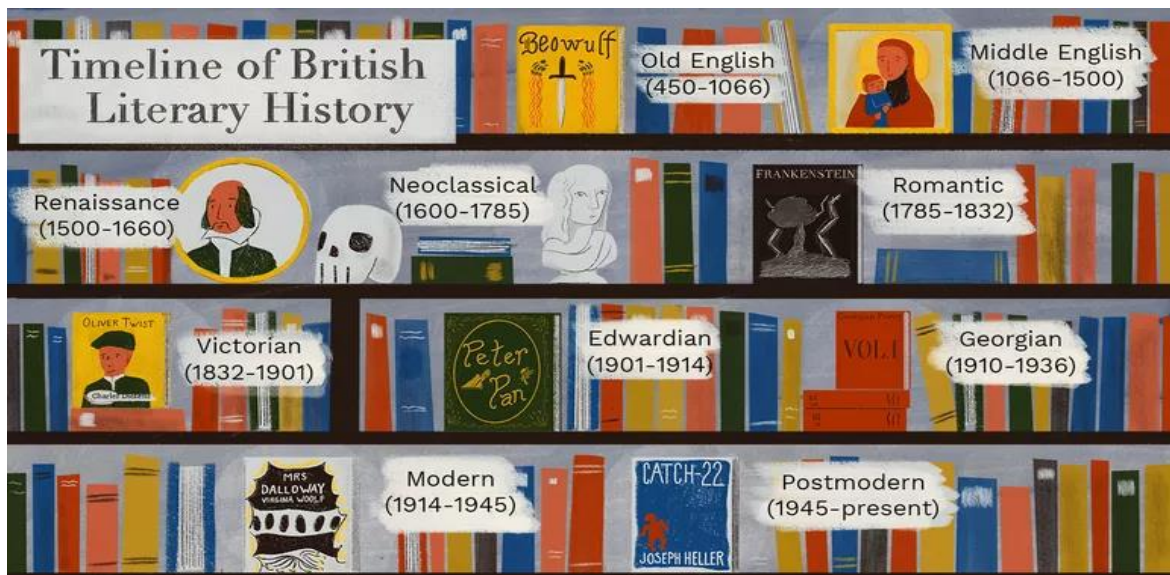


Name: _____

English

Homework Booklet

Year 8



Term 1: Literature through the Ages

Homework 1	Learn keywords	Due date:	Completed?
Homework 2	Guided Reading Activity	Due date:	Completed?
Homework 3	Prepare for knowledge test	Due date:	Completed?

Homework 1 - Learn the keywords below for a mini test at the start of next lesson.

Keyword	Definition
Fable	a short story aimed at children, typically with animal characters, conveying a moral lesson.
Genre	a style or category of art, music, or literature.
Industrial revolution	a period of great change in Britain with great advances in machinery and factories
Motif	a dominant or recurring idea in a text, play or film.
Renaissance	a revival of or renewed interest in something - rebirth
Romanticism	a term used to describe developments in literature, art and music in the late 18th and early 19th century
Social Activism	activities designed to raise awareness of an issue
Tragedy	a play dealing with tragic events and having an unhappy ending (downfall of main character)

Vocabulary revision methods:

- You could create flash cards to help you remember.
- You could print and cut out the key words and definitions and create a match up activity
- You could get someone to test you.

Optional challenge:

- Use three of the key words in sentences of your own. e.g.

*Greta Thunberg's **social activism** has encouraged many young people to take climate change seriously.*

Homework 2 – Read the following carefully and answer the comprehension questions below.

GOTHIC LITERATURE

In Gothic literature the reader passes from the reasoned order of the everyday world into a dark region controlled by supernatural beings, a region that inspires dread and horror. Gothic literature emerged late in the 18th century as part of the Romantic movement in the arts. This movement represented a reaction against the “age of reason,” or the Enlightenment, that had dominated the thought of the time.

This type of fiction was called Gothic because much of its inspiration was drawn from medieval buildings and ruins, many of which are Gothic in architectural style. It commonly featured castles and monasteries equipped with underground passages, hidden panels, chambers of torture, and dark towers. The great age of the Gothic novel began in 1765 with the publication of Horace Walpole’s successful *Castle of Otranto*, and it lasted until about 1820. Afterward, though such fiction continued to appear for decades, the Gothic type diverged into different styles, including mystery and horror.

In Gothic literature, forces of evil predominate, usually in the person of a great villain. Opposed to these is a virtuous maiden who is at once repelled and attracted by the evil around her. In some of the novels, virtue triumphs; in others the evil is so monumental that everything good in its path is destroyed.

There are many famous gothic authors. In the United States, Edgar Allan Poe wrote finely crafted Gothic fiction in such works as “The Fall of the House of Usher” (1839). He also created the American detective story—with a Gothic atmosphere—in “Murders in the Rue Morgue,” published in 1841 (see detective story). In the UK, one early Gothic novel that has become a classic is Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein* (1818), which also has elements of science and horror fiction. At the end of the 19th century Bram Stoker wrote *Dracula* (1897), one of the most successful Gothic novels ever published. In it, as in earlier Gothic novels, overwhelming evil in the person of the vampire Dracula confronts and nearly destroys the beautiful young woman who is attracted by his charm and repelled by his evil power.

Comprehension questions:

- **In what century did Gothic literature develop?**
.....
- **What was the Romantic movement a reaction against?**
.....
- **Name two common settings for Gothic literature.**
.....
- **What was the title of the first gothic novel published in 1765?**
.....
- **What kind of character opposes the villain in gothic literature?**
.....
- **Name a famous American gothic writer.**
.....
- **Name a gothic writer, who wrote a story about a vampire.**
.....

