

# Scheme of Learning: Literature of World War One (Spring Year 8)

Topic Sequence:				
1	2	3	4	
<b>Propaganda and Recruitment</b>	<b>War poetry</b>	<b>Journey's End</b>	<b>Reading Assessment</b>	

## Topic Overview:

The Spring Term provides an opportunity for students to engage in a comprehensive exploration of various texts related to, or written during, World War I. Among these texts is the class reader, 'Journey's End' by RC Sheriff. Additionally, pupils will have the chance to delve into other text types, including original recruitment posters and excerpts from novels. Throughout their examination of these texts, students will analyse the utilisation of patriotic ideals to bolster recruitment figures. They will also explore works by authors who convey a surge in anti-war sentiment and shed light on the horrors of trench warfare. By immersing themselves in these writers' voices, students will enhance their understanding of literary techniques, thereby preparing for the reading assessment outcome this term.

## Lesson Sequence:

The unit on World War One has been designed to captivate pupils' imagination and foster their interest in a subject they concurrently study in their History lessons this term. The sequencing of lessons has been strategically arranged to provide a strong foundation by reinforcing pupils' contextual knowledge of World War One, followed by an in-depth exploration of propaganda and recruitment techniques. This builds upon their previous study of persuasive techniques used by writers in the previous term, thereby strengthening their understanding.

Furthermore, students will engage with a diverse range of poetry from soldier poets such as Wilfred Owen and Rupert Brooke, as well as women poets, too. This curated anthology enables pupils to examine varying perspectives on the War. A transactional writing task will be undertaken to apply persuasive techniques and deepen their appreciation of different views on the war as a whole.

The third aspect of this unit centres around the play 'Journey's End' by RC Sheriff, intentionally chosen to challenge and stimulate pupils. Throughout this section, pupils will continue to refine their skills as critical readers, actively engaging with the play, raising questions and scrutinising its entirety. This phase of the topic culminates in a final assessment that prompts pupils to explore the playwright's portrayal of the key character, Captain Stanhope.

Throughout year 8, pupils will also complete fortnightly 'Reading Comprehension' lessons through the first half term and fortnightly 'Writing Challenge' through the second. These are designed to improve pupils' ability to read and comprehend a variety of texts and provide regular opportunities for pupils to write creatively, independently, and at length. 'Literary Allusions' are taught as regular lesson starters, in order to build knowledge of those events and characters (both literary and historical) which are often alluded to in English Literature.

Two homework tasks are also included in this topic: a reading passport for students to record regular reading and a 'Toynbee Talks' task to be delivered in class during the first week following the half term break.

Sequence of Learning:		Topic Resources:			
<b>1</b>	Introduction to World War One	<b>Knowledge Map:</b>	1. Literature of World War One	<b>Texts</b>	Recruitment posters; poetry anthology; play text.
<b>2</b>	Recruitment posters				
<b>3</b>	Who's for the Game? Jessie Pope	<b>Assessment:</b>			
<b>4</b>	Sergeant Major's recruitment speech from Private Peaceful	<b>Knowledge:</b>		Multiple choice knowledge test	
<b>5</b>	Creative war poem task based on Dulce et decorum est - Wilfred Owen	<b>Application of Knowledge:</b>		Reading assessment based on the playwright's view of the character of Stanhope	
<b>6</b>	Range of poems studied beginning with Dulce	<b>Supportive Reading:</b>			
<b>7</b>	The Soldier – Siegfried Sassoon	<b>Novels</b>		Private Peaceful and War Horse - Michael Morpurgo  Suggested linked reading can also be found on the year 8 'Reading Passport'	
<b>8</b>	Suicide in the Trenches				
<b>9</b>	The Deserter – Winifred Mary Letts				
<b>10</b>	Journey's End – RC Sheriff				
<b>11</b>	Reading assessment preparation				
<b>12</b>	Reading assessment				
<b>13</b>	Reading assessment feedback				