

The English Department

1. Literature in the classroom
2. Motivating students in English



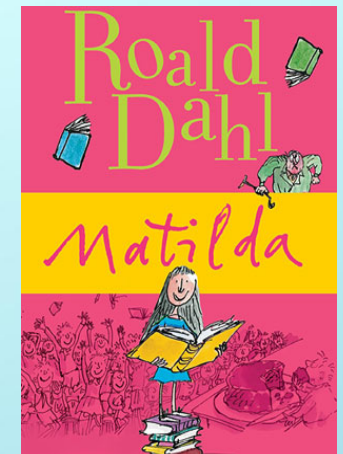
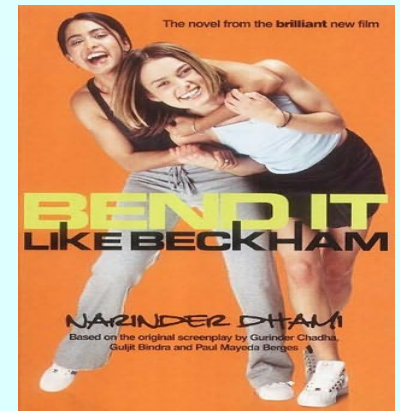
The Literature

YEAR 6

- ▶ **The Iron Man** - Ted Hughes
- ▶ **Blubber** - Judy Blume
- ▶ **The Picture of Dorian Gray** (easy reader) - Oscar Wilde
- ▶ **Matilda** - Roald Dahl
- ▶ **A Journey through the River Sea** - Eva Ibbotson

YEAR 7

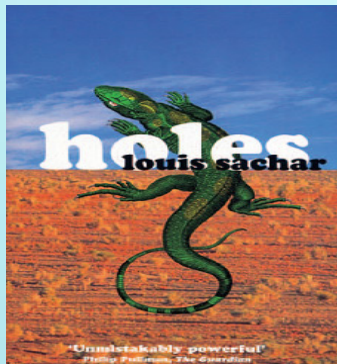
- ▶ **Bend it like Beckham** - Narinder Dhami
- ▶ **Cry Freedom** - John Briley



The Literature

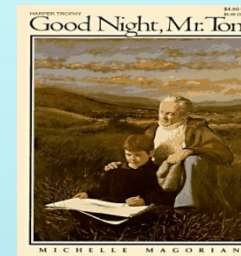
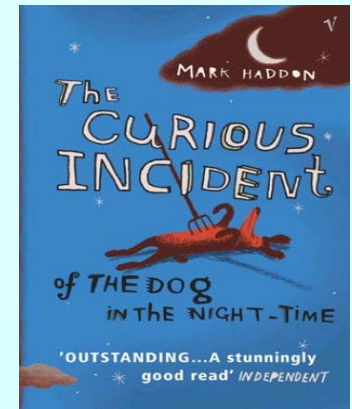
YEAR 8

- ▶ **I am David** - Anne Holm
- ▶ **Holes** - Louis Sachar
- ▶ **The Wind Singer** - William Nicholson



YEAR 9

- ▶ **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time** - Mark Haddon
- ▶ **Goodnight Mr Tom** - Michelle Magorian
- ▶ **To Kill an Mockingbird** - Harper Lee



✓ Class, small group and independent reading.

✓ Film comparisons.

✓ Listening to audio books.

✓ Vocabulary work.

Techniques for teaching Literature in English

✓ Drama role play activities.

✓ Creative writing pieces.

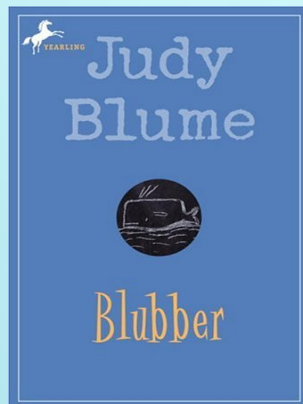
✓ Class discussions.

✓ Comprehension tasks – pre, while and post reading.

Creative Literature - Year 6

Blubber

- ❖ The book is about a fifth-grader in the United States. She joins her classmates in ostracizing and bullying another girl in their class, who they have nicknamed "Blubber."
- ❖ The book addresses the important issue of bullying in schools.



Tasks

- ❖ Discussions about bullying.
- ❖ Debate questions.
- ❖ Character diary entries.
- ❖ Anti-bullying poems followed by a 'poetry slam'.
- ❖ Blubber Fika! - classes ate a lot of the things the main character eats in the story while debating and discussing the story!

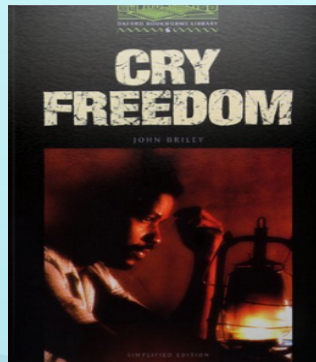
Blubber Fika

- Cookies
- Juice
- Carrots
- Frosties
- Peanut butter sandwiches

Creative Literature -Year 7

Cry Freedom

- ❖ The book is based on the true story of Steven Biko, a black activist from South Africa during the Apartheid years. He builds a friendship with a white journalist Donald Woods and together they fight for a more equal South Africa.
- ❖ The book deals with issues of racism and inequality.



