



BBC Live Lessons

BBC LEARNING PRESENTS

The Somme – Live Lesson

Date: Thursday, 30th June 2016

Time: 11:00am

Duration: 50 minutes (approx.)

Location: bbc.co.uk/livelessons

(Note: if you can't watch the webcast live, you will be able to watch the recording on the Live Lessons website)

Setup

How much space and equipment is needed?

The lesson can be screened in a classroom with a large screen linked to a reliable broadband connection. Good audio equipment is not essential but will make the event more enjoyable.

As we'll be asking students to get involved in creative activities throughout the lesson, it would be beneficial if students had the accompanying worksheets to hand to guide them through the activities, as well as stationery like pens and pencils.

How many students can participate?

It's completely up to you how many students you have participating in the session. We want to get as many students as possible engaged in this Live Lesson. Space might be a consideration if you have a very large group.

How to prepare for the lesson

Before the lesson

We will be featuring and discussing three World War One poems during the Live Lesson – Rupert Brooke's *The Soldier*, Wilfred Owen's *Dulce et Decorum Est* and Siegfried Sassoon's *Aftermath* – as well as delving into the history of the Battle of the Somme.

Although we will be providing a brief overview of each poem, it would aid the students' understanding if they were given an introduction to the poems and World War One before the Live Lesson.

You could choose to do this by reading through the poems with your class, or by carrying out the activities on the activity sheets in preparation for the Live Lesson.

Exploring identity

The first segment of the Live Lesson is based around Rupert's Brooke poem *The Soldier*, and explores the concept of identity.

The Soldier expressed the idealism of war before World War One. It explores the idea of identity and patriotism, and how, as a soldier, you carry around your nationality wherever you go.

In this segment, students will be tasked with picking out three personal objects that say something about their own identity, using these as inspiration for a poem. Prior to the Live Lesson, you can prepare them for this using the activity sheet available on our website. Encourage them to reflect on the objects they've chosen – what do they say about their identity?

Email your students' item lists to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk or use the hashtag **#bbclivelessons**, and they could be featured on the Live Lesson.

Exploring language

In the second segment of the Live Lesson, we'll be looking more closely at different levels of language used in Wilfred Owen's *Dulce et Decorum Est*.

We'll be examining the examples of formal and informal language used in the poem, and how the contrasts between these levels of language helped to add to Owen's message.

Students will be asked to try and create poetry that incorporates different levels of language. Using the activity sheet, students can choose one of three 'official' statements that use formal language and respond to it in their own words, using informal language. Encourage them to use their everyday language in this exercise – whether it's text speak, hashtags, slang or local dialect.

Email your students' examples to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk or use the hashtag **#bbclivelessons**, and they could be featured on the Live Lesson.

Exploring remembrance

This final section of the Live Lesson examines Siegfried Sassoon's *Aftermath*. We'll be looking at how Sassoon's poem uses repetition to help add emphasis to the idea of remembrance, and how the poem itself lives on.

