

3 Gothic tales

Assessment guidelines for The Castle With a Secret

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

	AF1 – Write imaginative, interesting and thoughtful texts	AF2 – Produce texts which are appropriate to task, reader and purpose	AF5 – Vary sentences for clarity, purpose and effect	AF6 – Write with technical accuracy of syntax and punctuation	AF7 – Select appropriate and effective vocabulary
Level 3	Some ideas/content appropriate to a horror story included. Some attempt to elaborate on basic ideas or events, e.g. use of adjectives or adverbs (<i>the lock was rusty and old...</i>). Attempt to adopt viewpoint as narrator, though not consistently sustained.	Some features of narrative form evident, e.g. through sequence of events or some use of description, showing some awareness of reader. Some attempt to include stylistic features suitable for horror story, e.g. reference to narrator's reactions, but not developed.	Mostly simple sentences, with some use of compound sentences (<i>it was dark and I was scared...</i>). <i>And, but and so</i> most commonly used connectives. Some variation in use of verb forms, not always secure (<i>An old lady opened the door. She looks horrible...</i>).	Most straightforward sentences demarcated with capital letters and full stops. Some limited use of other punctuation, but comma splicing evident (<i>the clouds were racing in the sky, it was raining...</i>).	Simple, generally appropriate vocabulary used, though often limited in range, with some attempt to use words for effect.
Level 4	Ideas/content relevant to a horror story chosen. Some ideas and material developed in detail, e.g. description elaborated by adverbials (<i>after the long chase...</i>) or expanded noun phrases (<i>the big, dark staircase...</i>). Straightforward viewpoint generally established and maintained, e.g. consistent presentation of events in narrative.	Main features of narrative form clear and show awareness of reader, e.g. through level of descriptive detail, or clear sequencing of events leading to ending. Style generally appropriate for a horror story, e.g. use of melodramatic details, though not consistently well-judged.	Some attempt to vary the length, structure and subject of sentences (<i>I shivered because it was cold. The owl...</i>). Use of some subordinating connectives, e.g. <i>when, after</i> . Some variation, generally accurate, in tense and verb forms (<i>I was running as fast as I could. The noise was very near...</i>).	Sentences demarcated accurately with capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks. Speech marks to denote speech generally accurate, with some other speech punctuation. Some use of commas, though not always appropriate.	Some evidence of deliberate vocabulary choice to create spooky/mysterious atmosphere.

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Level 5	<p>Ideas relevant to horror story developed with some imaginative detail.</p> <p>Development of ideas and material appropriately shaped for chosen narrative form.</p> <p>Clear viewpoint established, generally consistent, with some elaboration.</p>	<p>Features of narrative form selected for horror story clearly established, with some adaptation to entertain the reader, e.g. effective build-up to cliff-hanger ending.</p> <p>Appropriate style for horror story clearly established to sustain interest, e.g. through some use of figurative language.</p>	<p>A variety of sentence lengths, structures and subjects provides clarity and interest in the narrative.</p> <p>Wider range of connectives used to clarify relationship between events, e.g. <i>although, despite (despite the strange barking I could hear, there was nothing...)</i>.</p> <p>Some features of sentence structure used to build up detail or shades of meaning, e.g. variation in word order (<i>Not a chink of light...</i>).</p>	<p>Full range of punctuation used accurately to demarcate sentences, including speech punctuation.</p> <p>Syntax and punctuation within the sentence generally accurate, including commas to mark clauses, though some errors occur where ambitious structures are attempted.</p>	<p>Reasonably wide vocabulary used, though not always appropriately.</p> <p>Vocabulary chosen to create spooky/horrific effect.</p>