

Subject: English

Medium term plan Y8 - Autumn Term 2

Unit planning and evaluation sheet:

YX Unit Y	Title: Now is the Time for Running
<p>Why are you teaching it? What do they need to know? Misconceptions?</p>	<p>Now is the Time for Running is a novel with a fifteen year old male protagonist, set in Zimbabwe and South Africa. It deals with the experiences of young refugees fleeing violence and almost certain death, seeking a positive future in South Africa. The age of the protagonist allows our students to identify with his outlook on the world. However, it is set in a very different environment from the one that students are familiar with. The experiences of the characters are challenging and difficult, from this students will learn that teenagers like them have different life experiences. This is a novel with wide appeal and an engaging plot, the central theme of soccer and the freedom it provides will resonate with lots of our students. The novel challenges misconceptions students may have about refugees and rural Africa. Students may have limited knowledge of this part of the world and the way that people live, the novel contextualises and enriches this knowledge. Finally, students will be aware of the difficulties faced by migrants and refugees due to media coverage. This novel humanises those stories and encourages empathy.</p>
<p>Why are you teaching it now? What prior learning do students have?</p>	<p>This novel deals with mature themes that are not appropriate to cover with students until now. They study <i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i> in term 1 and see the world through another teenager's eyes. Students may make connections between Christopher in <i>TCIOTHITNT</i> and Innocent in <i>NITTFR</i>, developing their understanding of how neurodiverse teenagers experience the world.</p> <p>This is the fourth whole novel that students have studied in Key Stage 3. They are learning about how different types of novels are structured and how characters are created by authors. They are developing their language analysis and considering the effect of these choices on the reader. They have also begun to consider how authors encourage their readers to empathise with protagonists and will further develop this skill when studying this novel. This will help them in their approach to GCSE Literature.</p>