Foxford Learning Plan

YEAR 8

Gothic

Unit 2

Key Vocabulary

Gothic	A genre that explores fear, the supernatural and human darkness
Foreboding	A feeling that something bad is going to happen
Uncanny	Something strangely familiar yet unsettling
Pathetic fallacy	When the weather reflects the mood
Grotesque imagery	Disturbing or unnatural descriptions
Duality	The idea of two sides within a person or thing
Supernatural	Something beyond scientific explanation
Foreshadowing	Hints about future events
Atmosphere	The mood or feeling created in a text
Tension	The sense of suspense or uncertainty

Key Skills

Over the course of the topic, I will be able to: -
How to identify the context that Gothic writers were influenced by
How to identify the critical perspective of writers about fear, morality and society
How to write from the perspective of a character in a Gothic setting
Build upon creative writing skills including tension, atmosphere, symbolism and tone
Develop skills to debate interpretations of fear, duality and the supernatural

What will I learn?

I will learn about the origins of the Gothic genre and how writers used fear, atmosphere and the supernatural to explore human nature.

I will learn about the conflict between science and religion and how this shaped Gothic writing.

I will learn how writers use language and structure to build tension and how I can apply these conventions in my own creative writing.

Key knowledge I will understand:

1. How Gothic writers used fear, the supernatural and the uncanny to explore human nature
2. How writers expose their perspective through atmosphere, setting and character
3. How contextual factors (science vs religion, Enlightenment ideas, societal fears) impact language and meaning
4. How tension, symbolism and foreshadowing are used to create meaning
5. How to use rhetorical and descriptive features (pathetic fallacy, varied sentences, sensory detail) to craft a Gothic atmosphere