

Y7 Novel: The Graveyard Book

Why?

Studying this classic novel gives us the chance to explore another world whilst developing our reading and writing skills! Through Gaiman's novel we will develop our reading and understanding whilst exploring and analysing how Gaiman uses language to bring the different eccentric characters to life for the reader!

Key Concepts:

Inference – a conclusion based on evidence from the text.

Characterisation – the study of character and character development. Bod meets a variety of different people on his journey!

Language – a writer's choice of words and phrases.

Relationships – connections formed with others.

Family – parents and children together as a unit.

Empathy – the ability to understand or share feelings of another.

Key Characters

Nobody Owens – protagonist. "Bod" escapes the Man Jack and ends up being raised by ghosts.

The Man Jack – antagonist. Kills Bod's family with a knife and is after Bod next.

Silas - Bod's guardian and idol. Neither dead nor alive.

Miss Lupescu – Substitute teacher for Bod whilst Silas is away.

Liza Hempstock – a helpful witch buried without a headstone.

Scarlett Perkins – a young girl who can see Bod in the graveyard.

Caius Pompeius – the oldest member of the graveyard community.

Mr and Mrs Owens – Bod's graveyard parents who have been married for over 250 years.

The Sleer – an enormous, three-headed snake.

Vocabulary

Contemptible – deserving contempt; despicable.

Consternation – a feeling of anxiety or dismay at something unexpected.

Cultured – characterised by refined taste and manners.

Stringent – strict, precise and extracting.

Condescending – showing a patronising superiority.

Valorous – showing great courage in the face of danger.

Supernatural – force beyond scientific understanding.

Witchcraft – the practice of magic, specifically spells.

Macabre – gruesome and horrifying; representing death.

Lurid – unpleasantly bright in colour, creating a harsh effect.

Apprehensive – anxious or fearful something bad will happen.

Episodic – a series of several parts.

Disparity – difference in level or treatment.

Disingenuous – not sincere.

Guileful – having sly or cunning intelligence.

Recall and Embed...

Genre

A style or category of art or literature.