



English A Curriculum Overview

Key Stage 3- Year 9

Novel Unit

Students will study a full novel whilst analyzing its genre features and context. Students will be able to cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis. We will also determine a central idea of the text and analyze its development over the course of the text including how meaning is shaped by context. The texts shift over years, but we covered John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men* this term.

Gothic Fiction

Students will study a novella and some short stories relating to Gothic fiction. They will analyze the genre features of gothic texts and be able to discern what makes a gothic text. Furthermore, they will learn about the historical context surrounding the texts and how literary features shape meaning and affect the reader. This term, we will be studying Robert Louis Stevenson's *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* and a few short stories by Edgar Allan Poe.

Shakespeare Unit

Students will study a Shakespearean play that will alternate in different years. Students will study literary elements, how they shape meaning, context surrounding the play, and will act out key scenes in order to truly understand the genre of drama. This year, Y9 students will be studying *Macbeth*.

News Articles and Reports

Students will study various news articles and reports whilst exploring the concept of fake news & propaganda. Students will be able to critically examine news and determine fact from opinion. They will also be able to write their news articles by doing their own primary and secondary research.

Global Issues and Documentaries

Students will explore issues around the world by watching and critically examining documentaries. Students will reflect on their own lives and scrutinize the daily choices that they make. They will explore key ethical issues in socio-documentaries, describe various sub-genres and aesthetic qualities. They will look at the intended audience, producers, and will determine if that documentary is effective or not.