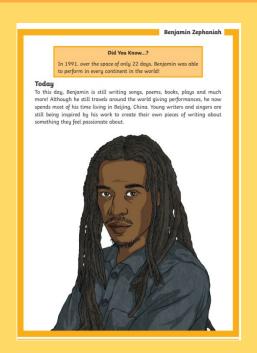
Monday 1st March 2021

L.O: To summarise the main points in a text.



This week's text: Benjamin Zephaniah



Our text this week is a biography of Benjamin Zephaniah. As you know, a biography is a story of a person's life written by someone else.

You should recognise Benjamin Zephaniah as one of the authors our school houses are named after.

Zephaniah is also known as the yellow team.

Let's find out some more information about him!



This week's spellings! Practise every day!

Look	Geo say	M_ cover	write	check
garden	gardener		offered	
gardeni		J	benefite	d
limited	limited		benefitir	ng
limitin	limiting		A focused	i
offerin	offering		focusing focusing	g

Steps to success

- To read and understand the text.
- •To make sure my sentences are shorter than the text.
- Use my own words
- Include the main ideas from the text.





Benjamin Zephaniah

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Benjamin attended school until he was 13 years old and he initially found it difficult to read and write. Unhappy with the popular opinion that poetry was only for people who were still in school or at university, he started performing his poems so that they were accessible to everyone. The tupe of poetry that Benjamin performs is known as

'dub poetry'. Dub poetry uses the performer's voice as a musical instrument. The performer changes the speed and pitch of the poem to give it more of a musical sound. Benjamin's performances became really popular and many people enjoyed his poetry.

Causes

Many of Benjamin's poems are about causes that he has strong beliefs about. He has written, performed and published many poems with messages against racism and slavery. Alongside this, he also writes poems about what he calls 'street politics'. In the early 1980s, he performed some of his poems at demonstrations and outside police stations; this was to argue against the rise in homelessness and unemployment in Britain at the time. As a supporter of animal

rights, Benjamin also writes poems which discuss and

question the way that we treat animals.

Books

As well as performing his poetry around the world, Benjamin has published his work in several books for both adults and children. His first book of poetry for children, 'Talking Turkeys', was a huge success. In fact, the book, which encouraged people to be nice to turkeys at Christmas, was so popular that there had to be an emergency reprint after it sold out in only six weeks!

Benjamin Zephaniah

Did You Know ...?

In 1991, over the space of only 22 days, Benjamin was able to perform in every continent in the world!

Today

To this day, Benjamin is still writing songs, poems, books, plays and much morel Although he still travels around the world giving performances, he now spends most of his time living in Beijing, China. Young writers and singers are still being inspired by his work to create their own pieces of writing about something they feel passionate about.



Discuss:

What organisational devices are used in this text?

To support your ideas...

Look closely at how the text is laid out.

What is similar/different to last week's text?

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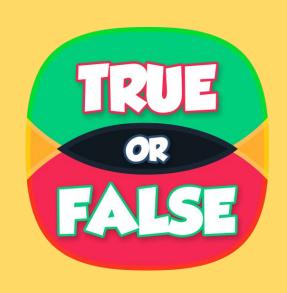
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TASK ONE: True or false?

- A) Benjamin was born in Birmingham.
- B) Benjamin attended school until he was 17.
- C) Dub poetry (the type Benjamin performs) uses a drum kit.
- D) Benjamin has written about racism before.
- E) Talking Turkeys sold out in 10 weeks.
- F) Benjamin has performed in every country in the world.
- G) Benjamin lives in China.



TASK TWO: Ordering points

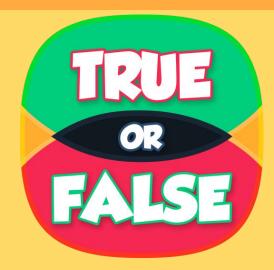
Place the points of the text in chronological order.

You can do this by re-writing the points or numbering them 1-4.

