

Year 9 – Structure – English Knowledge Organiser

Expectations and content

What is this unit about and why do we teach it?

- This unit looks at fiction from a new perspective. Pupils will have been used to primarily looking at fiction from a language point of view, this unit opens their eyes to consider the craft of structure.

Revising terminology :

- Foreshadowing
- Dialogue
- Juxtaposition
- Flashback
- Flashforward
- Tone
- Pace
- Chronological

Possible new terminology: :

- FWSRE structure
- Shift
- Zoom
- Flashback (analepsis)
- Flash forward (prolepsis)
- Anchoring
- Atmosphere
- Cliff-hanger
- Cyclical structure
- Exposition
- Narrative perspective
- Medias res

If your child needs support

Suggested activities to help:

- Revise the structure for 'FWSRE' by using the mnemonic 'Frogs Went Snowboarding Round Everest.'
- Consider watching clips of movies (like we did in class) to consider why the story unfolds the way it did. Consider the following questions:
 - *What is the first thing you see? Why? Does that image come up again?*
 - *What does it change or shift to? Why might it have moved?*
 - *Does the perspective change (setting, inside/outside, pace, person?)*
 - *How does the clip progress? What do you find out?*
 - *How does it end and does it link back to anything from earlier?*
- Read novels and treat each chapter in the same way (as above).
- Try to spot any of the structural techniques (to the left) which may be used in the novel that you are reading.
- Try out some of the techniques when you are writing - see if you can create a flashback, for example.

If your child needs extension

Questions to discuss with your child:

- What are the different ways a writer could open an extract?
- Why might a writer decide to include a flash-forward?
- What examples have you come across of good anchoring of a subject in a novel?

Challenging activities to complete:

- Whilst reading your current novel, try to analyse the use of the structural devices which the writer uses - consider what they use and why they may use them. How do the techniques link to the context?
- You could analyse the structure of a whole novel instead of just an extract. Consider why the writer may change the techniques over the whole novel. You could also look out for patterns.

Suggested further reading:

- Look at online blogs for writers such as <https://www.well-storied.com/blog/3-awesome-plot-structures-for-building-bestsellers>
- You may want to read a 'how to' book about creating your own structure - **Creating Character Arcs: The Masterful Author's Guide to Uniting Story Structure (Helping Writers Become Authors) K.M Weiland**