

## Creative writing – Y9 knowledge organiser

### Key vocabulary

- **Setting and atmosphere** – the place and time when the story/description takes place, as well as the mood and tone of the overall piece of writing.
- **Figurative language** – language techniques that create an image, such as metaphor, simile and personification.
- **Omniscient narrator** - an “all-knowing” narrator who knows what is happening at all times in a text
- **Back-story** - including details that reveal history or context of a character/ narrative
- **Multi-sensory description** – description that utilises all of the senses: sight, smell, hearing, touch, taste.

### Key skills

- Read and understand a range of high-quality literary texts
- Identify and discuss writer’s techniques
- Build knowledge of ambitious vocabulary
- Practice narrative and descriptive writing skills in creative responses

### Narrative hooks

A strong, captivating opening sentence is vital for any piece of writing. Such as:

- The puzzling hook
- The direct address hook
- The atmospheric hook
- The visual hook

### Setting and atmosphere

Including various different elements of setting can help create a clear, vivid picture in readers’ minds and can help provide a rich background to develop plot and characters.

Atmosphere in literature is the feeling, emotion, tone or mood that an author creates in a narrative through descriptive writing.

### Figurative language

Simile, metaphor and personification are examples of figurative language – language intended to create imagery.

You should use these techniques in narratives and descriptions to engage the reader.

### Viewpoint and voice

Consider the following elements when writing a description/narrative:

- voice
- viewpoint
- first-person narration
- third-person narration
- omniscient narrator

### Character

Consider the following when creating a character:

- back-story
- Appearance (clothes, face etc.)
- *show, don’t tell*

### Creating a scene

As well as language techniques, consider how you can vary your sentences to create interest, for instance:

- using sentences with a specific amount of words
- using sentences that start with adverbs or verbs
- using a connective in the sentence

### Genre: Gothic

Gothic fiction includes mystery and terror. Its heyday was the 1790s, but it underwent frequent revivals in subsequent centuries. Famous writers in this genre include:

- Ann Radcliffe
- Edgar Allan Poe
- Bram Stoker
- Mary Shelley

### Genre: Dystopian

Dystopian fiction focuses on an imagined community or society that is dehumanizing and frightening. A dystopia is an antonym of a utopia, which is a perfect society. Famous writers in this genre include:

- Margaret Atwood
- Veronica Roth
- Aldous Huxley
- George Orwell

### Genre: Detective

Detective fiction is a subgenre of crime fiction and mystery fiction in which an investigator or a detective—either professional, amateur or retired—investigates a crime, often murder. Famous writers in this genre include:

- Agatha Christie
- Arthur Conan Doyle
- Raymond Chandler
- P.D. James