

Class Discussion

What is 'gothic'?

What settings might we associate with gothic stories?

What emotions might readers feel when reading a gothic tale?

What themes/ideas might be explored in a gothic story?

Can you think of an examples (real or fictional) of stories that have gothic features?

ASSERTION:

Not everything that happens has a scientific explanation.

Agree or disagree?
Evidence:

Agree or disagree?
Evidence:

ASSERTION:

Nature has power over humans.

Agree or disagree?
Evidence:

Agree or disagree?
Evidence:

ASSERTION:

In stories, monsters are often villains.

Agree or disagree?
Evidence:

Agree or disagree?
Evidence:

Key words and Vocabulary



KEY TERM	DEFINITION	KEY TERM	DEFINITION
gothic		convention	
symbolism		macabre	
duality		motif	
psychological		foreboding	
physiognomy		epistolary	
solitude		foreshadowing	
empathy		metaphor	
pathetic fallacy		semantic field	

In this unit, students move forward in time to explore a range of gothic texts and how writers evoke emotion through character, story and setting. Students will use these conventions to write their own gothic story.

Gothic Literature:

Texts we will explore include *The Signalman*, *Rebecca*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Jane Eyre*, *Dracula*, *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, *The Tell-Tale Heart* and *The Raven*.

Descriptive Language: tenor, vehicle and ground

The literal meaning of metaphor – both in ancient and modern Greek – is to transport. Metaphorically, meaning is transported from one idea to another. Lorries in modern Greece are still called *metaphores* from *meta* (between or among) and *phoros* (carrying or bearing).

- Tenor - the subject of the metaphor and its intended meaning
- Vehicle - the language used to describe the tenor
- Ground - the relationship between the tenor and the vehicle



Grammar and Punctuation

Semi colons: used to link 2 phrases that are closely related in meaning. These must both make sense on their own and would work as separate sentences.

Direct speech: punctuation must go inside the speech marks. A new paragraph is needed for a new speaker. A comma is needed if the writer states who is speaking first. The first word inside the speech marks must have a capital letter.

Noun: a person, place or thing

Verb: an action or state of being

Adverb: a word that modifies the verb

Adjective: a word that describes the noun

Preposition: a word that tells you where something is in relation to something else

Simple sentence: a sentence with one subject and one verb

Main clause: a clause that has a subject and a verb (and can also have an object)

Subordinate clause: a clause that often starts with a subordinating conjunction and does not make sense on its own. It needs a main clause to make sense

Compound sentence: a sentence that joins two or more simple sentences together with a conjunction

Complex sentence: a sentence that has a main clause and a subordinate clause that cannot exist on its own



Key words and Vocabulary

KEY TERM	DEFINITION	KEY TERM	DEFINITION
gothic	A genre of writing that is characterised by the inclusion of dark, supernatural elements. It uses techniques such as setting, characters, and themes, to create an atmosphere of fear and foreboding.	convention	Elements of a genre that helps readers understand it
symbolism	When a writer uses an object, image or idea to represent something else.	macabre	Things that involve the horror of death or violence.
duality	Something that has 2 sides, often dealing with good and evil.	motif	A recurring image or symbol in a text.
psychological	Affecting or arising in the mind, the mental and emotional state of a person.	foreboding	A sign or warning that something bad is about to happen in a text. For example, a raven forebodes death.
physiognomy	A person's facial features, especially when regarded as indicative of character	epistolary	A story told in the form of diaries or letters.
solitude	The state or situation of being alone.	foreshadowing	Gives hints of future events, although the reader may only realise this when the event has happened.
empathy	The ability to understand and share the feelings of another.	metaphor	A figure of speech that describes something by saying it is something else.
pathetic fallacy	Giving human emotions to objects, nature or animals.	semantic field	A group of words that are related in meaning and connect to a single idea or theme.