

Lesson 2

This session follows on from the activities in Lesson 1. It sets a creative writing mission with examples provided from Romeo and Juliet. This is similar to the session I'll be running in the schools I get to visit.

You will have already chosen a text to work with, identified the main plot points, worked out who the story is about and the dramatic / narrative function of the other characters.

Aims: To promote ownership of literature by adapting an existing work and applying knowledge of character and story.

Objectives: To make informed choices as a writer.

Resources: Example text LOVE GOTHIC based on Romeo and Juliet
Tricks and Tips sheet
Lists from previous session

1. Make a list of Heroes and Villains (Shadows) (10 minutes)

Try to stick to fictional characters. Think across all genres, Horror, Comedy, Science Fiction, Action, Fantasy, Thriller, Disaster, Romance ... and so on.

2. Choose a plot point from your chosen text (5 minutes)

Reference the lists from the previous session. Be sure to choose a section of the story that includes the Hero.

3. Choose a Villain from your list (40 minutes)

Make sure you know this character and what you don't know, make up.

Rewrite the original story section (Plot point) to include this character.

If your original text is a play, try writing this as a story or an excerpt from a chapter.

Aim to keep the work to no more than three pages.

It will help if you plot out the events before you start. This will also help you to write an exciting closing sequence.

Read my examples to see how it could be done.

Look over my Tips & Tricks page for more help.

4. Additional activities

- a) Read work out and offer constructive advice
- b) Create alternative versions of the same original story section
- c) Discuss the impact, of the original text, of introducing more than one villain
- d) Discuss the impact, of the original text, of introduce a new Hero or even multiple Heroes
- e) Edit my text example LOVE GOTHIC down to one page without losing and important story points

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with the Bluecoat.

