

YEAR 8 SPRING TERM KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER:
OURSELVES
POETRY AND NON-FICTION

Understanding Poetry

Example poem

Stanza
A group of lines
in a poem

How doth the little crocodile
Improve his shining tail,
And pour the waters of the Nile
On every golden scale!

Rhyme scheme
The pattern of
rhyming words
at the end of
each line.

In this example
it is ABAB.

How cheerfully he seems to grin,
How neatly spreads his claws,
And welcomes little fishes in,
With gently smiling jaws!

Rhythm
The amount of syllables (beats)
in a line.

In this example there are 8
syllables followed by 6 syllables
in two consecutive lines.

Understanding Speeches

Example speech

Greeting to audience
Using direct address.

Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen,

Dystopian introduction
Using an 'imagine' sentence
to convey a hellish world.

Imagine a world where... not only this but... How would this make you feel? Are you happy to sit back and let this happen? Unfortunately, this is the harsh reality for society unless we work together to stop climate change in its tracks.

Main paragraph
Here you will find the
problem, example and
solution being offered.

The environment is the source of all life on Earth. Our lives are dependent on the environment in many different ways. However, since the Industrial Revolution, society has begun to burn more fossil fuels and cut down more trees. Trees and forests are vital to our planet and our atmosphere, but last year, there were approximately ten billion trees cut down to make way for new houses, new roads, and new agricultural land.

Utopian conclusion
Using the 'now imagine'
sentence to convey a
heavenly world.

Now imagine a world where your family gets to live a little more freely. Not only this but you feel confident that the world will be a better place for the next generation. Together, we can make this happen. Together we can stop climate change. Together, we can protect our planet.

Closing remarks to the audience

Thank you for listening to my speech.

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Universal Themes

Compassion



Suffering



Hope



Big Ideas

Alienation

Feeling withdrawn or separated from others or from society as a whole.



Social Responsibility

Working together for the benefit of a community or environment.



Inclusivity

Providing equal access to opportunities and resources for everyone, especially those who might be excluded.



Identity

The fact of being who a person is / what they are made up of (background, culture, family).



Tolerance

Willing to accept other people's behaviour and opinions even if you do not agree with them.



Social Division

Divisions in society associated with social groupings, often causing conflict, inequality and disadvantage.



Context – We must understand the influences of the world we live in when examining texts.

Climate change

Climate change refers to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns. These shifts may be natural, but since the 1800s, human activities have been the main driver of climate change, primarily due to the burning of fossil fuels (like coal, oil and gas), which causes world temperatures to rise, more intense heatwaves and rising sea-levels. Things are likely to worsen in the coming decades, but scientists argue urgent action can still limit the worst effects of climate change.

Jane Yolen

American author and poet. /Created a local newspaper for her neighbourhood after moving into her first apartment in New York which focused on ways to protect their local environment and community.



Marcus Rashford

Famous footballer / brought up in a single-parent household/ relied on food banks and free school meals/ Activist for child poverty and homelessness/ Created 'Marcus Rashford Book Club'. The Book Club has given away over 100,000 free books to young people living in the most underprivileged areas.



Greta Thunberg

Environmental activist/ known for challenging world leaders to take immediate action to ease the effects of human-caused climate change/ has attended many world conferences to speak to world leaders about climate change.






Simon Armitage











English poet, playwright, musician and novelist/ Recognised as Poet Laureate in 2019/ Professor of poetry at the University of Leeds/ used to work with people who struggle to fit into society such as young offenders.

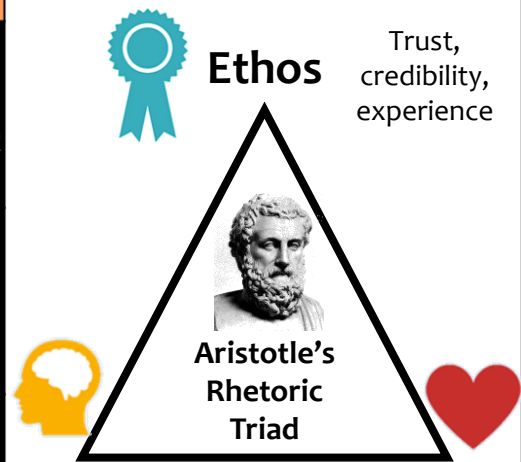


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TECHNICAL ACCURACY & KEY DEVICES

'WORLD' – OUR PERSUASIVE WRITING STRUCTURE	
Part	Key Features
INTRODUCTION: A HELLISH WORLD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your introduction begins your persuasive piece Use an 'imagine' sentence to put your reader in a hellish world Include pathos: emotive language and rhetorical questions Finish with your opinion on the topic
MAIN BODY: OUR REALITY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your main paragraphs should include a problem, example and a solution You are aiming for three main paragraphs Begin with a topic sentence to establish the problem Include ethos, logos and pathos Use real-world examples End with a concluding sentence that gives a solution
CONCLUSION: A HEAVENLY WORLD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your conclusion ends your persuasive piece Use a 'now imagine' sentence to put your reader into a heavenly world Include pathos Finish with your final opinion on the topic






Device / Feature	
Imagery Metaphors, similes, symbols 	Alliteration Words beginning with the same sound 
Metaphor Describing something by stating it is something else 	Personification Giving living qualities to something non-human 
Simile Comparing something to something else: 'as', 'like' 	Rhetorical question A question that doesn't need an answer 
Symbolism Objects, colours, sounds, places 	Direct Address Speaking directly to the audience / reader 'you' 
Sensory language Five senses 	Juxtaposition Contrasting ideas / images 








Aristotle's Rhetoric Triad

Ethos Trust, credibility, experience		
Logos Logic, proof and reason		Pathos Empathy and values

Common Homophones

The 	@	The 
They're		
Your 	@	You're
Its 	i h a	It's
Which 		Witch 

Word Classes					
Adjective Describes a noun or pronoun. Blue / young / powerful 	Adverb How, when or where something happens. Furiously / yesterday / here 	Preposition Where something is; the time, direction or cause of something. On / under / above 	Pronoun Words that replace nouns or noun phrases. She / he / they 	Noun Person, place, thing, idea or state of being. Manchester / cat / love 	Verb An action or state of being. Jump / write / be 