

Year 8 English Learning Outcomes

Autumn: Persuasion and Manipulation

The Art of Rhetoric

This builds on prior knowledge of Origins of Language in year 7, exploring the development across time of rhetoric. This forms a foundation to Language of Reform in Year 9, providing the knowledge and practice of Ethos-Pathos-Logos, culminating in a piece of crafted opinion writing. C25K sentence crafting continues.

Spring: Danger and Conflict

Crime Fiction and War Poetry

Students build upon their knowledge of writing for purpose and audience to now write for engagement and mystery. They will know how ethos can be applied to establish credible characters in the detective genre, how pathos can create sympathy or tension, and logos is key for logical reasoning of coherent clues deductions and inference, mirroring the logical arguments in rhetorical writing. They will know how crime fiction stories have evolved across time, enriching their understanding of contexts, whilst also developing their analysis of characterisation, inferences and critical thinking skills.

Students will then make connections across genres to consider how complex aspects of human nature, societal structures, the impact of violence and power are explored in a range of war poetry – scaffolding students' knowledge of poetic devices in preparation for further poetry study in Y9.

Poems: Charge of the Light Brigade, Dulce Est Decorum Est, Flanders Field, Manhunt. C25K sentence crafting continues

Summer: Complex Characters

Twelfth Night and Writing Drama

Students build on their knowledge of themes of gender identity and social dynamics, the search for acceptance. Students will build on contextual and character knowledge in Y7 and engage with a full play, with a particular focus on characterisation, preparing students for wider thematic study of Romeo and Juliet in Y9 and Macbeth in Y10.

Students will then draw upon their knowledge of theatrical conventions of Shakespearean drama to write for the theatre. C25K sentence crafting continues.