

Year 7 – MEDIEVAL (Term 3)

1100-1470

Medieval literature has been hugely influential in modern popular culture. Pretty much any sword-and-sorcery adventure ultimately descends from this period, and even some works you wouldn't think of bear its subtle traces.

Why was/is the story of King Arthur so popular?	<input type="checkbox"/> In the stories Arthur is an English king (important at a time of invasion) <input type="checkbox"/> Camelot – a utopian dream? <input type="checkbox"/> Represents equality (The Round Table) <input type="checkbox"/> Classic story structure (BOUNCE BACK - GREEK) <input type="checkbox"/> A story where – mainly - good conquers evil (BOUNCE BACK - GREEK) <input type="checkbox"/> Humble beginnings to greatness <input type="checkbox"/> Relatable characters & themes
What is estates satire ?	Making fun of the 3 estates: <input type="checkbox"/> The Clergy (those who prayed) <input type="checkbox"/> The Nobility (those who fought) <input type="checkbox"/> The Peasantry (those who laboured)
Is satire still popular today?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes! Think <i>The Simpsons</i> , <i>Family Guy</i> , <i>Have I Got News For You</i> , <i>South Park</i> etc. <input type="checkbox"/> It's a way of making fun of serious issues & lessening the impact of being negative by using laughter
What is anti-clericalism ?	<input type="checkbox"/> Being against clerics/the church interfering in non-religious (secular) matters <input type="checkbox"/> Chaucer uses <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> to criticise the Catholic Church's abuse of power & wealth in this time

Writing Skills

When should you start a new paragraph? TipTop (Time, place, topic, person)
How do you ensure cohesion in a paragraph or whole text? <input type="checkbox"/> Topic sentence – first sentence of the paragraph signals the topic of the whole paragraph <input type="checkbox"/> Pronoun referencing – after saying the noun once, you then use a pronoun a few times after than. <input type="checkbox"/> Conjunctions – these can be subordinate or co-ordinate. Try not to use them always at the start of a sentence or paragraph. <input type="checkbox"/> Prepositions – these words create a direction to your writing. They are words like: in, on, to, with, after. <input type="checkbox"/> Fronted adverbials – particularly time adverbials show a sense of order in the text. <input type="checkbox"/> Ellipsis – missing words in a sentence (done for effect) can suggest that you've already explained this, creating a link to earlier in the text. <input type="checkbox"/> Repetition – a repeated word /phrase Motif – a repeated image to represent something.
How do you vary your paragraphs for effect? Long paragraphs can suggest complexity of an idea or a never ending feeling. Short paragraphs can create emphasis or a shock effect.

Arabian Nights & Canterbury Tales

- ☐ Arabian Nights (also called 1001 Nights) was written n the Middle East between the 8th and 13th century. No single writer, but a gathering of folk tales.
- ☐ The Canterbury Tales was published in 1392.
- ☐ Chaucer (who wrote the Canterbury Tales) was heavily influenced by his reading of the Arabian Nights: frame story structure, moral goals, drawing on folk oral tales, magical elements, romance. a bit misogynistic (prejudiced against women).

Writing a Leaflet

- ☐ a clear/apt/original title
- ☐ organisational devices such as inventive subheadings or boxes
- ☐ bullet points
- ☐ effectively/fluently sequenced paragraphs

Introductions & Conclusions

- ☐ An introduction is not a list of things you are going to write about – this is boring.
- ☐ An introduction is an overview. An overview shows that you can see the connection between all the things you are going to write about.
- ☐ A conclusion is not a list of things that you have written about – this is boring.
- ☐ A conclusion is a decision. Your decision can be which point that you've made, is most important.

I AM A FORESTER

Imperative verbs	Repetition
Address the reader	Emotive lang./ exaggeration
Modal verbs	Statistics
Alliteration	Triadic structure
Figurative lang.	Expert opinion
Opinion	Rhetorical q.

Stretch yourself

Allegorical
Anti-clericalism
Chivalry
Fable
Illiterate/Literate
Oral Tradition
Quests
Religious v. Secular
The Holy Grail
Satire
Utopian/Dystopian

Academic vocabulary of analysis

Evokes
Emphasises
Reinforces
Illustrates
Demonstrates
Indicates
Reveals
Infers
Conveys
Portrays
Implies

Reading tasks

A fiction analysis & a non-fiction analysis

Writing tasks

Write a persuasive leaflet & a narrative piece.

Grammar

Revisit all grammar from the first two terms: noun types, verb types, adjective types, articles, phrase & clauses, sentence types, tenses

Reading Skills

Why does inference need to be specific?

Saying that Emily in Chaucer's Knight's Tale, is *good* could apply to many characters. But saying that "fair Emily" is *beautiful* is particular to her.

How can two inferences both be correct?

Someone may think that the merchant's wife "kissing" the servant Damian was *wicked*. Whilst someone else may think it was *true love* & *fair* as she was married to the really old and jealous Merchant.Both are correct & both are specific.

The narrative 'rules'

The story takes place within one hour
Maximum 3 characters
Maximum 3 sentences of direct speech
Show not tell
Minimum 1 adjective per sentence
Minimum 5 senses
Maximum 1 exclamation mark
3 rd person
50 % description with zooms
Don't 'chat' to the reader
A 'small' story – make the ordinary extraordinary

Looking back & forward

Ch-ch-changes... Changes were happening all day, every day in 15th-to-17th-century Europe. Don't take those old movies about our next period at face value, though; they might give you the impression that the Renaissance was all tights, puffy sleeves, & feathered hats. This cultural rebirth began in Italy, just after a particularly rough period in Europe's history. That minor inconvenience known as the Plague. It wiped out roughly half of Europe's population.