

## **Year 8 English Tasks. Week 3 - 6**

### **Our next module in English is the Gothic Fiction genre**

#### **Week 3 and 4**

Read some examples of stories from the Gothic Fiction genre. These can be short stories or full length novels. You can find examples online and some examples are on the GMS website. Do not worry if you do not understand all of the story or find some of the vocabulary more difficult than you are used to; this is a new unit of work. You could always write a glossary of difficult vocabulary and use a dictionary to find out what they mean. Read all of the stories or some of them. You should read at least three. You could even try to access some of the film versions, once you have read them. Examples of texts could be:

#### **Short Stories**

- The Tell-Tale Heart by Edgar Allan Poe
- The Oval Portrait by Edgar Allan Poe
- The Judge's House by Bram Stoker
- The Red Room by H G Wells
- The Monkey's Paw by W. W. Jacobs
- The Black Cat by Edgar Allan Poe
- The Phantom Coach by Amelia Edwards

#### **Full length novels**

- Frankenstein by Mary Shelley
- Dracula by Bram Stoker
- The Woman in Black by Susan Hill
- Rebecca by Daphne Du Maurier
- The Turn of the Screw by Henry James

**Once you have read some of these stories, write down:**

- What have you noticed about the stories?
- What is similar?
- What features seem to repeat themselves across the genre?

Enjoy your reading!

## **Week 5 and 6:**

Research the 'Gothic Fiction' genre. Create an information booklet. You must make sure that your booklet includes the following information:

- **Definition of Gothic fiction**
- **Background and History of the Gothic Novel**
- **Features of Gothic Fiction**
- **Famous Writers of this style and period**
- **Details about 2 famous stories, written in the Gothic style**

## **Success Criteria**

- Handwritten and neatly presented.
- No more than three drawings
- A variety of sentence length
- Clear and informative language

## **Extension for the more confident**

Imagine that you are an employee for the British Film Industry. You have been given the tale of 'The Oval Portrait' to promote across the UK. This story, by Edgar Allen Poe, has been adapted to film and has been given a 12A certificate. Your task is to create a film poster that will tempt and persuade people to go.

## **Success Criteria**

- Handwritten and neatly presented
- Include a catchy slogan
- Exciting vocabulary
- Appropriate layout
- Show knowledge of the story