

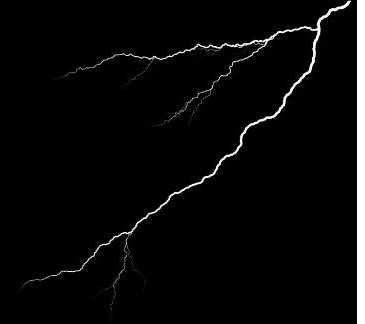
AN INTRODUCTION TO *Gothic* LITERATURE

THE UNDERSTUDY
DRAMA & THEATRE RESOURCES



CAMBRIDGE IGCSE DRAMA

PRE-RELEASED PLAYS 2022-3



The pre-released play extracts for examination in May/June 2023 have been published on the support hub:

[Support Hub](#)

You need to know your administrative zone to download the correct plays:

[Administrative Zone Checker](#)

Zone 1 & 2: Paper 11.

Extract 1: Jekyll & Hyde (Section A) / Extract 2: Kopitiam (Section B)

Zone 3 & 4: Paper 12

Extract 1: Dracula (Section A) / Extract 2: Twilight Crane (Section B)

Zone 5 & 6: Paper 13

Extract 1: Frankenstein (Section A) / Extract 2: Father Returns (Section B)



Dear Teachers,

Here is a gift from us to you! For those of you new to The Understudy, please note we take a lot more care with design than these slides show. These are simply a free gift to get out to teachers as soon as possible after the plays are published, in case anyone wants to get started with the plays immediately. While you are working on these activities, we will be working on our beautifully designed packs for teaching the extracts.

If you have used our resources before and/or you know you want them and you want to order in advance so that your school can pay via bank transfer, please complete this form:

<https://forms.gle/169r53m9Thmx8LwQ9>

The resources will also be available in our shop as usual.



Our expected publishing dates will be:

- Extract 1, Bundle 1: Friday 9 September (for teaching the first half of the extract)
- Extract 1, Bundle 2: Friday 16 September (for teaching the second half of the extract)
- Extract 1, Exam Pack: Friday 23 September (for exam prep, including mock exams and mark schemes)

- Extract 2, Bundle 1: Friday 14 October (for teaching the first half of the extract)
- Extract 2, Bundle 2: Friday 21 October (for teaching the second half of the extract)
- Extract 2, Exam Pack: Friday 28 October (for exam prep, including mock exams and mark schemes)

These first few slides describe suggested activities you could use to introduce Gothic Horror to your class. They are suitable for students preparing to study Extract 1 in all time zones as all three plays have been adapted from novels in the Gothic Horror genre. You could do one lesson, picking the activities you like best, or expand it further. The Punchdrunk Activity is only for those with the luxury of time to play with. The slides that follow on are the resources you will need for the activities.



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INTRODUCTION TO GOTHIC LITERATURE	ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS
<p>1. EXCITING ENTRANCE: Ideally before you've even told your students what the play is.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set up your space as a gothic horror setting. Use whatever lighting you have to create a dark mood or atmosphere. If you have a smoke machine, even better. Add sound: some suggestions here - but there are loads on Youtube. Add whatever props you might have that might be appropriate: vials of chemicals or blood, a skull, a coffin, a crucifix, an old veil, a candle, a letter (one is below), the printouts of quotes below... Ask students to enter in silence and explore the space, finding out everything they can. Give them a few minutes to walk around and explore. Ask them to choose any piece of text that they like and can memorise - so it will be a short section of one of the quotes. Get them to commit it to memory. Ask them to perform it aloud - all of them rehearsing together. Get them to consider gesture or stillness, whether it's more effective screaming or whispering. Get them to balance the space and ask them to perform when you tap their shoulder. Walk around and tap shoulders. You can get students to repeat by tapping them again. And to overlap so that it becomes a cacophony of voices. 	<p>MUSIC OPTIONS</p> <p>1 Hour of Dark and Mysterious Ambient Music for writing and creativity Dnd / RPG Ambience</p> <p>ATMOSPHERIC GOTHIC HORROR READING MUSIC H.P Lovecraft, Stephen King, Edgar Allan Poe</p> <p>You can continue to experiment with this as you see fit. Get all of them to whisper their words on top of each other while standing in a circle. Get them to walk towards the audience, saying their lines. Use the music and the lighting you have. If you have fake candles or lanterns, give them each one and see what effect that has. Or do they pass one around? What if you shine a torch on the person you want to speak?</p>
<p>2. DISCUSSION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask what they found exciting and intriguing. What do they think we're going to explore? Reveal that we will be studying a play adapted from a Gothic Horror novel and that we will be exploring the elements of Gothic Horror to better understand the context of our play. 	

INTRODUCTION TO GOTHIC LITERATURE	ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS
3. TOP TEN FEATURES OF GOTHIC LITERATURE - PRACTICAL GAME <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Divide the class into groups of about 3-5 (depending on your numbers) and give each group as many of the cards (Top Ten Features of Gothic Literature) as you need to share them out evenly. Explain that they must find a way to present this feature dramatically - but using their bodies only. You can limit it to still images if you prefer, but this might be too hard. The other groups must guess what their features are. 	If you only have a very small class, get them to do all of them together and you must guess which one they are doing. <u>Top Ten Features of Gothic Literature</u> You can watch the 3 minute video before or after the game. Before = an easy game. After = a much harder game. Might depend if your students have any experience of Gothic Lit from English. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rB7EneEl3io&t=16s</u>
4. GOTHIC LITERATURE MIND MAP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch the more detailed 8 minute video and either get students to create their own mind maps in groups including as much information as they can on big paper. Or you can give them our (slightly scruffy, handmade for speedy delivery) versions included below, and they can simply fill in the blanks. There are two pages for each half of the video. 	<u>Gothic Literature and the Gothic Genre explained! Revision Summary by Barbara Njau</u> <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K1fg4y3uHDM</u> These smaller versions of the mindmaps will make good notes for later revision. This could be set as homework.

