

Year 9: Romantic Poetry

D. CONTEXT

1715-1789	Enlightenment	A movement focussed on facts, science and reason.
1770-1850	Romanticism	A movement focussed on individual feelings and the imagination.
1764-1901	Gothic literature	style of writing that is characterized by terror and death, nature, individuality, and the supernatural.
1789-1799	French Revolution	time of social and political upheaval resulting in execution of former King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette.

E. KEY INDIVIDUALS

William Blake	Poet, painter, engraver and visionary. Best known for 'Songs of Innocence and Experience'.
William Wordsworth	Poet who was passionate about the natural beauty of the Lake District.
Percy Bysshe Shelley	Poet nicknamed 'Mad' for his disreputable behaviour.
Lord Byron	Poet and politician with scandalous reputation.
Mary Wollstonecraft	Advocate for women's rights and travel writer. Mother of Mary Shelley.
Mary Shelley	Best known for 'Frankenstein'.
Thomas Paine	Political activist, wrote 'The Rights of Man'.
Edmund Burke	Politician disagreed with the French Revolution.

A. KEY VOCABULARY

1	The Sublime	Beauty or greatness that creates a feeling of unexplainable wonder.
2	Radical	Moving away from traditions or rules; revolutionary.
3	Corruption	Dishonest conduct by those in power.
4	Liberty	Freedom to act as you choose.
5	Tyranny	Cruel and oppressive rule.
6	Posterity	All future generations of people
7	Marginalise	Treat a person or group as insignificant.
8	Visionary	A person with original ideas about the future.
9	Oppression	Cruel and unjust control.
10	Poignant	Evoking a strong sense of sadness or regret
11	Intrigue	To interest or make curious.
12	Wrath	Extreme anger
13	Serene	Calm, peaceful and untroubled
14	Turmoil	State of troubled confusion.
15	Emancipate	Set free
16	Melancholy	Feeling of extreme sadness
17	Aristocratic	Belonging to the highest class in society
18	Catalyst	To start a change or event
19	Advocate	to support a cause
20	Ignorance	Lack of knowledge
21	Degradation	Being shamed and humiliated.
22	Subversive	Undermining an established idea or system
23	Poverty	State of living in poor conditions
24	Pinnacle	Most successful or highest point
25	Woe	Great sorrow or distress
26	Chartered	Privately owned

B. TECHNIQUES

34	Stanza	Verse or 'section' in a poem.
35	Rhyme scheme	Pattern of rhyme, e.g. quatrains or couplets.
36	Rhythm	Strong, regular repeated pattern of sound.
37	Tone	Mood or emotion
38	Symbolism	An object/image that stands for a bigger idea.
39	Enjambment	Lack of punctuation at the end of a line of poetry
40	Caesura	A pause within a line of poetry.

