r Faustus: (d) Marlowe's style

Dr Faustus: (d) Marlowe's style

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- Lesson focus: To examine Marlowe's particular style of writing.
- Opening exercise: Allocate Faustus' opening speech (up to Wagner's entry) sentence by sentence around the group
 - After a few minutes' preparation, read the speech aloud, each student reading their allocated sentences as they arise
 - Following each sentence, the student should make a comment, still in Faustus' voice though in modern English
 - Most students will need to write this down in order to achieve reasonable fluency.
 - The comment should explain or expand the sentence, showing, as it were, Faustus' thoughts or his reasons for the statement
 - For example, at the end of the first sentence, you could say, 'It's time to make a decision. I'm sure that there is one particular area that I can be an expert in.'
 - Discuss any interesting responses.
 (Doctor Faustus > Synopsis and commentary > Scene one)
- Textual examination: Give each student one piece of card for each sentence which they have read out
 - They should write their sentence on a card, and add a comment about the style or language of it underneath, perhaps in a different colour
 - E.g. for that first sentence, they could comment on its length, the way he addresses himself by name, or the use of the word 'divine'
 - Fasten these, in order, on the board, and discuss findings
 - If prompts are needed, look at the list given in the Extension task.
 (Not all those features are in these two speeches.)
 - (Imagery and symbolism in Doctor Faustus > Patterns of imagery and play)

- Discussion ideas: Read Faustus' final speech (Sc. 13) sentence by sentence
 Contrast it with the first speech
 - Are the same poetic techniques used?
 - Why / Why not?
 - (➤ Doctor Faustus > Synopsis and commentary > Scene thirteen)
 (➤ Imagery and symbolism in Doctor Faustus > Imagery in the final scene)
- Recreative task: Write an extra speech for Faustus, in blank verse, trying to use several of Marlowe's features of style
 - This speech could be spoken from Hell, after the end of the play, or at some other point
 - (Characterisation in *Doctor Faustus* > Faustus)
- Critical task: Marlowe has been accused of writing a series of set speeches rather than convincing lines for characters. How do you respond to this criticism?
- Extension task: Allocate scenes to those available. Using the following list of possible poetic techniques, students should find examples of each in their scenes and report their findings:
 - Verse or prose
 - Imagery
 - Classical references
 - · References to time
 - Hyperbole
 - Repetition
 - Rhyme
 - Varied line lengths
 - Punctuation
 - Sentence length / use of clauses
 - Rhythm: fluent or broken lines
 - For guidance see
 (Critical approaches to Doctor Faustus > Analysing a passage)

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