

**Gothic stories settings are normally...**

- Old or ancient, often medieval and/or abandoned.
- Isolated, dark and gloomy places.
- Wild and untamed places
- Places with religious significance

**Gothic stories contain the following characters...**

- Hero: someone who needs to restore himself / make a good impression in society.
- Villain: an evil character with a connection to the supernatural.
- Women: often seen as victims of evil men.

**A gothic plot normally revolves around...**

- Family mysteries
- Ancient prophecies
- Revenge
- Overcoming a curse

**A gothic story usually uses these elements:**

- Supernatural vs science
- Unnatural events or creatures
- Letters, diary entries or reports making events seem real.

**Paragraphing Rules**

- ✓ **TiPToP:** *Change paragraph when talking about a new time, place, topic or person.*
- ✓ **Connectives:** *start paragraphs with time, similarity, difference, consequence words or adverbs to make things link.*
- ✓ **Clarity:** *leave a line or indent clearly to show where a new paragraph begins.*

**Rules for choosing great quotes:**

- 1. THINK** – what am I trying to prove?
- 2. FIND** – what quote best shows that?
- 3. CHECK** – what would I say about that quote to prove my point?
- 4. NARROW** – which part of the quote would I focus on in my explanation?

**Victorian Ghost stories...**

*Setting and atmosphere*

- Often take place in winter, especially around Christmas.
- Happen at night-time or during bad weather.
- A building or a place is described in so much depth that it feels like a separate character.

*Characters*

- Feature supernatural characters, linked by death in some way.
- Male characters who are brave and courageous.
- A Byronic hero: an intelligent, sophisticated and educated character who does not believe in ghosts at the start but changes his mind when he meets one! They are normally struggling with emotional issues.
- A lack of sleep for the main character.
- Women and children who are victims of evil

*Plot*

- Contains a spell or a curse that has to be broken or overcome.

**Previous knowledge alert!**

**Key Stage 2:** does 'story mountain' seem similar to the structural features you've learnt?

**Year 7:** How do gothic ghost story writers use...

- Punctuation (Y7 Autumn)
- Imagery (Y7 Spring)
- Characterisation (Y7 Summer)
- Parts of speech (Y7 Summer)

**Structural Features**

Beginning: *the scene is set and characters, and their problems, are introduced.*

Middle: *The problems introduced at the start create bigger issues and events.*

End: *problems are solved*

Turning Point: *big moments of change*  
Introduction: *characters, scenes, problems and events are presented to the reader.*

Build-up: *the problems begin to get worse and tension increases.*

Climax: *the main drama, where the problems come to a head.*

Falling Action: *events start to calm down and problems begin to disappear or get solved.*

Resolution: *all problems are solved completely – either in a positive or negative way.*

Zoom-In: *where the text goes into lots of tiny details about a specific thing.*