

# Method Knowledge Organiser: Creating and using **pathetic fallacy**

## Key vocabulary

### **Personification**

When you give human characteristics to things, abstract ideas etc. *The dancing daffodils.*

### **Perspective**

A particular way of thinking about something. *The teacher and the pupil had different perspectives on the need for school uniform.*

### **Emotions**

A feeling such as happiness, love, anger, hatred etc., caused by the situation you are in.

## Starting Out!

**Pathetic fallacy** is when you give **inanimate objects** in nature **human feelings**. This is often used for weather, such as *the gloomy clouds covered up the sun.*

Writers use it to help develop mood or atmosphere of a situation.  
→ Think of an element of weather.

## Use It!

Next, think of some human emotions. Which emotion best matches your weather element?

→ Write a sentence that links your weather and emotion together.

*The emotion weather*  
*The gloomy clouds.*

## Extend It!

Now look at the **inanimate objects** below. Try to put yourself in the **perspective** of the object. How might you feel and why?  
→ Write a sentence for each object.



## **Try to remember...**

- Pathetic fallacy and personification are different methods – personification is about human **characteristics** whereas pathetic fallacy is about **emotions** only.
- Writers often use this device to open a piece to help set the mood and atmosphere, typically with **weather**.
- It can help to add layers to a piece of **creative writing**.

<b>Key word</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Write an example/use in a sentence</b>
Eerie		
Grotesque		
Menace		
Ominous		
Treacherous		
Pathetic fallacy		
Juxtaposition		
Personification		
Connotations		
First person		