

# Year 8 English Vocabulary List

*(Tier 2 and Tier 3)*



**Argue** – present a reasoned case.

**Assess** – make an informed judgement.

**Atmosphere** – the pervading tone or mood of a place, situation, or creative work.

**Chorus** – the chorus in Classical Greek drama was a group of actors who described and commented upon the main action of a play with song, dance, and recitation.

**Contrast** – the state of being strikingly different from something else in close association.

**Debate** – present different perspectives on an issue.

**Evaluate** – explore how far you agree with an opinion.

**Gothic** – a genre that places strong emphasis on intense emotion, pairing terror with pleasure, death with romance.

**Iambic pentameter** – the most common English metre, iambic pentameter, is a line of ten syllables or five iambic feet.

**Illustrate** – present clarifying examples.

**Juxtaposition** – the fact of two things being seen or placed close together with contrasting effect.

**Morality** – principles concerning the distinction between right and wrong or good and bad behaviour.

**Petrarchan sonnet** – this sonnet is split in two stanzas: the "octave" or "octet" (of 8 lines) and the "sestet" (of 6 lines), for a total of 14 lines.

**Rhetorical devices** – a rhetorical device (otherwise known as a stylistic device, a persuasive device or more simply, rhetoric) is a technique or type of language that is used by a speaker or an author for the purpose of evoking a particular reaction from the listener or reader or persuading them to think in a certain way.

**Romanticism** – a movement in the arts and literature that originated in the late 18th century, emphasising inspiration, subjectivity, and focus of the individual.

**Socio-historical context** – social and historical factors that influence a writer in the creation of a piece of work.

**Suggest** – present a possible case/solution.

**Support** – use quotations/ textual references to evidence your response.

**Symbolism** – the use of symbols to represent ideas or qualities.

**Synthesise** – to put separate facts, etc. together to form a single piece of work.

**Tension** – tension in a literary context is the sense that something ominous is right around the corner. Building a large amount of tension as a writer keeps your readers engaged up until the end of the story.

**Trope** – a common feature of a genre.