

THÉMATIQUE : Imaginaires
Séquence proposée par Mme
Huguette Pasquier

AXE : Imaginaires Effrayants



THEME : Ghosts

QUESTION : Ghosts : Delightful creatures ?

Ghost In The Forest by Mya Fitzpatrick

TÂCHE FINALE (au choix de l'élève) :

- **EE : Write a short story**
- **EO : Record the audio guide for a haunted castle in Scotland**

Etape 1 : anticipate

1. Photo : Describe /the atmosphere/your impressions/Guess what-who is after her ?
2. Analyse the picture: le sujet et son contexte/ le format/la composition/le cadrage/l'angle/la lumière/la profondeur de champ/le temps/ la reference à d'autres oeuvres



D-KEINE/E+/GETTY
IMAGES

3. Voc : Make your own mind map, the key word is GHOST .

File 1: Ghosts : so British a genre...

1. Videos:

Hamlet by W. Shakespeare : the revelation
A Christmas Carol by C. DICKENS : a good ghost story

- Find information about the two authors and sum up in three or four sentences what the stories are about.
- **Tâche intermédiaire EO** : Analyse the trailers :
 - Describe (images, sounds, music, colors, special effects etc....)
 - Interpret and explain the role of the ghosts

2. Article : At the London ghost club..
Find out what they do...

Get prepared for your final task :

Tâche intermédiaire EE: Write an e-mail to the president of the Ghost Club in London:

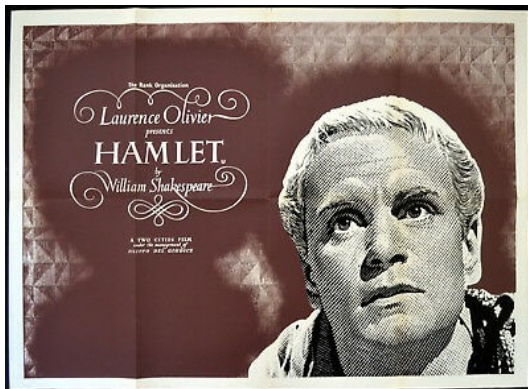
You have a personal case you want to tell them about : a ghost appeared in the park of your boarding school and you want some advice.

Documents supports: Ghosts, a favourite British literary genre.

1. HAMLET by W. SHAKESPEARE : the revelation

Hamlet is a 1948 British film adaptation of William Shakespeare's play of the same name, adapted and directed by and starring Laurence Olivier.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hjx_ihCkA38



2. A CHRISTMAS CAROL by C. DICKENS : a good ghost story

A Christmas Carol is a 1984 British-American made-for-television film adaptation of Charles Dickens' famous 1843 novel by Clive Donner.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sVObHkzoFPg>



The ghost of Christmas past



ARTICLE :

At The London Ghost Club Which Meets Up In Old Pubs

BY DEBORAH NASH LAST EDITED 8 MONTHS AGO

<https://londonist.com/london/secret/ghost-club-london-visit-join>

The Ghost Club is the world's oldest society dedicated to researching paranormal activity. It has an international membership of 326 made up, I'm assured, of believers and sceptics. "There isn't a party line that you have to follow," says Alan Murdie, barrister and genial club chairman, who wears a vintage Ghost Club tie flecked with tiny spirits in white sheets. "Many of us don't believe," adds someone else at one of the club's monthly meetings. "We're just interested in exploring the possibilities." Founded in 1862, the [Ghost Club](#) holds its get-togethers at a shifting rota of venues around London (unlike the more formal and academic [Society for Psychical Research](#), which is based at Vernon Mews, Kensington). A favourite haunt is the Devereux in the City where Ghost Club members are gathered for a slide-illustrated talk on the Ten Bells in Spitalfields, a pub associated with two of Jack the Ripper's victims.



