Winter Writing 2023-2024

Years 567

This set of lessons will revolve around a set of writing challenges for the class to complete based on several creative and essay writing prompts. They will need to take all their knowledge about writing to do so, thinking about how to use their own unique voice and style, their understanding of genre and their ability to use figurative language to complete each challenge. This will also focus on expanding their ability to use punctuation and structure effectively and will reopen our conversations on how to use literary techniques in unique and original ways. Every week the class will learn several new, advanced techniques and skills and then using this information they will produce a short piece of writing in class. These lessons are designed to help them to have a space to experiment with language, style and structure and then receive feedback on it, along with building up a portfolio of writing they can use to help them in exam contexts, or just when writing for fun!

Each creative challenge will ask the class to answer a prompt, using specific writing ‘ingredients’, for example it might ask them to include an unreliable narrator, at least two semi-colons, sensory language and symbolism around the colour red. The prompts will cover a range of genres and be all about producing something fresh and exciting.

Here are a selection of the skills and techniques the students will learn in our lessons!

**Week 1:** Suspense, parallelism, isocolon

**Week 2:** Allusions, semantic fields, sensory language

**Week 3**: Prolepsis, antithesis, metaphor work

**Week 4:** Creative use of tense, foreshadowing, narrative devices

**Week 5:** Oxymoron, flashback, innovative chronology

**Week 6:** Perspective, pathetic fallacy, setting

**Week 7:** Comedy, word choice, creating a climax

**Week 8:** Syntax, counterarguments, raising the stakes

**Week 9:** Writing Workshop

A workshop to revise all the class has learned and for the students to complete some peer work, thinking about writing in pairs and bouncing ideas off one another. This is a lesson to consolidate everything we have learned up to this point before the mock exam.

**Week 10:** Mock Exam

This lesson will be a mock exam to help test the students’ skills, enabling them to showcase all they have learnt about writing over the past sessions. They will have their exam graded and returned to them after the lesson and can use these mocks to track their progress and work out their strengths and areas of improvement in writing. They should aim to use as many different advanced writing techniques, high-level vocab examples and interesting structural devices as possible- all of which we will have covered in the preceding weeks.