

Name: _____

Date: _____

Important Other _____

Team: _____

Gothic Literature

Gothic Literature IS Related to _____ !

The Romanticism is not “romance” as you think, rather it was

An _____, _____ and _____ movement that included:

- Art/painting
- Music
- And Literature!

The Romantic Movement

_____ and enjoys popularity in Europe and America _____.

Was a reaction to and against the Industrial Revolution, Age of Enlightenment, and the new scientific approach towards nature.

_____ : extreme emotions, intuition, nature, imagination, and expression (**over-** instead of rational logic sought by the Enlightenment).

Romantic Literature:

_____ valued the tenets (_____) of Romanticism.

RL allowed for _____ and _____ that realistic fiction didn't allow.

(Knights, fairies, dragons, magicians, and magic swords are *part* of the Romantic tradition).

Gothic Literature's Relationship to Romanticism

1. Their time periods overlap (Romanticism 1770s-mid-1800s, and Gothic roughly 1764-1898).
2. Gothic is a *subset* and *natural offshoot* of the Romantic movement.
3. Romantic and Gothic literature _____ honor emotions, imagination, and nature, and allow for supernatural events.
4. If Romanticism is the _____ ... Gothic Literature is the _____ ...

Gothic Literature:

Gothic literature fills a legitimate human need to be frightened and to safely explore the darker sides of our personalities that cannot be acted upon in society.

Definition: A _____ from 1764-1898 that combined Romanticism and horror. It relied heavily on setting, mood or atmosphere (and, like Romantic literature) extreme emotions, intuition, nature, imagination, expression, and improbable or supernatural events. Gothic literature is typified by particular _____.

First Gothic Novel: *The Castle of Otranto*, 1764 written by Horace Walpole, (under a pseudonym). A short novel; set forth as a “translation of an Italian story;” features a _____, a mysterious and violent _____ and _____ during the Crusades.

GOTHIC ELEMENTS!

1. _____ : castles, monasteries, abbeys, wine cellars, grottos, dungeons, catacombs/graves, ruins, and secret: panels; doors; tunnels or passages.
Actual features - stained glass, narrow, long pointed windows, vaulted ceilings, pointed arches, turrets, the gargyle (the *mascot* of Gothic literature), spires, flying buttresses, and in general a strong sense of “vertical” building or structure, and more.
2. _____ : the story may also feature cliffs, rocky shores, caves, underground tunnels, caverns, lonely moors, or uninhabited mountains, desolate forests or other rugged locales. *The terrain works *with* the architecture to build a complete setting.
3. _____ : Cold, gloom, harsh winter, winds, rain, fog, storms all are likely in the Gothic novel or story. Weather contributes to
 - Setting
 - Imagery and visual impact
 - The atmosphere/mood that is so important to this genre
 NOTE: Weather is part of nature, and can be used to affect the characters and the plot.
4. _____ : weather, natural settings, isolated and unforgiving climates and locales affect the novels’ characters, and often turn the plot towards new, darker directions (modern ex.: Stephen King, *The Shining*).
As you might expect, the transformative power of nature in Gothic literature is usually dark and destructive, driving a character towards madness or evil actions.
5. _____ : traditionally in the 1800s, in isolated exotic _____ locales. Gothic literature is **still** written today, and has been set in the deep American south, New England, and other unexpected places!

ELEMENTS 1-5 CREATE THE ATMOSPHERE AND MOOD ESSENTIAL FOR GOTHIC LIT.

6. _____ that incites fear, pity, or dread. Examples: deformed beings, vampires, werewolves. Specific examples: Hop Frog, Quasi Modo, Frankenstein's creature, and more.

7. _____: dread, terror, anguish, horror, hysteria, mania, or torment.
 *As a result, Gothic can tend toward melodrama, and even parody or self-parody. While some Gothic literature is terrifying, at least some has a sense of humor

8. _____. The ugliness within (in the heart, soul, or mind) escapes out into the world. Examples may include:

- Madness and the slow descent into insanity
- Murder, violence, torture
- Unnatural acts against man/family or God

9. _____.

Examples:

- The occult/rituals/ceremonies
- Dark/unholy family secrets
- The sins of the previous generation returning to punish the next.
- Hauntings/spirits
- Curses
- The otherworldly/undead
- Doppelgangers (untrustworthy double)
- A prophecy or vision
- Inexplicable death/disappearance

10. _____

- Lights going off or on
- Wind blowing out candles or moving curtains
- The man who shows up and **warns** the main characters
- Doors suddenly lock
- Rain/wind picks up in intensity
- Sudden thunder and lightning/ gusts of wind
- Clanking chains
- Glass breaking
- Unexplained footsteps
- Murmurs, sighs; cries or distant voices; crazed laughter???
- Wolves howling/baying
- Doors creaking
- Doors slamming shut
- _____

11. _____ goes back to Biblical times, and can be found in Shakespeare. Still, the use of animals has come to be a classic *Gothic element*.

- These include: raven, crow, cat, bat, rat, owl, toad, frog, wolves, hyenas, coyotes, snakes, etc.
- They have historically served as *companions (familiars)* to witches, as the "devil in disguise," or as evil omens in storytelling.
- Poe and others have written about and used such animals in their writing.

Gothic Motifs Include:

The heavy use of darkness, shadows, cold, isolation, gloom, dread, decay or ruin.

These contribute to _____ and _____.

In a GOTHIC STORY, You May Meet . . .

- A disfigured man/woman hidden away
- Non- or near human creatures
- An overreaching mad scientist
- A raging and cruel tyrant
- Women abandoned or in distress
- A circus performer
- _____
- The suicidal lover
- _____
- Vampires, monsters, werewolves, demons, hellhounds, wolves, witches!

Writers Inspired or Influenced by Walpole

Mary Shelley: *Frankenstein*, 1818

_____ : *The Tell Tale Heart* and numerous other works

Bram Stoker: *Dracula*, 1897

Many OTHER forms of fiction are still influenced by Walpole's novel, Gothic literature and GOTHIC ELEMENTS.

These include but are not limited to:

- GHOST STORIES,
- HORROR,
- DETECTIVE/CRIME NOVELS,
- SUSPENSE,
- THRILLERS,
- AND MORE!

Big Idea:

Gothic literature and architecture earned its name by being different from what was considered "*the norm*" of the time period in which it emerged.