

Dystopian Fiction

The first course students will study in Y8 is the 'Dystopian Fiction' course. This course engages students through extracts from a variety of dystopian texts. Through these exciting and unusual worlds, students begin to examine texts on a deeper analytical level.

Non-fiction

Through a variety of texts, students continue learning through extracts, but this time with the theme of Crime and Punishment and non-fiction texts. This links closely to how they worked in the previous course and shows how language can be analysed in the same way in non-fiction texts as it can in fiction.

Fiction and Non-Fiction

After the Christmas break, students come back to explore both fiction and non-fiction texts with the theme of Adventure. In this unit we look at awe-inspiring texts such as Life of Pi and adventurous characters such as Bear Grylls.

Hamlet

In this unit, students study the second of four Shakespeare texts. This study of Hamlet engages students through the macabre and supernatural. As in Y7, the text is studied through story telling and close analysis of extracts as opposed to a full text, making it more accessible and engaging for our younger students. As this follows the previous three units, students should now be equip to analyse the more complex linguistic and structural choices of Shakespeare and to critically analyse its themes and characters.

The Great Novel

Students read Of Mice and Men, their first complete text of the year. Looking at what was once studied as a GCSE text challenges them at this later point in the year and enables them to fully utilise their skills for critical analysis. The focus on themes in this course links to their study of themes in the previous course; Hamlet.

Language/Non-fiction

Students finish the year by studying the theme of conflict and the language of protest. Here they consider the language in the texts they have studied in the later courses and apply it to real-life situations and current affairs, exploring how powerful the spoken word can be and how it can impact on society and the world around them.