Image: Shutterstock

The Ghost Club is proud of its history and its roll-call of illustrious members, which included: scientists Sir William Crookes, Sir William Barrett, Sir Julian Huxley; writers Charles Dickens, Arthur Koestler, W.B. Yeats, Siegfried Sassoon, Peter Underwood; the actor Peter Cushing; second world war hero, Air Chief Marshall Lord Dowding; and explorer Colonel John Blashford-Snell.

"We're not aiming to be a scientific body in the same way as the Society for Psychical Research, or a organisation trying to prove one thing or the other..." Murdie begins, "...but I like to think we celebrate our unique British cultural tradition of ghosts."

The Ghost Club has reflected shifts in social trends during its long but interrupted history, evolving from an invite only secretive gentleman's club with leanings towards spiritualism in the late 19th century, to the more democratic and open society it has become today. The club embraces a range of viewpoints and subject areas, from folklore and history to physics and philosophy, and its chairman emphasises the rational and serious approach it takes to paranormal investigations, perhaps in response to the credulous acceptance of faked evidence that has bedevilled some of its past members.

James Tacchi, an aeroplane pilot, is the club's science and technical officer and oversees the proper use of equipment during site investigations.

"There are lots of ghost hunting groups who go around with their detectors, and when they get a spike on their gadget, they say, 'Oh! There's a ghost!'", says Tacchi, "but often they aren't using their equipment or recording their results correctly... methodology is important in the field; you can't control the environment, but you can control your method."

On its website, the club states it will not perform clearances or exorcisms, and it prohibits the use of ouija boards. "I don't think you should treat contacting the dead

as a game," says Alan Murdie. "Most messages come from the unconscious mind, but the power of suggestion can really affect some people."

(...)

Ghost believers on the rise?

According to a 2014 YouGov poll for The Sun, 34% of people in Great Britain say they believe that ghosts exist, and experiences of the paranormal are strongly embedded in British culture. In his essay on the eeriness of the English countryside, Robert MacFarlane argues that such beliefs are symptomatic of collective underlying anxieties:

Murdie puts it down to history. "London has a long history and probably there isn't a street or alleyway or building that hasn't had a report of some kind of paranormal activity or sighting... but one of the reasons why the UK has so many ghost stories is our position on the map, far off to the west, and we're very good at preserving records and writing things down.... we've also had long periods of social peace that has maintained a sense of continuity. You can walk along the footpaths in land that has been walked a thousand years ago..."

But will the Ghost Club still be around in a hundred years? The last word goes to Murdie. "The world has changed enormously," he tells me "but we keep coming back to stories told a century ago and with the same questions.

"I tend to be quietly optimistic that in a hundred years' time there will still be people coming together and sitting down to discuss these things. As Newton said, 'We stand on the shoulders of giants...'"

*Find out more about the [Ghost Club](#)
Last Updated 06 March 2020*

File 2 : Malevolent creatures

1. Warming up :

THE OTHERS (Trailer)

A woman who lives in her darkened old family house with her two photosensitive children becomes convinced that the home is haunted.

Director: [Alejandro Amenábar](#)

Stars: Nicole Kidman, Christopher Eccleston, Fionnula Flanagan

https://www.imdb.com/video/vi3201343001?playlistId=tt0230600&ref_=tt_ov_vi

Tâche intermédiaire EO: décrire l'atmosphère etc.

2. **The Turn of The Screw** by Henry James

- étude d'un extrait (the ghost appearing on the roof ?)
- Le point de vue narratif (omniscient /interne/externe)

More to read : The Mysteries of Udolpho by Ann Radcliffe / Jane Eyre (the character of Bertha in Thornfield) by Charlotte Bronte / Wuthering Heights (extract branch tapping at the window) by Emily Bronte

Get prepared for your final task : **objectifs : comment écrire quelque chose de descriptif et utiliser le vocabulaire de la carte mentale**

- Read the short story 'The Open Window' by Saki.
- <https://www.vma.is/static/files/enska/Bokmenntir/Short%20Stories/TheOpenWindowSaki.pdf>
- **Préparation à la Tâche finale EE:** Analyse how it is structured.
- **Tâche intermédiaire EE:** Now, write a paragraph starting : 'It was a dark and stormy night when...'
Find an appropriate music to fit your text. And then, record it.