Benjamin left school.
Benjamin performed in every continent in 22 days.
Benjamin is living in China.
Benjamin moved to London.

SHARING ANSWERS- TASK ONE: True or false?

- A) Benjamin was born in Birmingham. TRUE
- B) Benjamin attended school until he was 17. FALSE
- C) Dub poetry (the type Benjamin performs) uses a drum kit. FALSE
- D) Benjamin has written about racism before. TRUE
- E) Talking Turkeys sold out in 10 weeks. FALSE
- F) Benjamin has performed in every country in the world. FALSE
- G) Benjamin lives in China. TRUE





SHARING ANSWERS- TASK TWO: Ordering points

Place the points of the text in chronological order.

You can do this by re-writing the points or numbering them 1-4.

1	Benjamin left school.	
3	Benjamin performed in every continent in 22 days.	
4	Benjamin is living in China.	
2	Benjamin moved to London.	

Self assessment - Reflection

Has the layout of the text supported your understanding?

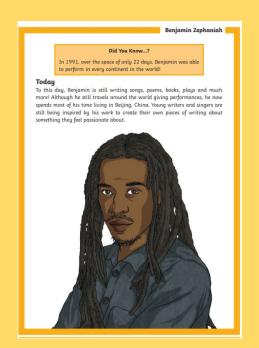


Tuesday 2nd March 2021

L.O: To understand the meaning of words in context.



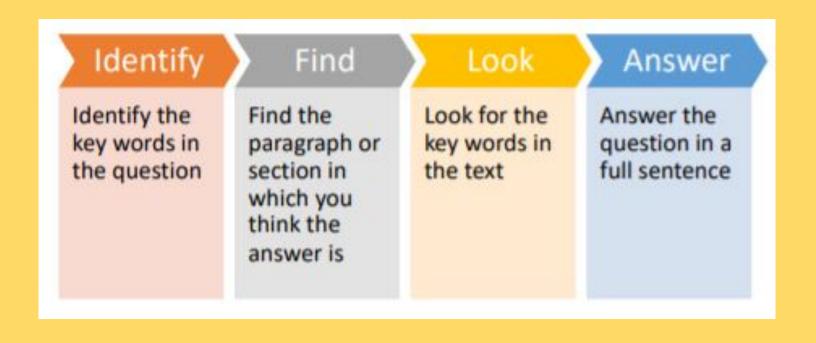
This week's text: Benjamin Zephaniah

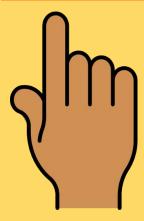


This week's spellings! Practise every day!

Look	G _E	cover	write	check
garden	gardener	offe		
gardeni		g Pene	o cilcilico.	d
limite	umitea		benefitin	g
limitin	limiting	focu	focused	
offerin	offering	focu	focusing	

Let's remind ourselves of the steps we need to take to understand the meaning of words.







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Trying Together:

1) What does the word 'initially' mean?

What is the first step?

Next I should...

Then I must....

Finally....

Poems

Benjamin attended school until he was 13 years old and he initially found it difficult to read and write. Unhappy with the popular opinion that poetry was only for people who were still in school or at university, he started performing his poems so that they

Trying Together:

1) What does the word 'initially' mean?

I have found the word/my focus sentence in the text.

The first half of the sentence refers to Benjamin's schooling and the second half states he found it difficult to read and write.

I know we learn to read and write at school.

I'm told Benjamin 'initially' found this hard.

Therefore, I conclude the word 'initially' means at first.

Poems

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MAIN TASK:

Use the strategies to work out the meaning of the words in the text below.

Remember to skip a line after each so we can green pen edit our ideas!

- 2) What is an opinion?
- 3) What does it mean to make something accessible?
- 4) What might a demonstration be?
- 5) What is dub poetry?

MAIN TASK:

Use the strategies to work out the meaning of the words in the text below.

