

Year 10 GCSE English Task: The Red Room

Make notes in your exercise book in answer to the following questions. Give evidence from the text to back up each answer.

1. What features of the time and place in which the story is set are typical of the ghost story genre?
2. What makes the three old servants appear so sinister and mysterious? Consider what they say, how they act and how they are described.
3. Describe the character of the narrator. Why is he a suitable narrator for a ghost story?
4. This is a first person narrative. Why is having the narrator tell the story more effective than using a third person narrative? Use examples from the story to prove this.
5. At what points in the story are there sudden shocks or excitement?
6. Ghost stories use suspense any mystery. Give examples of when the writer creates mystery through:
 - a) events or situations which are not fully explained
 - b) characters saying things which are odd
 - c) words/ phrases that suggest death/ menace/ the supernatural being used to describe things.
7. The major event is the narrator's time in the room. How does the writer build up a sense of fear and panic in this scene?
8. The ending creates some ambiguity over whether the room is haunted or not. How does it do this and why is this an effective way to end a ghost story?

Any questions that you do not complete in the lesson must be finished off for homework ready for our next lesson on Wednesday 12 January.