



| Year 8 Autumn Term 1: Gothic Literature  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <p><b>Topics covered:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conventions of the Gothic genre.</li> <li>• Describing a Gothic setting.</li> <li>• The influence of contemporary events and Victorian society on the Gothic genre.</li> <li>• Why the Gothic genre was, and still is, so popular.</li> </ul> | <p><b>How it links to what you have studied before:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students should have an understanding of the term 'genre' from KS2. They may have also studied the Victorians in History at primary school.</li> <li>• They will have studied a range of extracts on the theme of 'Hocus Pocus' in Year 7 - now they will be focusing on extracts that are slightly older and more challenging and looking for links between them other than a common theme.</li> </ul> | <p><b>How it links to what you will study:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reading these more challenging extracts will prepare students for the in-depth study of Shakespearean language in <i>Macbeth</i> next term. We can also explore how a play like <i>Macbeth</i> might have influenced Gothic writers.</li> <li>• Students will study more 19th Century fiction in Year 9.</li> <li>• In the English Language GCSE, candidates are required to analyse an unseen 19th Century (Victorian) text in Paper 2.</li> <li>• For the English Literature GCSE, candidates must study a 19th Century novel in full - we study a Gothic text: <i>The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll &amp; Mr Hyde</i>.</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Key words:</b><br/>dehumanised<br/>paranormal<br/>foreboding<br/>genre<br/>isolated<br/>vulnerable<br/>society<br/>omen</p>  | <p>supernatural<br/>ominous<br/>sinister<br/>conventions<br/>victim<br/>mystery<br/>superstitious<br/>pathetic fallacy</p>   | <p><b>Key skills:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analyse, interpret, explore and explain language choices and form critical opinions.</li> <li>• Identify language and structure features.</li> <li>• Discuss an author's intent and audience reaction.</li> <li>• Apply understanding of genre by describing and creating a Gothic setting.</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Assessment focus</b></p> <p><u>Writing:</u> Describe a Gothic setting.</p>   | <p><b>Revision tips</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">A brief introduction to the Gothic genre</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">KS3 BBC Bitesize</a></li> </ul>   |  |

**Why we study it:**

- The Gothic genre was a hugely influential movement within 19th Century literature that still inspires writers of novels, plays, TV and film today.
- Studying a 19th Century novel and having the ability to analyse its themes and characters, as well as the writer's intentions and generic conventions, is a key component of the English Literature GCSE.

**Mastery in this subject**

Students will be able to:

- Apply an extensive range of vocabulary and use a range of linguistic devices while consciously considering their effect.
- Select a range of evidence and examples from texts appropriately.
- Examine and evaluate original and perceptive links between texts.
- Consider a range of contextual factors that influence writers.
- Analyse the effects of the writer's choices of language structural features and include their own ideas and interpretations.
- Use a wide range of subject terminology effectively and accurately.

