

Dave Rudden



Dave Rudden is the author of the award-winning *Knights of the Borrowed Dark* trilogy, the first book of which is on the Junior Cycle suggested novels for First Year English. He has visited hundreds of schools talking about books, beards, inspiration and mental health, and currently serves as DCU's first Writer-in-Residence.



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Podcast | Reflection Questions

You may find some of the following reflection questions useful. The suggested questions and activities below are a sample of how this podcast, featuring Dave Rudden, can be incorporated into your classroom practice. In adapting this resource for your students, you should consider the age and stage of the students within your school context.

Before Listening:

- Who was your favourite author when you were a child/young adult? Why did you enjoy reading their books?
- Have you ever considered writing a story?

As You Listen:

- In the podcast, Dave discusses how he believes failure is part of being a writer, do you have any examples of how you learned from a moment of failure?
- Dave talks about how his books are directly and indirectly inspired by his own experiences, what inspires you?
- Dave mentions some ideas on how teachers could inspire young people to read and write more, name one idea.
- What advice does Dave give to others about writing and the writing process?
- As you listen to Dave reading, consider how he creates suspense and tension:
 - * through the language he uses
 - * through the way he reads the extract.

After Listening:

- Dave recommends writing about the things you love and hate. What would you like to write about?
- In the podcast, Dave says that 'books are empathy engines'. What do you understand by this? Give an example of a book you read recently that allows you to empathise with different characters.

Podcast available on Junior Cycle Talks podcast channel