Remember to skip a line after each so we can green pen edit our ideas!

- 2) An opinion is an idea held by individuals of how something should be.
- 3) To make something accessible means to open it up to all types of people to enjoy/use.
- 4) A demonstration involves standing up for what you believe in.
- 5) Dub poetry is a poetry that involves using the voice as a musical instrument.

Self- assessment - Reflection

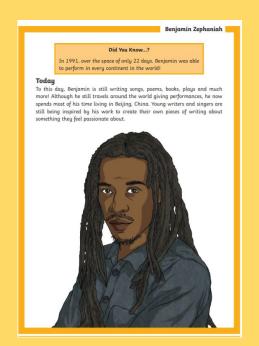
•The strategies I have used are

Wednesday 3rd March 2021

L.O: To retrieve and record information from the text.



This week's text: Benjamin Zephaniah



This week's spellings! Practise every day!

Look	Ge say	COVER	write	check
gardene	gardener	offe		
gardenir	gardening	bene	Deficited	d
limited	limited	benef	benefiting	g
limiting	limiting	focu	focused sed	
offering	offering	focu	focusing focusing	

Today's learning focus...

We are learning to use _____ skills.

What strategies do you need to use?

The strategies I will need to use are....

Steps to success

- Read the text carefully.
- Identify key words in the question.
- Look for the key words in the text.
- Answer with appropriate information using a full sentence.





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Trying Together:

1) Why did Benjamin want to write Talking Turkeys?

What is the first step?

Next I should...

Then I must....

Finally....

question the way that we treat animals.

Books

As well as performing his poetry around the world, Benjamin has published his work in several books for both adults and children. His first book of poetry for children, 'Talking Turkeys', was a huge success. In fact, the book, which encouraged people to be nice to turkeys at Christmas, was so popular that there had to be an emergency reprint after it sold out in only six weeks!

Trying Together:

1) Why did Benjamin want to write Talking Turkeys?

They key words in the question are 'Talking Turkeys'.

I have found the key words in the text.

I am told Talking Turkeys is the name of a book written by Benjamin. The second half of the sentence reveals the purpose of the book; to encourage people to be nice to Turkeys at Christmas. question the way that we treat animals.

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Therefore, Benjamin wanted to write Talking Turkeys to encourage people to be nice to Turkeys at christmas time.

Main task:

- 2) Why did Benjamin begin writing poetry?
- 3) In the paragraph titled 'poems' what word is used as a synonym for 'available'?
- 4) What does a performer do when performing dub poetry?
- 5) When did Benjamin perform outside police stations?
- 6) What is Benjamin still doing today?

Sharing answers- Main task

- 2) Benjamin began writing poetry for everyone to enjoy.
- 3) The word 'accessible' is used as a synonym for 'available'.
- 4) When performing dub poetry, a performer must change the speed and pitch of the poem to make it sound like a musical instrument.
- 5) Benjamin performed outside of police stations in the early 1980s
- 6) Today Benjamin continues to write poems, books, plays, songs and other things.

Reflection

The strategies I have learnt are...

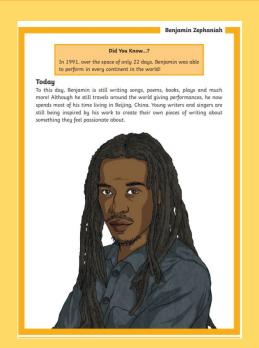


Thursday 4th March 2021

L.O: To form explanations based on inference.



This week's text: Benjamin Zephaniah



This week's spellings! Practise every day!

Look	Ge say	COVER	write	check
gardene	gardener	offe		
gardenir	gardening	bene	Deficited	d
limited	limited	benef	benefiting	g
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offering	offering	focu	focusing focusing	

Have a go:

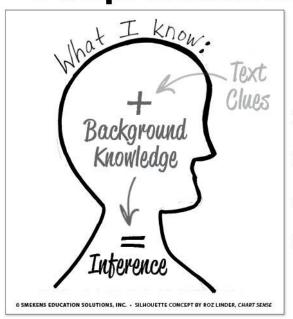
What can you infer from this picture?

