

English KS3 prose study : Mortal Engines by Philip Reeve

“London is on the move again: the traction city trawls the world on wheels, capturing and eating smaller towns. But when he is thrown off the city by his childhood hero Valentine, young hero Tom joins forces with the mysterious Hester, and is soon forced to reassess life as he knows it.”

This course will give learners an opportunity to read and enjoy a modern ‘steampunk’ classic. They will develop their close reading analytical skills as well as have opportunities to write in a variety of non-fiction and creative styles.

This is a group course so there will be chances for students to work together on discussion, drama and debate focused activities as well as to develop their own independent reading and writing skills.

Skills covered:

Reading

- use a repertoire of reading strategies to analyse and explore different layers of meaning within texts
- analyse and respond to the range of ideas and differing viewpoints, purposes and themes in a variety of texts
- develop interpretations of texts, supporting points with detailed textual evidence
- discuss their own and others' reading, take account of others' views of what they have read, and express informed opinions
- analyse how texts are shaped by audiences' preferences and opinions
- develop a clear understanding and analyse the ways in which writers use language, form and structure

Writing

- Plan writing to suit audience, purpose and task by adapting familiar forms and conventions
- Draw on techniques used by writers to develop character and voice in own fiction writing
- In own non-fiction writing, develop a consistent viewpoint. To do this, select techniques used by writers and draw on evidence and opinion suitable to the task
- Use punctuation accurately to create effects
- Use vocabulary precisely and imaginatively
- Use a range of appropriate linguistic and literary techniques in own writing
- Use paragraphs and a range of cohesive devices, including linking words and phrases
- shape overall organisation and experiment with different ways of presenting texts
- Edit and proofreading texts and make improvements

Speaking and Listening – Group Discussion and Interaction

- Make clear, relevant and sustained contributions to group discussion and illustrate and explain ideas.

- Acknowledge contributions of others, and listen carefully, asking pertinent questions and making suggestions
- Take on a variety of designated roles including spokesperson
- Use specific dramatic approaches and conventions in structured ways to explore ideas, texts and themes.

Lesson	topic	content	homework
1	Introduction to the novel	-Using a globe or Google Earth – find the UK, North America and Asia look at images of the Himalayas and discuss environment -Research Darwin's theory of evolution and produce mini-posters about the key ideas, in groups -start reading the novel as a class- first impressions	Reading 2-6 Writing: Write three paragraphs describing a futuristic 'steampunk' city of London as you imagine it, in the style of Philip Reeve
2	Finding key information	Character - make a picture of one of the characters in the novel – use the text to extract specific information and label it with quotations but also use personal responses -Close read about two characters - Explore the morality of Traction Cities behaviour – is it justifiable? argue for or against	Reading 7-12 Writing: make a picture of one of the characters in the novel – use the text to extract specific information and label it with quotations but also use personal responses
3	Close Reading	Reading comprehension and prediction Writing : create your own character Aspects of a novel 1	Reading 13-19 Writing: - Write Valentine's speech to persuade the

			Engineers to destroy Medusa
4		Reading comprehension and prediction Aspects of a novel 2	Reading 20-29 Analysis of an extract of your choice
5		Reading comprehension Structure Author's craft - writing	Reading: 30-37 Redraft and improve your description
6		Theme - loyalty -Close Reading - Write a formal 'Top Secret' report in Standard English using the text to extract key information – worksheet	Write up your report
7		Theme - loyalty -Settings - make a quotation labelled map of each of these journeys - Tom and Hester; London; Miss Anna Fang -Using PEE	Writing about setting
8		Medusa Formal writing task planning a report	Write up your formal report
9		Was Hester Shaw right to seek? Debate Hester's diary Batmunkh Gompa - planning and drafting – persuasive techniques	Persuasive Writing – produce a leaflet to promote Batmunkh Gompa using the worksheet to help you prepare
10		-Make a mind map of the main aspects of a novel	Write a book review

		<p>What happens next?</p> <p>Predict the story in the next book in the series and write the opening scene</p> <p>Plan a book review</p>	
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