INTRODUCTION TO GOTHIC LITERATURE: LUXURY EXTENSION CREATIVE TASK

5. PUNCHDRUNK STYLE GOTHIC HORROR PIECE

- If you have time to spare this term (unlikely if you are dealing with a lack of practical work last year) you could introduce them to Punchdrunk and get them to spend a lesson or a few lessons creating their own Punchdrunk style piece that has as many features of Gothic Horror as they can. They could work in groups or as a class, depending on your class size. You can give them as much freedom or limitations as you want to but Punchdrunk's main features are:
 - They create immersive theatre where the audience moves around the space with the actors;
 - They have extremely detailed set design that audiences can interact with accompanied by highly atmospheric sound and lighting design;
 - They have very physical performances with very little spoken text, if any words at all.
- Students could create a 30 second to 2 minute piece using whatever you have available within a lesson, or you could give them a whole week to collect items and expand and explore their ideas. You will know what's best for your context.

ADDITIONAL NOTES & SUGGESTIONS

Punchdrunk Trailers:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3oCTsfclW4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uUKkijzSKNw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DZKNNMombv8>

"The oldest and strongest emotion of mankind is fear, and the oldest and strongest kind of fear is fear of the unknown"

H.P. Lovecraft

There is something at work in my
soul which I do not understand"



M. Shelley

"They told of dripping stone walls in uninhabited castles and of ivy-clad
monastery ruins by moonlight, of locked inner rooms and secret dungeons,
dank charnel houses and overgrown graveyards, of footsteps creaking upon
staircases and fingers tapping at casements, of howlings and shriekings,
groanings and scuttlings and the clanking of chains, of hooded monks and
headless horseman, swirling mists and sudden winds, insubstantial specters
and sheeted creatures, vampires and bloodhounds, bats and rats and spiders,
of men found at dawn and women turned white-haired and raving lunatic, and
of vanished corpses and curses upon heirs."

Susan Hill

"Do you not think that there are things which you cannot understand, and yet which are; that some people see things that others cannot?"

Ah, it is the fault of our science that it wants to explain all; and if it explain not, then it says there is nothing to explain."

B. Stoker

"I learned to recognise the thorough and primitive duality of man: I saw that, of the two natures that contended in the field of my consciousness, even if I could rightly be said to be either, it was only because I was radically both."

R. L Stevenson

"They're straight from the underworld, by the way.

They are everlasting. They won't die."

Jess C Scott.

"This Tower, patched unevenly with black ivy, arose like a
mutilated finger from among the fists of knuckled masonry and
pointed blasphemously at heaven. At night the owls made of it an
echoing throat; by day it stood voiceless and cast its long shadow."

M. Peake

"O Lord, to know that one is not
allowed to be afraid; it is the most
frightening thing of all."

A. J West.

My friend,

Welcome to the Capentians.
I am anxious expecting you.
Stop well to-night. At three
to-morrow the diligence will
start for Burkina; a place
on it is kept for you.

At the Bondo Pass my
carriage will await you
and will bring you to me.

I trust that your journey
from Léopold has been a
happy one and that you
will enjoy your stay in
my beautiful land.

Yours friend.

D



A CASTLE
CRUMBLING

CONFINEMENT -
BEING HELD
AGAINST YOUR
WILL



DOUBLES:
THEMES / IDEAS
PEOPLE / PLACES

**EXTREME
EMOTION**

(TERROR/RAGE/PASSION)



HERO VILLAIN

CAUSES PHYSICAL
EMOTIONAL ANGUISH
FOR HEROINE



**THE
SUPERNATURAL**



**POOR / TERRIBLE
WEATHER**





These 10 items are listed as the **Top Ten features of Gothic Literature** in this video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rB7EneEl3io&t=16s>



Top Ten Features of Gothic Literature



PROTAGONIST

- ↳ hidden _____
- ↳ isolated / _____
- ↳ physical entrapment
- ↳ emotional _____ / tension
 - ↳ cut off
- ↳ high societal ranking
- ↳ psychological _____ /
 - ↳ inner _____
- ↳ tragic flaw  

EMOTIONS

- high _____ triggered by
 - tragic illness.
 - characters        
 - curious _____
 - men       
 - women      
 - storm ? unseen _____
 - heightened sense of _____
 - emotional thinking over thinking _____

WOMEN = two types

- Helpless
 - damsel-in- _____
- Predator
 - dangerous, yet powerfully _____
- Fragile, vulnerable
 - often _____ / _____
 - suffers an _____

needs _____ by the protagonist. She is his _____.

GOTHIC LITERATURE

Part 2

SCIENCE

- Victorian Era (Charles Darwin)
 - advances in _____ made men fearful that we would use science to replace _____ and do _____ things

Frankenstein Jekyll + Hyde

SUPERNATURAL ELEMENTS

- invoked / _____ by reader
 - ghosts, dead _____, uncanny characters
 - omens, ancestral _____, magic, _____ manifestations, suggestions of the _____.

PUNCHDRUNK THEATRE

You will create your own Punchdrunk style piece that has as many features of Gothic Horror as you can include.

Punchdrunk's main features are:

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Punchdrunk Trailers:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L3cCTsfclW4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uUKkijzSKNw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DZKNNMornbV8>



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