that plots develop from the decisions and actions of characters and how they function in a story.

He claimed characters could be classified into certain roles that progress a story.

Type of character	Example of character in Luther (conformed/subverted?)	How the character was used to drive the narrative
The Hero — The person on the quest through which the audience follows the narrative		
The Villain — Struggles to stop the hero in their quest		
The Princess — Person the hero marries, and who is often searched for during the quest		
The Donor — Prepares the hero for their quest		
The False Hero — A character that initially appears as good but turns out to be evil		
The Helper — Offers help to the hero in their quest - this is usually a sidekick		

Overall did the characters within Luther conform to Propp's theory or not?

Why do you think that this is?