

Identity – Writing (Creative Writing)

Aims

Now You See Me, Now You Don't

Activity description

Pupils will produce a short piece of creative writing that expresses their identity to others.

Main activity:

Your identity is how you see yourself; it can be affected / shaped by how others see you.

Your writing should include some things they can see about you, as well as some things they can't.

The writing can take any form – a poem, song lyrics, a letter, rap lyrics, prose, a story, a speech – it's up to you.

Below are some questions which can help generate content for your writing. You can record these initial responses in any form (lists, sentences, bullet points, diagrams) as they're just to help you with your thinking.

You should spend a few minutes on each question (so around 30 minutes in total)

- How do you think other people would describe you?
- How would you describe yourself to others?
- What might other people not be able to know about you just by looking?
- How does where you live influence how you see yourself, or how others see you?
- Which communities are you part of – sports teams, clubs, online groups, faith groups, wider family circles?
- What are things you'd like to be asked that nobody ever asks you?
- What are the questions you'd like to ask about others that you never get to ask?
- How alike to your parents or grandparents or siblings are you?
- Apart from any possessions you might own, what is valuable to you?
- What do you believe in, and how is that different from things you like or enjoy?



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When you've finished, look at your responses and try and separate out:

- things that people **can** know about you from just looking
- things that people **can't** know about you from just looking

This might be harder than it looks! Give yourself 5 - 10 minutes to separate them out. What do you notice?

Use these differences as a basis for your creative writing piece. How might you take us on a journey through the things that people can and can't know about your identity just by looking?

Remember - you don't have to share anything you don't want to.

Choose a form for your piece - a rap, a song, a speech, a poem etc. Use this to give you a structure for your piece. For example, a song might have verses and a chorus; a rap might flow more freely; a poem might have a rhyme scheme; a speech might try to persuade.

You could even record yourself speaking or performing it so others can see it.

Time required

60 - 75 minutes

Materials required

Pen and paper.