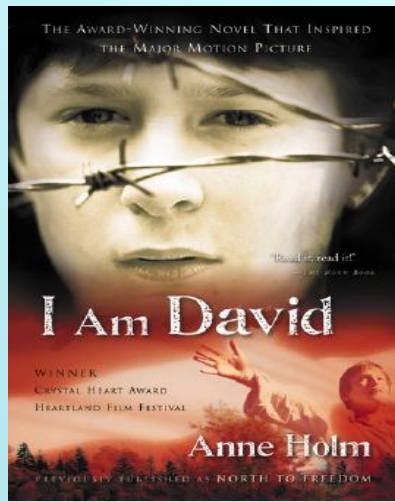
Tasks

- ❖ Information leaflets about South Africa.
- ❖ Historical research about Nelson Mandela and apartheid.
- ❖ Interview with a South African teacher.
- ❖ Protest letters based on an issue of the student's choice.
- ❖ News flashes using events from the book.
- ❖ Interviews with characters.
- ❖ Film comparison.

Creative Literature - Year 8

I am David

- ❖ The story is about a 12 year old boy who escapes from a Soviet concentration camp in Bulgaria.
- ❖ His journey takes him across Europe to Denmark on his quest to find his identity.



Tasks

- ❖ Historical background work on the Soviet Union and the political situation in Eastern Europe post 1945.
- ❖ Literacy circle tasks - students met twice a week in their groups to read to each other and to complete a different task on each chapter of the book.
 - ▶ *Super summarizer*
 - ▶ *Discussion Director*
 - ▶ *Word Wizard*
 - ▶ *Artful artist*
 - ▶ *Creative Connector*
- ❖ Theme comparison task with the film 'The Boy in Striped in Pyjamas'.

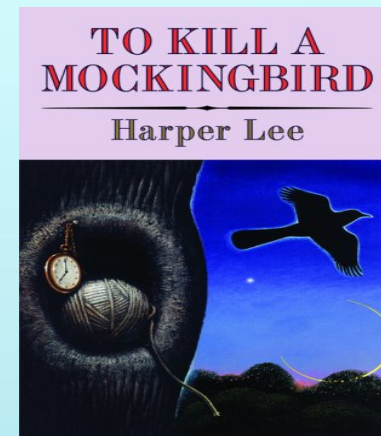
Creative Literature - Year 9

To Kill a Mockingbird

- ❖ The book is a coming-of-age story about Scout Finch and her brother, Jem, in 1930's Alabama. Through the story they grow to understand that the world isn't always fair and that prejudice is a very real aspect of their world no matter how subtle it seems.
- ❖ This is a challenging book used in the spring term in Year 9. It is also used as GCSE literature in the UK and so is a suitable reader in order to give students a real challenge in their final term at IEST.

Tasks

- ❖ Reading at home and in class.
- ❖ Discussion questions.
- ❖ Listening to regional accents through use of the audio book.
- ❖ Ongoing newspaper article project - *The Maycomb Tribune*. Students design the front page of the newspaper and create articles for different sections in the paper. Eg. latest news, social activities.



Examples of motivational tasks in English

YEAR 6

School Days project

- ❖ The teacher presented on their schooldays and how it was in the 'old days'!
- ❖ Students then interviewed their parents about their school days and compared their finding to their own.
- ❖ Students were then divided into groups and made posters based on; Past & Present, Parents & Us, School of the Future, Compare us with another country i.e. India, Kenya etc.

Festivals of the English speaking world project work

- ❖ The students worked with projects such as Thanks Giving Day, Guy Fawkes Night and Remembrance Day.

Iron Man menu

- ❖ Students wrote a creative menu to suit the Iron Man's dietary needs!
- ❖ For example - Stir fried tires, barbed wire spaghetti, grilled iron etc!!!

YEAR 7

Detective Fiction Short Story:

- ❖ The topic began with the students entering the classroom with a "Dead Body" outlined on the floor in black tape and the Pink Panther theme playing in the background!
- ❖ Over two weeks in class students discussed other authors' fiction (ie. Agatha Christie and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle). They also worked with motives, clues, plots, and red herrings, before writing their own detective fiction.
- ❖ Mr Pascal's reflections *'I can say that after reading and marking over 350 pages of Detective Fiction!, my classes learned SO MUCH! Not only about how to format dialogue, correctly use paragraphs, and create nail biting suspense, but they also learned how to effectively tell a short story!'*

Radio competition

- ❖ Some stories and poems created by Year 6 and 7 students have been selected from each class for a radio competition with Utbildnings Radio!
- ❖ A program for 8-13 year olds will begin in the fall and hopefully some of our students' work will be read on the radio!

Examples of motivational tasks in English

YEAR 8

Consumer and conserver project

- ❖ After working with the meaning of the two words, students work in groups to design their own consumer or conserver project.
- ❖ This is then presented orally to the class as a advert with a catchy jingle!
- ❖ This task is followed by a written magazine piece in which the present and 'sell' the product.

Reality TV project

- ❖ Students consider the problems and benefits of reality TV.
- ❖ Groups work to design their own reality TV show to present to the rest of the class!

HB Award

- ❖ As part of a cross curricular project with the Science and SO departments, the students in Year 8 wrote a challenging essay on climate change.
- ❖ 6 finalists were selected by Ms Jägberg to be submitted to Hans Bergström to continue further in the competition.

YEAR 9

Sitcom project

- ❖ After working with the format of sitcoms, students are given the opportunity to create their own sitcom.
- ❖ Some students present their sitcom as a piece of drama with props, while others choose to film it.
- ❖ The preparation and final performance are assessed, as is the students evaluation of their work

Speeches

- ❖ After analysing famous speeches, students are given the challenge of writing their own speech on a topic of their choice.
- ❖ Students develop persuasive and formal writing skills, as well as presentation skills during this project.

Leadership project

- ❖ After a lecture by Mr Maurice Parry, students work during English and SO lessons to create a group work presentation on a given leader.
- ❖ Year 6 students watch the presentations and Year 9s are encouraged to integrate them as much as possible - eg quizzes, role plays etc.