

English Year 9: Hidden Figures – How to Approach Non-fiction Texts

Purpose: to explore a diverse range of individuals from different eras, backgrounds and cultures and celebrate their stories through a variety of non-fiction texts

How you will be assessed:

Final assessment to be completed in class towards the end of term



<https://www.flickr.com/photos/wolfgangkuhnle/32403912644>

Key vocabulary:

Analysis Argument Bias Citation Claim Conclusion
Counterargument Data Evidence Fact Interpretation
Introduction Main idea Outline Paragraph
Perspective Plagiarism Primary source Quotation
Reference Research Source Thesis Validity Abstract
Annotated Caption Context Glossary Heading
Index Introduction Keywords Paraphrase
Subheading Table of contents Title Transition
Annotation Autobiography Biography Cause and
effect Chronology Compare and contrast

Film to watch:

Hidden Figures can be watched, for free, here:

https://www.schooltube.com/media/Hidden+Figures/1_ipo40wls

Wider Research	Activities
NASA’s Hidden Figures: This is the official NASA website dedicated to the ‘Hidden Figures’ story. It provides information, articles, and resources related to the African American women mathematicians who worked at NASA during the Space Race. (Website: www.nasa.gov/modernfigures)	Create a Comparative Timeline: Develop a timeline that includes key events from all four topics—‘Hidden Figures’, the Stonewall Riots, women’s rights, and the Irish Potato Famine. Identify important dates, events, and their significance. Present the timeline visually and include brief explanations for each event.
Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum: The museum’s website features an online exhibition on ‘Black Wings: African American Contributions to Aviation and Space History’. It offers articles, images, and interactive features related to African Americans in the aerospace industry. (Website: airandspace.si.edu/explore-and-learn/topics/black-wings)	Create a Collage: Make a collage using pictures, magazine cut-outs, and drawings that represent the key themes and figures related to ‘Hidden Figures’, the Stonewall Riots, women’s rights, and the Irish Potato Famine. Write short captions explaining the significance of each image.
GCSE Bitesize: GCSE Bitesize is a comprehensive online study resource for GCSE-level students. It offers a dedicated section on non-fiction writing, providing guidance, tips, and examples to help students improve their skills. (Website: www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zr9d7ty)	Design a Comic Strip: Create a comic strip that tells the story of an important event or character from one of the topics. Use speech bubbles, illustrations, and captions to convey the narrative. Focus on capturing the main events and emotions of the story.
Biography.com: This website offers a collection of biographies and articles on notable figures, including the ‘Hidden Figures’ mathematicians. It provides in-depth information about their lives, achievements, and contributions. (Website: www.biography.com)	Write a Poem: Compose a poem inspired by the themes of ‘Hidden Figures’, the Stonewall Riots, women’s rights, or the Irish Potato Famine. Use metaphors, descriptive language, and emotions to express the historical context and significance of the topic.
TED Talks: TED Talks is a platform that hosts inspirational and informative talks by experts in various fields. Students can search for talks related to the themes of ‘Hidden Figures’, such as women in STEM, racial equality, or the history of space exploration. (Website: www.ted.com)	Write a Letter from a Historical Figure: Imagine you are one of the individuals involved in ‘Hidden Figures’, the Stonewall Riots, women’s rights, or the Irish Potato Famine. Write a letter from their perspective, expressing their thoughts, experiences, and hopes during that time.
National Women’s History Museum: The museum's website provides resources on women’s history, including profiles and articles related to women in STEM fields. It can be a valuable source for information on the contributions of women in science and mathematics. (Website: www.womenshistory.org)	Design a Travel Brochure: Design a travel brochure promoting a visit to a historically significant location related to any of the four topics. Include engaging visuals, interesting facts, and details about the location's connection to the historical event.
<p>Unsung Heroes: Celebrating Hidden Figures - Project</p> <p>This project involves researching the women mathematicians from the movie ‘Hidden Figures’ and creating a visual presentation that showcases their achievements. The display will include their names, photographs, significant dates, and notable accomplishments, along with inspirational quotes. By sharing their stories and raising awareness about their contributions, the project aims to inspire others and recognise the importance of these unsung heroes in history.</p>	