

Year 7 Term 1: Identity

Everyone has a sense of who they are – a sense of **self**/an **identity**. This grows more and more secure as you get older. Your identity may go through many changes.

Our identity is made up of a range of things. For example: our **gender**, our **race**, where we **live**, our **nationality**, the **language** we speak, our **class**, our **hobbies** and **interests**, our **families**, the **education** we are given etc.

Exploring 'selfhood' and 'identity' is a common theme within literature around the world. Writers of the poems you will study this term are asking: **who am I? What are my values and beliefs? How do I fit into my society?** These are universal questions we all ask ourselves.

Poetry Terms

Speaker/Persona: the character who tells the story in the poem

Stanza: a paragraph in a poem

Alliteration: the use of the same sound to begin a series of words in a poem eg. 'cuffs, cans, trodden on, crunch'

Rhyme scheme: pattern of rhyme in a poem

Free verse: poem with no regular rhyme scheme

Imagery: visually descriptive or figurative language

Simile – a comparison of two things using '**as**' or '**like**' to make the comparison clear e.g. 'name flaring like a flag'

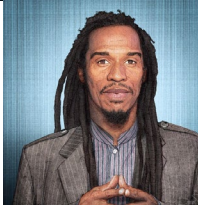
Metaphor – compares two things by saying one thing is something else e.g. 'childhood is an emigration'

Personification – gives human qualities to objects or ideas e.g. 'dancing in the breeze'

Repetition of key ideas e.g. 'groggily, groggily'

Rhythm: the beat and pace of a poem

Dramatic Monologue: a poem written in the form of a speech of an individual character



Key Poems

Wordsworth – I wandered lonely as a cloud – this poem is about how humanity and nature are connected. Wordsworth argues that a strong bond with nature is essential to human happiness.

Grace Nichols – Island Man – The man in this poem has moved from his home country in the Caribbean to London. It is about his loneliness and homesickness as he gets used to a new way of life.

Tatamkhula Afrika – Nothing's Changed – This bitter poem is about the discrimination and oppression of Black South Africans during Apartheid. The speaker is disappointed and angry at the way nothing has changed in his home country. The poet explores how racial identity affects the way society treats you.

Carol Ann Duffy – Originally – This poem is about a child who must emigrate from Scotland to England and the sense of isolation she feels. It is also about losing your childhood identity as you grow older.

Simon Armitage – Kid – This a dramatic monologue from the point of view of Robin as he learns to be independent from Batman. It is a metaphor for growing up and becoming an adult.

John Agard – Half Caste – This poem is about the mixed-race identity of the speaker and the way this is perceived and commented on by society.

Benjamin Zephaniah – Who's Who – In this poem, the poet examines stereotypes and the way we learn to change our opinions as we age.

Kamau Brathwaite – Limbo – This poem looks at the identity of slaves and the suffering that was endured due to the slave trade.



Grammar – bounce-back to term 1

Noun types:

Concrete – A noun we can see, hear, touch, smell or taste e.g. table

Abstract – A noun which we cannot experience with any of the 5 senses e.g. happiness, tension

Proper – A noun which is the name or title of something and is capitalised e.g. Bolton, Turton School

Collective – A singular word used to group together a plural e.g. a group, a herd, a class

Verb types:

Dynamic – A verb that we can see/hear being completed – a deliberate action e.g. I kick, I speak

Stative – A verb that we cannot see being completed e.g. I think, I believe

Imperative – A commanding verb e.g. Do this work, sit down, let's go

Modal – A verb expressing possibility or probability e.g. will, should, could, can, must

Subject: Does the action in a sentence or clause

Past tense: used to describe things that have already happened and usually have an -ed ending e.g. I walked to school yesterday

Present tense: used to describe things that are happening now

Future tense: describes things that have yet to happen and usually uses 'will' e.g. I will go tomorrow.

Grammar – bounce-back term 2

Clause types:

Clause - Part of sentence which has a subject and a verb.

Main clause - A clause which would make sense on its own as a full sentence.

e.g. When I get home, I will have my dinner.

Subordinate clause - A clause which would **not** make sense on its own as a full sentence.

e.g. When I get home, I will have my dinner.

Conjunction types:

Coordinating conjunction – A conjunction which joins 2 main clauses FANBOYS – for, and, nor, but, or, yet and so

Subordinating conjunction – A conjunction which joins a subordinate clause to a main one – e.g. while, as, because, since, if

Sentence types:

Simple sentence – A sentence with only one main clause e.g. I had a nap after school.

Compound sentence – A sentence with more than one main clause, joined by a coordinating conjunction. e.g. I went home and I had a nap.

Complex sentence – A sentence with at least one main clause and at least one subordinate clause. e.g. I had to get a taxi because my car wouldn't start.