

Worksheet 1 – Black Knight Scary Words

Black Knight was written in the nineteenth century. Even in this retelling from Edith Nesbit's original, the language is slightly old fashioned and unusually complex. Here are some words from the story. Can you define them?

aisle
altar
corpses
everlasting
fascinated
frightful
ghastly
gothic
highwaymen
impending
intervals
legend
menacing
misfortune
nameless
picturesque
smugglers
stile
tradition
wreaths

Task 1: Horror stories tend to use adjectives (eg menacing), adverbs (eg desperately) and verbs (eg shrieking) to add atmosphere. Can you make a list of 50 'horror' words? They all need definitions.

Task 2: Find a horror story. Now go through it and underline the words the author has used to generate a feeling of unease, if not outright terror. Choose ten of these words and use them in a complete sentence.