

Student Packet

Grades 7–8

The Graveyard Book

Neil Gaiman

NOVEL UNITS[®]



NEW WAYS TO LEARN READING,
WRITING, & CRITICAL THINKING



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THE GRAVEYARD BOOK

by
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Illustrated by
Dave McKean

Student Packet

Written by
Rachel Boyers

Contains masters for:

- 2 Prereading Activities
- 4 Vocabulary Activities
- 1 Study Guide
- 4 Literary Analysis Activities
- 4 Character Analysis Activities
- 2 Comprehension Activities
- 3 Quizzes
- 1 Novel Test

PLUS

Detailed Answer Key
and Scoring Rubric

Teacher Note

Selected activities, quizzes, and test questions in this Novel Units® Student Packet are labeled with the appropriate reading/language arts skills for quick reference. These skills can be found above quiz/test questions or sections and in the activity headings.

Note

The HarperCollins hardcover edition of the novel, © 2008 by Neil Gaiman, was used to prepare this guide. The page references may differ in other editions. Novel ISBN: 978-0-06-053092-1

Please note: Parts of this novel deal with sensitive, mature issues. Please assess the appropriateness of this book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading and discussing it with them.

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Note to the Teacher

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Basic Understanding: The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of written texts. The student will:

- use a text’s structure or other sources to locate and recall information (Locate Information)
- determine main idea and identify relevant facts and details (Main Idea and Details)
- use prior knowledge and experience to comprehend and bring meaning to a text (Prior Knowledge)
- summarize major ideas in a text (Summarize Major Ideas)

Literary Elements: The student will apply knowledge of literary elements to understand written texts. The student will:

- analyze characters from a story (Character Analysis)
- analyze conflict and problem resolution (Conflict/Resolution)
- recognize and interpret literary devices (flashback, foreshadowing, symbolism, simile, metaphor, etc.) (Literary Devices)
- consider characters’ points of view (Point of View)
- recognize and analyze a story’s setting (Setting)
- understand and explain themes in a text (Theme)

Analyze Written Texts: The student will use a variety of strategies to analyze written texts. The student will:

- identify the author’s purpose (Author’s Purpose)
- identify cause and effect relationships in a text (Cause/Effect)
- identify characteristics representative of a given genre (Genre)
- interpret information given in a text (Interpret Text)
- make and verify predictions with information from a text (Predictions)
- sequence events in chronological order (Sequencing)
- identify and use multiple text formats (Text Format)
- follow written directions and write directions for others to follow (Follow/Write Directions)

Critical Thinking: The student will apply critical-thinking skills to analyze written texts. The student will:

- write and complete analogies (Analogies)
- find similarities and differences throughout a text (Compare/Contrast)
- draw conclusions from information given (Drawing Conclusions)
- make and explain inferences (Inferences)
- respond to texts by making connections and observations (Making Connections)
- recognize and identify the mood of a text (Mood)
- recognize an author’s style and how it affects a text (Style)
- support responses by referring to relevant aspects of a text (Support Responses)
- recognize and identify the author’s tone (Tone)
- write to entertain, such as through humorous poetry or short stories (Write to Entertain)
- write to express ideas (Write to Express)
- write to inform (Write to Inform)
- write to persuade (Write to Persuade)
- demonstrate understanding by creating visual images based on text descriptions (Visualizing)

Name _____

4. What scheme are Nick and Mo involved in?
5. What does Bod want Nick and Mo to do?
6. What aspect of his dream makes Nick scream?
7. What information regarding Silas does Bod learn from the Persson family?
8. How does Bod escape from the police?
9. Who still presents a danger to Bod?

Chapter Seven

1. Why are the Owenses worried about Silas?
2. Why has Scarlett returned to Old Town?
3. How does Scarlett feel upon entering the graveyard?
4. Who is Mr. Jay Frost?
5. Where do Scarlett and Bod reunite?
6. About which two subjects does Nehemiah Trot give Bod advice?
7. How did Silas and Miss Lonesome see Haroun?
8. What is Scarlett researching in the library?
9. What does Bod learn about asking the Sleer for advice?
10. What happens when Bod goes upstairs with Mr. Frost?
11. How does Bod outwit the man Jack in the Fisher mausoleum?
12. Why does Scarlett think Bod is a monster?

Chapter Eight

1. How is the world changing for Bod?
2. What is Bod's current age?
3. What does Silas reveal that surprises Bod?
4. What items does Silas give Bod to use in the world?
5. What feelings does Mrs. Owens express as Bod leaves?
6. What promise does Bod make to his surrogate family regarding his future?

Name _____

Qualities of a Hero

Directions: Think about Silas in the novel. For each quality listed in the left column, tell if Silas has this quality. If you write “yes” in the second column, then you must list an event in the third column that proves Silas has the quality. If you write “no” in the second column, you may leave the third column blank.

Quality	Does Silas have this quality? (Yes or No)	Event from the Story
honest		
fair		
brave		
kind		
calm		
smart		
good friend		

Look at the chart you filled in above. Based on this information, do you think Silas is a hero? Explain your decision on the lines below.

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Name _____

(Main Idea and Details)

A. Identification: Match each item to the correct description.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| ___ 1. Freedom of the Graveyard | a. the dance with Death |
| ___ 2. Eliza Hempstock | b. the power Bod uses to teach school bullies a lesson |
| ___ 3. Fear | c. steal money from young students |
| ___ 4. snakestone brooch | d. abilities of the dead, such as Fading and Dreamwalking |
| ___ 5. the Sleer | e. an antique object with unknown powers |
| ___ 6. ghosts | f. the guardian of the Master's treasure |
| ___ 7. ghouls | g. the old cast-iron witch who befriends Bod |
| ___ 8. Potter's Field | h. the burial place for unconsecrated souls |
| ___ 9. the Macabray | i. the residents of the graveyard |
| ___ 10. Nick and Mo | j. flesh-eaters from Ghûlheim |

(Summarize Major Ideas)

B. Short Answer: Tell how each item below is important to the story.

11. Fading

12. Dreamwalking

(Cause/Effect)

C. Open-ended Comprehension: On the lines below, explain Miss Lupescu's influence in Ghûlheim.

