

# Horror

## **Definition:**

A scary story written to frighten people!

## **Key Features:**

Elements of surprise and shock. Detailed descriptions to create a scary atmosphere. All will seem well and then suddenly go wrong.

Horror stories use tension and suspense. Use the checklist to help you write your horror story.



## Building Tension and Suspense

Detailed descriptions of the surroundings	
Clues to tantalise the reader and to keep certain things hidden (e.g. a hunched silhouette)	
Short, shocking sentences	
Subordinate and relative clauses to make the reader wait for an outcome	
Ellipses (...)	
Physical reactions from the character	
Appealing to the reader's senses	
Exciting synonyms	
Similes and metaphors	
Onomatopoeia	

Could you use these ideas to write your own horror story?

### Key Words

Cackle	Horrifying
Haunting	Shock
Terrified	Screaming
Shivers	Dark
Creeping	Spooky

### Settings

Old House or Castle
Unknown Village
Woods
Swamp
Deserted Place

