Gothic Writing

Definition of 'Gothic' writing: "Tales of the macabre, fantastic, and supernatural, usually set amid haunted castles, graveyards, ruins, and wild picturesque landscapes."

Typical genre features:	Typical characters:	Typical settings:
1. Death and darkness	Mysterious characters with high social status e.g. Princes, Counts	1. Wild landscapes
2. Supernatural (magic, ghosts, vampires, curses)	Female or feminine characters that are threatened by powerful men	2. Medieval style castles, churches or abbeys
3. Curses or prophecies	3. Threatening women who are monsters or vampires	3. Gloomy, decayed and ruined environments
4. Madness and intense emotions/paranoia	4. Powerful, tyrannical male figures	Remote, uninhabited places (older gothic) or monsters intermingling in every day life (newer gothic)
5. Mystery, terror and suspense	5. Villains, vampires, ghosts, werewolves, giants	5. Volatile and threatening weather (symbolism)

Methods used by writers		
Narrative voice	Semantic field	
Pathetic fallacy	simile	
Contrast	Figurative	
Imagery	metaphor	
Verb	Personification	
Adjective	Symbolism	

Useful vocabulary			
Afflicted	Dilapidated	Lifeless	
Alienate	Discomforted	Mournfully	
Anguish	Disfigured	Obscured	
Annihilate	Enigma	Sinister	
Apprehensions	Entrapment	Torturous	
Beguile	Forbidding	Unleashed	
Claustrophobia	Grotesque	Vengeful	
Decomposing	Hopeless	Withered	
Despair	Lamentable	Wretched	

Sentence Structure

Simple Sentence – One main verb and idea/clause.

'It was raining.' or 'Jack sang loudly.'

Compound – Two simple sentences (clauses) joined by a connective. Both clauses can stand alone.

'It was raining so we stayed indoors.'

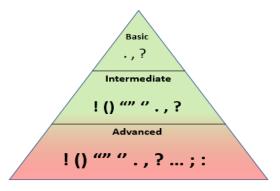
Complex – Communicates more than one idea. It is made up of one main clause (can stand alone) and one subordinate clause (doesn't make sense alone).

'As it was raining, we all decided to stay indoors.'

We can take away the second part, but then we are left with:

As it was raining.

Now this is not a simple sentence as it doesn't stand on its own - it needs something else to make sense.



Start a new paragraph when there is a change in....

