

Name: _____ Date: _____ Class/Block: _____

Dark Romantics: Gothic Short Story Assignment

Instructions

For this assignment, your job is to pretend you're a writer from the Gothic Romantic movement. For the next two class periods, you will write a short story that shows at least five of the ten comment elements of Gothic literature.

Common Traits of Gothic Romantic Stories:

1. Explores the darker side of human nature
2. Emphasis on emotions and imagination over logic/reason/science
3. Mystery and suspense
4. Setting/Nature as a character
5. Melodrama and sensationalism
6. Supernatural
7. The sublime (extreme terror)
8. The fallen hero (loss of innocence)
9. Isolation of the individual (physical and emotional)
10. Fatalism

I would like these stories to be at least one and a half to two pages in length. I am going to try to get computers for us to type them, but I can't make any promises!

Timeline: You will have two full class periods to write your stories: today and next class. These will be due at the end of the class period next class.

Note: Randomly throughout each period, I will be checking to ensure that you have made steady progress on your stories. These progress checks will be part of your final grade.

Grading Scale

Narrative

- Story is interesting and easy to understand _____/10
- Author clearly made an attempt to capture the voice and ideas of the Gothic Movement _____/10
- Mechanics (grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc.) are solid and don't interfere with my understanding of the narrative _____/10
- Length is at least 1 ½ -2 pages _____/10

Time Usage:

- Spent time in class working hard and making steady progress on assignment _____/10

Project Total: _____/50