

**What we already know**

- Rhyme, Rhythm, Repetition, syllable, imagery, form

## Stage 8 and 9 English: Historical Fiction

**What's next**

- Analysis of poetry, confidently using the knowledge of KS3

### English Golden Concepts

Reading: Fluency

Reading: Comprehension

Speaking and Listening

Writing Transcription

Writing Composition

### What is historical fiction?

A story set in the past, often during a real historical event or period.

#### Key Vocabulary

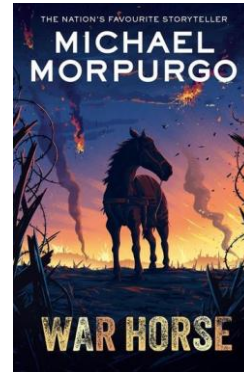
Protagonist	The main character in a story, often the hero or the central figure we follow.
Antagonist	A character or force that opposes the protagonist and creates conflict in the story.
Narrative structure	The way a story is organized, including the sequence of events.
Themes	The central ideas or messages explored in a story, like love, friendship, or bravery.
First-person perspective	A way of telling a story where the narrator is a character in the story, using "I" or "we".
Foreshadowing	A warning or indication of a future event

**Context**

The use of trench warfare had a major influence on how war was carried out and changed the use of horses as a key form of attack. Both sides dug deep defensive lines in the soil and the use of machine guns and shells meant that the death toll was high.

Prior to WW1, horses had been used by the cavalry as a quick and effective strategy in winning battles. With the introduction of trenches, barbed wire and machine guns, this form of attack became useless.

Instead, they were used to haul artillery to the front line, aid transportation of the injured and help with logistical support. Hundreds of thousands of horses were killed or injured during the war.

**Key themes:**

- Relationships,
- friendship,
- loyalty,
- bravery,
- courage

**Key vocabulary and phrases:**

Bugle calls - a short tune announcing an event

Calvary mount - soldiers who fight on horse back

Colt - a young male horse

Convoy - a group of vehicles travelling together

Copse - small group of trees

Guineas - old coin worth about £1

Jerry - name of the Germans in WW1

Molly-coddled - to over-protect someone

Sentries - soldiers stationed to keep guard

Skittish - nervous or excitable

Trepidation - fear of something that may happen

#### Characters

Joey	He is a horse (War Horse) and the narrator and hero of the novel.
Albert	A gentle young boy who develops a bond with Joey.
Albert's Mother	She is the quiet strength that underpins the family but her hands are tied with the rules and traditions of the time.
Albert's Father	A bully of a man with no time for empathy or sentiment - very proud and competitive.
Old Zoey	A sweet, older farm horse who takes Joey under his wing and helps him to learn.
Captain Nicholls	He pursues Joey for himself from Albert's father - he captains a regiment and is a strong leader.
Topthorn	A beautiful black horse who rides alongside Joey at the front of the cavalry.

Info	Details
Setting	Europe during World War One (1914-1918)
Main Character	Joey - a horse who narrates the story
Other Key characters	Albert (Joey's original owner), Captain Nicholls, Topthorn
Plot Summary	Joey is taken from a farm to serve in WWI. The story follows his journey through the war and Albert's mission to find him.
Narrative Style	First-person from the horse's point of view (Joey)