

8:3 War Horse & WW1 Poetry



The Golden Idea

In this unit students will read and explore the emotive modern novel War Horse, as well as real WW1 Poetry that helps students to explore the themes and context of the novel.

Our Golden Threads

Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Make suitable notes and brainstorm ideas prior to writing.❑ Organise ideas into a structure that imitates the style of the Times Literary Supplement (TLS).
Control of paragraph organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Clear use of single sentence paragraphs❑ Clear use of controlled paragraphs for shifts in focus❑ Organisation of ideas to structure the review of the novel in imitation of the TLS style.
Sentence variation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Be able to vary sentence openers, and use at least three different types.
Control of purpose and tone in writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Use of formal writing style.❑ Use of appropriate anecdotal language and addressing the reader without loss of high-brow style of the TLS.
Homework	Seneca
Wider Weblinks	English KS2: War Horse - Episode 1: A separation - BBC Teach

The Golden Product

Students are working towards their own personal reflection on the novel, writing a literary style review of the novel using the Times Literary Supplement's style as inspiration.

Michael Morpurgo is a name we have all heard of. He is read, extensively, in primary and secondary schools across the nation and has written many poignant novels with moving characters and plots. Most probably, you have found yourself picking up one of his books because the library has stacks of his books, rather than because you have fully considered the impact his novels have had on his millions of readers, young and old. Yet if you ask any English teacher, parent or child who has read one of his books, the lasting impact of them is clear to see as they pour out tales of characters so vivid to them that they seem real. War Horse is no exception to this rule, though it ought to come with a warning not to be read unless you're fully prepared for an emotional rollercoaster.



8.3 Knowledge Organiser – War Horse & WW1 Poetry

War Horse:

A British war novel by **Michael Morpurgo**. The story recounts the experiences of Joey, a horse bought by the army for service in **WW1** in France, and the attempts of 15-year-old Albert, his previous owner, to bring him home safely. It formed the basis of an award winning play and acclaimed film by Steven Spielberg. The novel's success spawned a sequel titled Farm Boy, which you can find in the school library.

key Terminology:

- Context
- Tension
- Suspense
- Characterisation
- Protagonist
- Antagonist
- Emotive Language
- Literary Review
- Perspective
- Simple/compound/complex sentences

WW1 Poetry:

The **First World War** inspired profound poetry – words in which the atmosphere and landscape of battle were evoked perhaps more vividly than ever before. The First World War poets – many of whom lost their lives – became a collective voice, illuminating not only the war's tragedies and their irreparable effects, but the hopes and disappointments of an entire generation. However, WW1 also inspired propaganda poetry which glorified war and persuaded young men to enlist.

'My subject is War, and the pity of War. The Poetry is in the pity.'



Wilfred Owen, 1918

Times Literary Supplement (TLS):

A weekly literary journal founded in 1902 as a supplement to The Sunday Times of London, long famous for its coverage of all aspects of literature and widely considered the finest literary review in the English language.

<p align="center">Simple sentence</p> <p>1 Subject 1 Verb</p> <p>The boy ran.</p>	<p align="center">Compound sentence</p> <p>2 independent clauses (simple sentences)</p> <p>2 Subjects 2 Verbs</p> <p>Joined together by conjunctions</p> <p>The boy ran and the girl laughed.</p>	<p align="center">Complex sentence</p> <p>1 Independent clause 1 Embedded dependent clause</p> <p>The boy, who was incredibly fast, ran. The clock, which always told the right time, had stopped.</p>	<p align="center">Complex sentence</p> <p>1 Independent clause 1 Subordinating conjunction + dependent clause</p> <p>Although the girl laughed, she was impressed. The girl was impressed although she laughed.</p>	<p align="center">Compound complex sentence</p> <p>2 Independent clauses 1 Subordinating conjunction + dependent clause</p> <p>Although the girl laughed, she was impressed and felt proud of herself. The clock, which always told the right time, had stopped and wasn't working.</p>
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8.3 Vocabulary Boost



<p>Abhorred Verb</p> <p>To hate something intensely.</p> <p>I abhorred broccoli.</p>	<p>Cacophony Noun</p> <p>Loud, jarring and discordant noises.</p> <p>The cacophony of voices in the primary school choir hurt my ears.</p>	<p>Conflict Noun</p> <p>A clash or disagreement that often leads to violence.</p> <p>I was full of conflict, not knowing whether I should obey my mother or my father?</p>
<p>Desolate Adjective</p> <p>An abandoned place. Or the feeling of sadness caused by being abandoned.</p> <p>For many years after the break up I felt desolate and so the desert landscape in which I lived felt comforting because it mirrored my emotions.</p>	<p>Dejected Adjective</p> <p>Low Spirits, melancholy, feeling defeated.</p> <p>The players left the pitch too dejected to bear looking at the score on the board.</p>	<p>Inconsolable Adjective</p> <p>Someone who cannot be comforted because their grief is too deep.</p> <p>When I opened my exam results I burst into tears and was inconsolable.</p>
<p>Obstinate Adjective</p> <p>Stubbornly refusing to do something.</p> <p>The toddler sat down in the middle of the freezer aisle screaming. He was so obstinate that he refused to move even when he began shivering.</p>	<p>Penitent Adjective</p> <p>Feeling or expressing remorse.</p> <p>I begged her to forgive me, for I was truly penitent for the hurt I had caused.</p>	<p>Placid Adjective</p> <p>Not easily upset; someone who is calm and centred.</p> <p>She was a spectacularly placid child, but when teenage hormones hit she became a raging ball of emotion.</p>

Start your thinking...

I felt

I checked

The first few moments were

My stomach was