



Year Subject Name Medium Term Plan

Autumn Term English Year 8 Half Term 1: The Gothic

Learning Overview (Contents)	Overview of main learning objectives: (Taken from the National Curriculum) <i>(This should be a list of the learning objectives / skills cover over this term)</i> • Read easily, fluently and with good understanding • Develop the habit of reading widely and often, for both pleasure and information • Acquire a wide vocabulary, an understanding of grammar and knowledge of linguistic conventions for reading, writing and spoken language & appreciate our rich and varied literary heritage • Write clearly, accurately and coherently, adapting their language and style in and for a range of contexts, purposes and audiences • Use discussion in order to learn; they should be able to elaborate and explain clearly their understanding and ideas • Are competent in the arts of speaking and listening, making formal presentations, demonstrating to others and participating in debate.
Assessment Opportunities	There needs to be a minimum of 2 formal assessments per term. These formal assessments will inform the 'working at grades' and the AOB reported to parents. There may be additional unit tests depending on a subject End of every half term Half term 2 Assessment Type: Analytical Essay or Extended Paragraph Focus: Analysis of theme, character, or atmosphere Texts: One Gothic novel (e.g. The Midnight Library, Black Book of Secrets, or Jekyll and Hyde) Pre-20th century text (Lord of the Flies or extract)- access to this text available Assessment Objectives Reading & Understanding (AO1 – KS3/IGCSE aligned): Demonstrate understanding of the text, character, and themes.

	Language & Structural Analysis (AO2): Analyse how language, structure and literary devices create meaning and effect. Comparison (AO3 – Optional Extension): Make connections between texts in terms of theme or technique. Technical Accuracy (SPAG – AO4): Use appropriate vocabulary, paragraphing, punctuation, and grammar.
Textbooks Published Lesson Resources	Please include ISBN numbers of all published textbooks and other published resources if available

Home Learning Resources	Specific Links to Oak Academy (This will be shared with parents on <i>Teams</i> to help them supplement the classroom learning revision)
Knowledge organisers	Link to knowledge Organisers (look on the TES!) https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/lord-of-the-flies-knowledge-organiser-revision-mat-11822065

Week Number	Learning Overview / objective (outlined above)	What should pupils know, understand and be able to do by the end of the week? (Use clear Success criteria)
Week 1	Introduction to the Gothic Genre Learning Focus:	Activities: • Create a Gothic conventions anchor chart. • Read Gothic poetry excerpts (e.g. <i>The Raven</i>, <i>La Belle Dame Sans Merci</i>).

	- Define the Gothic genre and its key conventions. - Explore common themes: fear, isolation, madness, the supernatural.	Explore Gothic settings using descriptive extracts and short clips.
Week 2	Analysing a Gothic Setting	Week 2
	Learning Focus: - Focus on how setting creates mood and tension. - Use of sensory description and imagery. - Paragraph analysis using PEEL.	Activities: - Read and understand a short story or extract (e.g. <i>The Red Room</i> by H.G. Wells). - Identify language features that build suspense.
Week 3	Character in the Gothic Genre	Week 3
	Learning Focus: - Analyse the portrayal of typical Gothic characters (e.g. the outsider, the monster, the villain). - Explore fear and emotion in character presentation.	- Read <i>The Tell-Tale Heart</i> by Edgar Allan Poe (or excerpt). - Annotate language and structure linked to characterisation. - Group discussion and character profiles.
Week 4	Week 4: Analysing Gothic Pose	Week 4
	Learning Focus:	Activities:

	• Reinforce PEEL structure. • Begin embedding technical terms (e.g. simile, metaphor, alliteration, juxtaposition).	• Model a PEEL paragraph as a class. • Students write their own analysis of an extract. • Peer assessment with structured feedback.
Week 5	Week 5: Analysing Gothic Poetry Learning Focus: • Explore how Gothic themes are expressed in poetry. • Focus on mood, tone, and poetic devices.	Activities: • Read a Gothic poem (e.g. <i>The Listeners</i> by Walter de la Mare). • Compare mood and tone to prose texts. • Short analytical response using PEEL.
Week 6	Learning Focus: Assessment Preparation Learning Focus: • Consolidate understanding of Gothic conventions. • Refine analytical writing skills.	Activities: • Analyse a new unseen extract. • Annotate and plan a full paragraph. • Recap key terminology and sentence starters.
Week 7	Assessment and Reflection Assessment Task: Write an analytical paragraph or short essay responding to a question such as: “How does the writer create atmosphere and tension in this Gothic text?”	Understanding Do you show a clear understanding of the text and Gothic atmosphere? Language Analysis Can you explain how the writer uses words, imagery, and structure to create tension or mood?

	Reflection Activities: Self-assessment using success criteria. Class discussion: What makes the Gothic genre effective	Use of Quotes Are you choosing the right quotes from the text and explaining them well? Structure & Clarity Are your ideas clearly organised using paragraphs? Do you use the PEEL method (Point, Evidence, Explain, Link)? Spelling & Grammar Are your sentences clear and accurate? Do you use punctuation and vocabulary correctly?
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