



QPHS Year 8 English Curriculum Map

Half term	Title	Unit summary	Assessment
1	<i>Salt to the Sea</i>	Students will study Ruta Sepetys' historical novel <i>Salt to the Sea</i> . We will examine how Sepetys explores the WW2 context, looking in particular at how the experiences of refugees are portrayed. Students will develop their ability to write critically about fiction, examining the writer's use of language and structure to create meaning.	1 hour essay writing task: How does Sepetys present the experiences of refugees?
2			1 hour essay writing task: How does Sepetys present Alfred?
3	The Gothic	Students will study the Gothic genre, closely examining the works of key writers including Poe, Shelley, Stoker, Hill and Stevenson. They will develop their ability to use Gothic conventions in order to create compelling descriptive writing of their own.	1 hour creative writing task: Write a description based on a Gothic-inspired image.
4	<i>The Rabbits</i>	Using Shaun Tan and John Marsden's <i>The Rabbits</i> as a core text, students will explore how writers use allegory to present their ideas about historical events. They will then read a range of historical non-fiction extracts exploring the impact of colonialism in Australia, before practising the use of persuasive writing skills to inform readers about the history of the Stolen Generations.	1 hour opinion writing task: Write a newspaper article titled 'Why you should know about the Stolen Generations.'
5	Men and Women in Shakespeare	Building on their introduction to Shakespeare in Year 7, students will explore presentations of gender in three plays: <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , <i>Much Ado about Nothing</i> , and <i>Twelfth Night</i> . Students will develop their contextual understanding and ability to analyse language, as well as their ability to compare presentations of gender across different plays.	1 hour essay writing task: How does Shakespeare present masculinity and femininity in his plays?
6	Writers' viewpoints: comparing non-fiction texts	Students will study a range of non-fiction texts from both 19 th century and contemporary sources, exploring the effects of these different contexts upon how the writers present their viewpoints. They will examine the writers' use of persuasive and rhetorical devices before using these to create their own persuasive pieces on a range of topics.	1 hour persuasive writing task: Write a persuasive speech arguing for improved conditions in prisons.