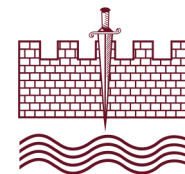


Half term 2

Gothic Literature

Key Stage 3: Year 9

Knowledge Organiser



WHAT IS GOTHIC LITERATURE?

Gothic literature is a genre of fiction which first became popular during the 18th century. Gothic stories tend to create an atmosphere of tension and suspense for the reader using psychological techniques to scare the reader.

We will be exploring conventions of the Gothic, such as: isolated, bleak settings, darkness, supernatural entities, presence of evil/religious imagery, use of tension and suspense to create fear, secrets, nature versus science, unpredictable weather and many more...!

KEY WRITERS AND TEXTS:

- Hamlet—William Shakespeare
- Rebecca—Daphne du Maurier
- Dracula—Bram Stoker
- The Raven—Edgar Allan Poe
- The Mysteries of Udolpho—Ann Radcliffe
- Frankenstein—Mary Shelley
- The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde—Robert Louis Stevenson
- The Castle of Otranto—Horace Walpole
- Woman in Black—Susan Hill
- Wuthering Heights—Emily Bronte

EXAM SKILLS:

- AO1: Read, understand and respond to texts using textual references. Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas.
- AO2: Use PEEL to analyse how the writers use language and structure techniques to achieve effects and influence readers
- AO3: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written
- AO5: Respond creatively, effectively and imaginatively. Adapt tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences.

"The house felt like a ship at sea, battered by the gale that came roaring across the open marsh." - Woman in Black

SUCCESS CRITERIA:

1. Identify techniques and analyse language, form and structure.
2. Understand and comment on the writer's intentions.
3. Understand and evaluate the reader's response.
4. Understand and evaluate the effects and significance of context (audience, social, historical, cultural).
5. Understand, identify and apply conventions of genre.
6. Be able to explore a text independently and interpret and evaluate the ideas.
7. Use precise evidence to support ideas.
8. Analyse multiple meanings/interpretations where possible.

KEY TERMS:

Conventions = Literary conventions are the features of a literary work that define its genre

Isolation = far away from other places, buildings, or people; remote, minimal contact with others

Symbolism = the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities

Allegory = a story that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral or political one

Juxtaposition = contrasting ideas

Supernatural = something attributed to some force beyond scientific understanding or the laws of nature

Foreshadowing = hinting at events that will happen later in the story

Malevolent = having a wish to do evil to others

Pathetic Fallacy = the weather reflects the tone/mood of the scene

Adjective = describes a noun

Antagonist = the villain of the story

Epistolary Narrative = story told in a series of letters

Motif = a dominant or recurring idea

Cryptid = a creature whose existence is disputed due to insubstantial evidence

Abstract Noun = an idea, quality, or state rather than a solid object, e.g. truth, danger, happiness.