Year 9 English – what have we covered?

1. Contextual information about the Gothic and Victorian society:
   * Understanding and identifying Gothic conventions:
     + Gothic settings
     + Characters (tyrannical male, damsel in distress, femme fatale)
     + The supernatural
     + Atmosphere (suspense and mystery)
   * Darwin’s ‘Theory of Evolution’ vs. religion in Victorian society
   * The ‘sublime’
2. A range of Gothic **extracts**. Some of the most important:
   * *Frankenstein* – Mary Shelley
   * *Dracula –* Bram Stoker
   * *Jekyll and Hyde –* Robert Louis Stevenson
   * *The Tell-Tale Heart –* Edgar Allan Poe
   * *Porphyria’s Lover –* Robert Browning
3. Identifying and being able to use a range of techniques:

* Atmospheric setting
* Techniques:
  + simple or fragmented sentences
  + figurative language (metaphors, similes, personification)
  + dynamic verbs
* The use of character:
  + Limiting the perspective of a character (not all the information is revealed to the reader)
  + First person narrative (‘I’)
  + Present tense
* Dramatic irony (the reader knows more than the character)
* Foreshadowing (hinting at events which will happen later)

1. Analysing writers’ use of techniques and language in What? How? Why? paragraphs.

**The baseline test in September will cover a selection of the above areas. You will be asked to look at a brief extract and answer some questions and complete some grammar tasks.**