8:1 Ghost Stories





In this unit students will explore a range of different extracts from novels, as well as short-stories, which include ghosts. Student's will develop their analytical skills, as well as their knowledge of gothic elements and how to create tension in their own writing. Ultimately, students are working towards creating their own ghost story.

Our Golden Threads

Planning	Using a story arc to plan a ghost story that includes rising action and builds towards a climax.			
Control of paragraph organisation	 Clear use of single sentence paragraphs Clear use of controlled paragraphs for shifts in focus 			
Sentence variation	Be able to vary sentence openers, and use at least three different types			
Control of purpose and tone in writing	 Use of a consistent authorial voice (1st or 3rd person) Creation of character and setting. Use of tension building techniques. 			
Homework	Seneca			
Wider Weblinks	Five times TV spooked the nation - BBC Bitesize			
The English Department – Know More, Do More, Remember More				

The Golden Product

Students are working towards writing part or all of a ghost story, which shows all of the elements they have learnt

The room was full of guilt. So full that I did not know whether the feeling was coming from around me, or inside me. Step by step, I advanced into the room, the feeling growing stronger, thicker, more cloying, as I approach the centre of the space.

For a room so ordinary, I had never felt somewhere so alien.

Around me, the furniture seemed abandoned in purgatory, waiting for something to change. Dust sheets hung over everything, making sofas, side tables and even the TV seem ghostly, muffled. A sense of loneliness permeated the space.

8.1 Knowledge Organiser – Ghost Stories

Ghost Stories are any piece of fiction,	Key Terminology		Haunting Verbs	
or drama, that includes a ghost, or simply takes as a premise the possibility of ghosts or characters' belief in them. Linked to the ghost is the idea of a "haunting", where a supernatural entity is tied to a place, object or person	 Ghosts Spirits Translucent Five senses Character Adjectives Narrative/Story Arc Sensory Language Tension Setting 		 Alarmed Appalled Astounded Bewildered Bludgeoned Coerced Confounded In consternation 	 Hemmed in Jabbing Lurking Petrified Showboating Stupefied Tyrannized Unnerved
Tension: in a literary context is the sense that something ominous is right around the corner. Building a large amount of tension as a writer keeps your readers engaged up until the end of the storyClever structures or interesting approaches:□Cliff-hangers □□□Cliff-hangers □□□Cliff-hangers □□□Cliff-hangers □□□Cliff-hangers □□□Pathetic Fallacy □□□Juxtaposition		 Daunted Disconcerted Distressed Domineering Ensnared 	 Engulfed Oozing Perched Pestered Slithering 	
	nple Compou tence sentend		Complex sentence	Compound complex sentence
Simile Like a volcano, the pain erupted. PrepoSition In his mouth, the chillies danced. iNg Verb Cursing and wailing, he dived for a glass of water. CONNECtive But there was hope!	Verb	The boy, who was incredibly fast, ran. The clock, which always told the right time, had stopped.	 Independent clause Subordinating conjunction + dependent clause Although the girl laughed, she was impressed. The girl was impressed although she laughed. 	1 Subordinating conjunction + dependent clause Although the girl laughed, she was impressed and felt proud of herself. The clock, which always told the right time, had stopped and wasn't working.

Vocabulary Boost



Eerie Adjective	Malevolent Adjective	Translucent Adjective	Sto
Creepy; makes you feel uneasy The fog was eerie.	Evil; feels like it will deliberately hurt you The witch's glare was malevolent.	Letting light through, but not completely see through His skin was translucent and thin with age.	Insi the
Aura Noun A feeling that hangs around a person or place The witch's aura was pure evil.	Pervade/permeate Verb Spread through Pervade – usually through air Permeate – spread through a solid Fear pervaded and permeated the room.	Insidious Adjective Creeping or spreading silently The fear in the room was insidious.	A so
Savage Adjective Violent; wild and damaging The wind was savage.	Purgatory Noun A place of waiting, between Heaven and Hell The dentist's waiting room felt like Purgatory.	Transitory Adjective Passing through / passes quickly The newest TikTok trend was transitory.	

Start your thinking...

Inside the room, the aura was

A sense of disquiet seemed to