

World War 1 and its Aftermath Tasks:

- How do you think WW1 changed our society? How different would Britain and the wider world look today if it had never happened?
- Think back to your study of Exposure by Wilfred Owen. What do you remember about him and the purpose of his poems? Read another of his poems. In what ways is it similar or different to Exposure? What common themes, techniques and attitudes can you identify?
- Brainstorm the themes you expect to be prevalent in War Literature.
- You are going to study Poetry, Prose and Drama texts. What do you already know about the conventions of these forms? Are meanings shaped differently in them? Can you think of any techniques exclusive to one or two of these forms? Draw a Venn diagram to represent this.
- Comparing attitudes in poems: Read The Soldier by Rupert Brooke and Anthem for Doomed Youth by Wilfred Owen. What similarities and differences can you find? What different attitudes do these poems present and what factors do you think influenced these different attitudes?
- Watch an episode of more of Blackadder goes Forth. How are attitudes to war presented? Michael Gove controversially criticised the show for spreading 'left wing myths designed to belittle Britain and its leaders'. Do you think there's any truth to his view? Read the articles here and decide who you agree with:

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2532923/Michael-Gove-blasts-Blackadder-myths-First-World-War-spread-television-sit-coms-left-wing-academics.html>

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/sir-tony-robinson-brands-michael-gove-ir-responsible-over-criticisms-of-blackadder-as-propaganda-tool-9039874.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-25612369>

Suggested viewing:

- 1917
- They Shall not Grow Old
- My Boy Jack
- Regeneration
- War Horse
- Oh What a Lovely War
- Blackadder Goes Forth
- All Quiet on the Western Front

Watch the video clips to expand your factual knowledge of WW1 (this will help with your understanding of the literary texts we will study):

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/world-war-one-video-resources/zmqxxyyc>

Watch the Rap Battle and Horrible Histories song to improve your understanding of why WW1 started:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kCEUZ4rFiac>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXmMT4sETu8>