

# Year 9 English Curriculum Overview

HALF TERM 1	
<p><b>GOTHIC LITERATURE</b></p> <p>How do writers create tension?</p>	<p><b>Students will know/learn:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The origins of the gothic genre.</li><li>• Generic conventions of gothic literature</li><li>• Where it fits in to the literary tradition and canon</li><li>• The social and historical context of the era</li><li>• The plot, style and characterisation of a complete Gothic novel</li><li>• Gothic concepts such as ‘the other’ and relation to mental illness</li><li>• How gothic has evolved into the modern day</li></ul>
HALF TERM 2	
<p><b>DYSTOPIAN FICTION</b></p> <p>Is the world a threatening and corrupt place?</p>	<p><b>Students will know/learn:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The origins of dystopian literature</li><li>• Character archetypes: hero/villain as protagonist and antagonist</li><li>• The social and political agenda behind key dystopian fiction</li><li>• How writers use fiction to explore difficult concepts (e.g. coercion, misogyny, totalitarianism)</li></ul>
HALF TERM 3 & 4	
<p><b>GLOBAL VOICES</b></p> <p>How do people endure adversity?</p>	<p><b>Students will know/learn:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The key conventions of poetry</li><li>• The historical and social context of the texts studied</li><li>• Why poets use specific structure/rhythm in their poems</li><li>• How poetry has changed/developed over time</li><li>• Key ideas from the art of rhetoric</li><li>• The study of a complete text/anthology around the theme of adversity</li><li>• How to write/speak persuasively</li><li>• How writers challenge adversity in their text/speech/article</li><li>• How characters/people challenge or overcome adversity</li></ul>

**HALF TERM 5 & 6**

**LOVE AND CONFLICT  
(Romeo and Juliet)**

Can love exist in a violent society?

**Students will know/learn:**

- The generic conventions of tragedy and where it fits within the literary tradition
- The concept of the tragic hero
- The historical and social context of Shakespeare's writing
- The key plot details of 'Romeo and Juliet'
- How writers use fiction and drama to explore difficult concepts
- How 'Romeo and Juliet' has inspired modern writers and culture
- How to compare texts and explain their value and impact