

Year 7 Ghost Boys- Tracking a narrative over a novel.	
Characters	Plot
Jerome: Jerome is a 12-year-old Black American boy who lives in Chicago. He is kind and loving, likes to play video games and dreams of being successful when he grows up. Jerome has a difficult time at school and gets bullied by some other children.	<p>The chapters alternate between 'Alive' and 'Dead' as Jerome tries to process what has happened to him and why.</p> <p>Jerome lived with his parents, sister and grandma in a deprived area of Chicago. He was being bullied at school. One day, Jerome was asked to look after a new student called Carlos. The bullies found them at lunchtime and Carlos pulled out a toy gun. The bullies ran away, thinking it was a real gun. Carlos thanked Jerome by lending him the toy gun. That evening, Jerome was playing outside with the toy gun. Someone made a call to the emergency services reporting a man in the park with a gun.</p> <p>Jerome saw a police car heading towards him and he turned to run away. Officer Moore shot Jerome twice in the back. He didn't try to give Jerome first aid or call an ambulance.</p> <p>As a ghost, Jerome is able to see the impact of his death on his family and friends. They can't see him. Jerome meets the ghost of a 14-year-old boy called Emmett Till. Emmett shows Jerome that he is one of many ghost boys who have been killed because of racism and prejudice.</p> <p>Ghost Boys is a Fictional text. However, many of the events draw parallels with historical events. Rhodes says that the murder of Tamir Rice in Ohio in 2014 was one of the reasons she decided to write Ghost Boys. There are lots of similarities between the murder of Jerome and the murder of Tamir. Tamir was 12 years old when he was killed. He was carrying a toy gun. The white police officer who killed him has not been charged.</p> <p>Rhodes also says that the murder of Trayvon Martin in Florida in 2012 had a huge impact on her. Trayvon was 17 years old when he was shot dead. He was unarmed. The Hispanic man who killed him said he acted in self-defence and was found not guilty of murder. Tamir and Trayvon's murders were two of several high-profile cases which sparked the Black Lives Matter movement and organisation.</p>
Carlos: Carlos is Jerome's new school friend. He has just moved to Chicago from San Antonio, Texas, because his dad has a new job. He gives Jerome the toy gun to thank him for protecting him from the bullies.	
Sarah: Sarah is Officer Moore's daughter. She can see and hear Jerome after his death. She helps him communicate and share his story. Sarah is confused and angry about her father's actions.	
Pop: Pop is Jerome's father. He is a sanitation worker and starts work at 4am every morning. He also worries about his children's safety.	
Emmett Till: The character of Emmett Till is based on a real person. Emmett was a 14-year-old Black American boy who was murdered by white men in Mississippi in 1955. Like Jerome, he had not committed a crime. Emmett's murder brought attention to the racist violence and injustice in America and was a key moment in the American civil rights movement.	
Officer Moore: Officer Moore is the white police officer who shoots and kills Jerome. He has won awards for bravery and saving lives, but doesn't help Jerome when he is dying.	
Grandma: Grandma is Jerome's grandmother. She worries the most about Jerome and Kim and has bad dreams. She believes in an afterlife and can sense Jerome's presence after his death.	
Vocabulary and terminology	
Racism: prejudice against an individual based only on them belonging to a particular race.	Narrator: the voice which tells the story
Injustice: when something is unfair and the outcome does not fix things or bring justice	In Media Res: starting in the middle of the action
Protagonist: the main character in a story or narrative	Black Lives Matter: a movement started in the USA dedicated to fighting racism.

Myths - A myth is a story that is, or was, considered a true explanation of the natural world and how it came to be. It is a traditional story involving Gods and supernatural events that was often used to explain the world and things we did not understand.

Characters	The Odyssey Plot	
Prometheus: Stole fire from the Gods	Exposition - Rising Action - Climax - Falling Action - Denouement	
Medusa: Punished by the Gods by having her hair turned to snakes and making anything she looks at turn to stone.	Exposition: the start of the story	Odysseus is held captive on Calypso's island. At home, suitors are trying to take over his house and marry his wife.
Theseus: Killed the Minotaur in order to save his people.	Rising Action: A problem is introduced	
Icarus: Escaped imprisonment by using wings to fly to freedom. Avoided warnings and flew too close to the sun which resulted in his death		
Odysseus: The hero of 'The Odyssey'	Climax: the peak of the story	Odysseus sets out for home. He faces many trials and monsters sent by the Gods, such as being shipwrecked and facing the Cyclops, sirens and Scylla and Charybdis.
Calypso: Kept Odysseus prisoner on her island for seven years.		
The Sirens: The creatures that tried to drown Odysseus and his men by singing to them	Falling Action: everything starts to be resolved	Odysseus returns home and battles the suitors.
Scylla and Charybdis: The creature with 6 heads and the dangerous whirlpool		
Penelope: Odysseus's wife		
Thor: The God of Thunder in Norse mythology	Denouement: things are resolved	Peace returns to Odysseus homeland.

Vocabulary and terminology	
Antagonist: the character who is against the protagonist	Morals: right and wrong
Empathy: putting yourself in someone else's shoes – imagining how it would feel to be them	Protagonist: the main character in the story
Imperative: a commanding word e.g. must, stay, leave	Sibilance: the repeated 'S' sound in two or more words
Inference: reading between the lines and making a guess or judgement based on the explicit information in the text	Tension: making the reader feel anxious about what is happening or what is going to happen
Metaphor: comparing one thing to another by saying that it is that thing.	Verb: a doing word