Can you come up with 5 bullet points?

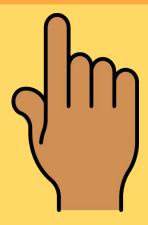


Steps to success

5 Steps to Make an Inference



- 1. Read/View the text.
- 2. Read the question.
- 3. List relevant details.
- 4. Put details together.
- 5. Determine what they mean.





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1) <u>Trying Together:</u>

True or false...
Benjamin made important decisions at a young age.
Explain your reasons.

Key words/phrases in the sentence: Decisions and young age.

Scan the text for sentences that make reference to decisions and age.

What information are you given from the sentences?

Is the statement true or false? How do you know?

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1) Trying Together:

True or false...

Benjamin made important decisions at a young age. Explain your reasons.

This statement is true. I know this because in the text it states that Benjamin left school aged 13 and moved to a new city at the age of 22. These are both important decisions that Benjamin made at young ages.

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Main Task:

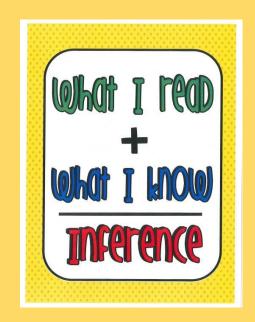
- 2) How could being in London help Benjamin's career?
- 3) Why is poetry a good way to express views and concerns?
- 4) Benjamin is a vegetarian. Why do you think this is?
- 5) How might others be inspired by Benjamin Zephaniah?

Sharing Example Answers- Main Task

- 2) As London has more people, Benjamin would have increased opportunities to perform his work.
- 3) Poetry is performed, this means people have to watch and listen. By including views and concerns Benjamin is able to support causes in a creative way.
- 4) I think Benjamin is a vegetarian as he supports animal rights and writes about treating animals with care.
- 5) As Benjamin writes poems, songs, plays, books and more that contain views and concerns others who read/listen to his work may share similar views and want to do something to help.

Self - assessment: Reflection

The strategies I have learnt today are...

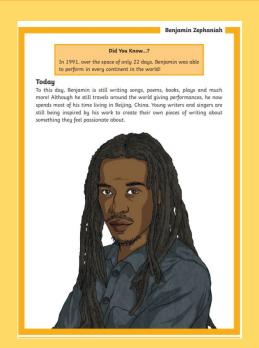


Friday 5th March 2021

L.O: To formulate and express views based on a text.



This week's text: Benjamin Zephaniah



L.O: To formulate and express views based on a text.

This week's spellings! Practise every day!

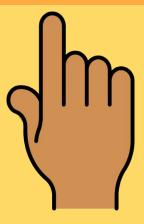
Look	G_@ say	COVER	write	check
gardener	gardener	TINY TASK:	offered	offered
gardening	gardening	Pick two words from the left table	benefited	benefited
limited	limited	and two words from the right table.	benefiting	benefiting
limiting	limiting	Write a sentence	focused	focused
offering	offering	using each word.	focusing	focusing

L.O: To formulate and express views based on a text.

Steps to success

- To use evidence from the text to support my ideas.
- To use my own personal experiences.
- To read between the lines.

L.O: To formulate and express views based on the text.





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L.O: To formulate and express views based on a text.

MAIN TASK

- 1) Benjamin writes his poems about topics he has strong beliefs about. If you had to write a poem about something you strongly believe in, what would your poem be about? Explain your answer.
- 2) Why do you think Benjamin has had a long ans successful career?
- 3) Benjamin still writes and performs today. What could his most recent work be about? Explain your answer.
- 4) Imagine you are going to meet Benjamin tomorrow. Write down one question you would like to ask him and why.

Self - assessment: Reflection

How does this biography compare to others you've read previously?