File 3 : Humorous creatures

1. The morning routine of a house full of ghosts | Ghosts - BBC

Trailer : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KiCP9JDjnMk>

A house full of ghosts can make your morning routine quite complicated. Alison and Mike are trying to find a semi-harmonious routine with the ghostly housemates of Button House and are working towards a new money-making venture to fund their perpetual renovations. But after a paranormal photo of the house goes viral, Alison and Mike spot their opportunity to bring money in more quickly by using the ghosts' 'talents' to create an authentic haunted house experience. Will they be able to convince the ghosts to help them? Ghosts | Series 2 Episode 1 | BBC

2. **The Canterville Ghost** by Oscar Wilde

https://www.pf.jcu.cz/stru/katedry/aj/doc/sukdolova/ual-wilde_ghost.pdf

- Etude d'un extrait (les attributs du fantôme) page 4 « The day had been warm and sunny... the house became quite quiet. »
- **Tâche intermédiaire EE ou EO au choix:** What if the passage was told from the ghost's point of view?

More to read : The Sittaford Mystery by Agatha Christie (une histoire avec un table ronde)

The day had been warm and sunny; and, in the cool of the evening, the whole family went out for a drive. They did not return home till nine o' clock, when they had a light supper. The conversation in no way turned upon ghosts, so there were not even those primary conditions of receptive expectation which so often precede the presentation of psychical phenomena. The subjects discussed, as I have since learned from Mr. Otis, were merely such as form the ordinary conversation of cultured Americans of the better class, such as the immense superiority of Miss Fanny Davenport over Sarah Bernhardt as an actress; the difficulty of obtaining green corn, buckwheat cakes, and hominy, even in the best English houses; the importance of Boston in the development of the world-soul; the advantages of the baggage check system in railway traveling; and the sweetness of the New York accent as compared to the London drawl. No mention at all was made of the supernatural, nor was Sir Simon de Canterville alluded to in any way. At eleven o' clock the family retired and by half-past all the lights were out. Some time after, Mr. Otis was awakened by a curious noise in the corridor, outside his room. It sounded like the clank of metal, and seemed to be coming nearer every moment. He got up at once, struck a match, and looked at the time. It was exactly one o' clock. He was quite calm, and felt his pulse, which was not at all feverish. The strange noise still continued, and with it he heard distinctly the sound of footsteps. He put on his slippers, took a small oblong phial out of his dressing-case, and opened the door. Right in front of him he saw, in the wan moonlight, an old man of terrible aspect. His eyes were as red as burning coals; long grey hair fell over his shoulders in matted coils; his garments, which were of antique cut, were soiled and ragged, and from his wrists and ankles hung heavy manacles and rusty gyves.

"My dear sir," said Mr. Otis, "I really must insist on your oiling those chains, and have brought you for that purpose a small bottle of the Tammany Rising Sun Lubricator. It is said to be completely efficacious upon one application, and there are several testimonials to that effect on the wrapper from some of our most eminent native divines. I shall leave it here for you by the bedroom candles, and will be happy to supply you with more should you require it." With these words the United States Minister laid the bottle down on a marble table, and, closing his door, retired to rest.

Get prepared for your final task :

Tâche intermédiaire EO: You spend a week-end in one of the Scottish haunted castles described on the internet site below. Get in touch with its eerie inhabitant/tenant and have a conversation with him/her. He/she tells you about his/her life.

<https://www.visitscotland.com/blog/attractions/15-haunted-castles-in-scotland/>

TÂCHE FINALE (au choix de l'élève) :

- **EE : Write a short story**
- **EO : Record the audio guide for a haunted castle in Scotland**