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.**