

The Story of English

To celebrate the start of our new topic 'The Story of English' we will be working together to create a graffiti gallery!

Sometimes, graffiti is associated with unwanted markings, just as you can find designated graffiti sights all over the world. For the purpose of this topic our classroom will become a designated graffiti sight.

Try for a second to imagine a world without language...

Where do we find words around us?

60 second challenge: Create a list of as many places as you can where words can be found.

Dictionaries, books, song lyrics, signposts, clothes, letters and advertisements.

For today's task you are going to use some of these things to pick a favourite word.

This afternoon we want you to go and explore the words around you or online and choose your absolute favourite.

Once you have chosen your favourite ever word (so far) have a think about and then answer the following questions (be sure to make a note of your answers as they will help you later):

why is the word important to you?

where did you first see, hear or read it?

what kind of word is it (verb, noun etc.)

can you use it in context?

does it remind you of any other words?

are there any other ways to say this word?

where do you think this word comes from?

who do you think was the first ever person to use this word?

Now that you have selected and chosen your word, here comes the fun part! You are going to turn your word into a piece of graffiti art work. **THIS IS NOT PERMISSION TO GO DRAWING ON YOUR HOUSE OR HERE AT SCHOOL!** but you can think of different and alternative ways to present your graffiti.

Here are some examples of word-based graffiti for inspiration...



Now it's your turn to create a piece of graffiti art based on just your favourite word. You can do this on paper with pencils or pens or if you have other materials available then you can be a bit more adventurous in how you chose to create your graffiti. REMEMBER you DO NOT draw on walls, furniture or possessions. You MUST get permission from your adult at home before selecting equipment and materials to create your graffiti artwork on or with!

Once you have made your art work you then need to use the answers to the questions that you thought about on the previous slide to create an exhibition tag (a label for your piece of artwork). You need to create a short paragraph that explains only the most relevant information about your word choice and the art you have created.

If you are working from home then be sure to send your teacher a copy of your graffiti and tag. Once we have collected them all we will create a virtual gallery for you to view.

Then we would like you to select one word from the gallery (that isn't yours) and to write a response to the word-art with your thoughts and feelings about the piece. You can also comment on the gallery collection as a whole, saying what you noticed about the words other people picked. Were there any surprises or even patterns?

EXTENSION:

Using our chosen favourite words, create a poem. You could use each word for a different line of your poem and even create a piece of artwork (either word or picture based) to accompany your poem.