



Overview	In English we offer an academically rigorous curriculum that provides the opportunity to study the English literary canon. Alongside important literary movements, pupils also explore texts from diverse voices, exploring the influence of the canon on modern authors. It aims to engage and inspire students to develop a love of literature and master the written and oral skills required for life. In Year 8 we aim for students to develop their understanding of storytelling, studying the way authors utilise literature to protest contemporary issues.
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Autumn Term 1 & 2	Topic One: The Tempest		Assessment
	<p>Topic Brief: Continuing a voyage through time and exploring the relationship between humanity and the sea, pupils will explore Jacobean Drama through Shakespeare's The Tempest. There are further links to the schema developed in Year 7, as pupils explore the myths, Medea The Sorceress and Aeneas and The Harpies, studying Shakespeare's influences and subversion of popular mythology.</p>		
	<p>Big Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Why is mythology important? ■ What is colonisation? ■ How does Shakespeare protest against colonisation? 	<p>Key Vocabulary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Renaissance ■ Tempest/ Tempestuous ■ Fraternal Conflict ■ Colonialism/ Colonist/ Colonising ■ Defiance/ To Defy/ Defying ■ Manipulation ■ Usurpation 	
<p>Explicit Writing Instruction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Note taking ■ Time & Sequence Transitions ■ Summarisation Sentence (Hochmann Method) ■ Topic Sentences ■ Noun Appositives ■ Participle Phrases ■ Embedding Quotations ■ Layers of Analysis 		<p>Texts studied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 'The Tempest', William Shakespeare 	

Spring Term 1 & 2	Topic Two: Protest Poetry & Rhetoric		Assessment
	Topic Brief: Pupils will continue to explore the theme of protest, exploring the way ordinary fight for their rights and their voice. Pupils will explore a variety of rhetoric, in the form of poetry and traditional poetry. Pupils will study the Aristotelian Triad, as established in the earlier schemes and then will compose their own speeches.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Baseline Assessment ■ NGRT Reading Tests ■ Formative knowledge builder quiz ■ Speech Writing
	Pupils will get the chance to compete in a competition alongside peers from across their year group in a Rhetoric competition, judged by the senior leadership.		
	Big Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ How do writers use the Aristotelian Triad to comment on contemporary issues? 	Key Vocabulary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Social justice ■ Social oppression ■ Social protest ■ Inequality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Liberation ■ Bigotry ■ Diaspora ■ Privilege ■ Intersectionality ■ Advocate
Explicit Writing Instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The Aristotelian Triad: Ethos, Pathos, Logos 	Texts studied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ An Anthology of Poetry & Speeches 		

Summer Term 1 & 2	Topic Three: Animal Farm, George Orwell		Assessment
	Topic Brief: War Literature: 20th Century Poetry & Autobiographies Pupils will continue to explore the abuse of power, building on their knowledge of tyranny and manipulation from The Tempest, to study the abuse of power in the 20th Century classic, Animal Farm. Alongside Orwell's text, pupils will also explore the Aristotelian Triad in a variety of political rhetoric.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Baseline Assessment ■ NGRT Reading Tests ■ Formative knowledge builder quiz ■ Describing Settings ■ Writing Analytical Paragraphs
	Pupils will get the chance to compete in a competition alongside peers from across their year group in a Rhetoric competition, judged by the senior leadership.		
	Big Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ How do tyrants abuse power? ■ How do tyrants use rhetoric to manipulate their audiences? 	Key Vocabulary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Utopia ■ Dystopia ■ Surveillance ■ Repression ■ Democracy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Socialism ■ Capitalism ■ Fascism ■ Totalitarian ■ Propaganda
Explicit Writing Instruction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Note taking ■ Time & Sequence Transitions ■ Summarisation Sentence (Hochmann Method) ■ Topic Sentences ■ Noun Appositives ■ Participle Phrases ■ Embedding Quotations ■ Layers of Analysis 	Texts studied: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 'Animal Farm', George Orwell 		

Useful Resources for Supporting Your Child at Home:	Homework:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ensure regular reading at home. ■ https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/courses/zx39wsg ■ https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zfwpd6f ■ https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zjny3j6 ■ https://www.ole.bris.ac.uk/bbcswebdav/courses/Study_Skills/grammar-and-punctuation/index.html 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Preparation for bigger assessment tasks ■ Bedrock Learning Vocabulary Practice ■ Private Reading ■ Sparx Reader