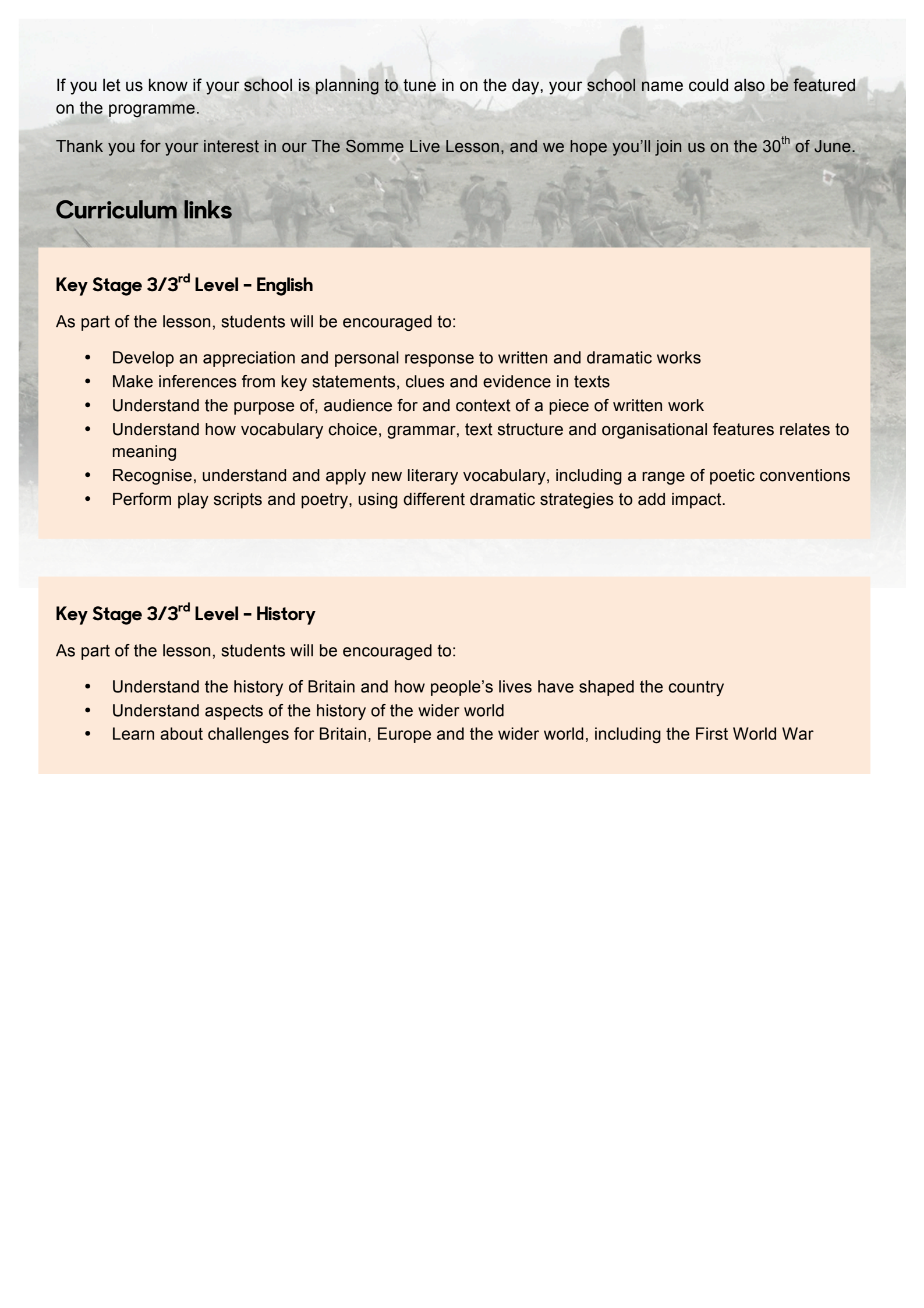
During the Live Lesson, students will be tasked with writing a single line starting with the words 'I remember...'. You can encourage your students to explore the different ways people remember the Great War – through poetry, prose, history books, music, art, theatre and film.

Email your students' lines to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk or use the hashtag **#bbclivelessons**, and they could be featured on the Live Lesson.

Contact us

You can email any questions or comments before and during the Live Lesson to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk, or by using the hashtag **#bbclivelessons**. We'll aim to answer as many of your questions as possible.

We'd also love to see examples of your students' work. If your classes have created any work or carried out any activities using the resources on our website, please do send it in to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk, and they could be showcased on the programme and on our website.



If you let us know if your school is planning to tune in on the day, your school name could also be featured on the programme.

Thank you for your interest in our The Somme Live Lesson, and we hope you'll join us on the 30th of June.

Curriculum links

Key Stage 3/3rd Level – English

As part of the lesson, students will be encouraged to:

- Develop an appreciation and personal response to written and dramatic works
- Make inferences from key statements, clues and evidence in texts
- Understand the purpose of, audience for and context of a piece of written work
- Understand how vocabulary choice, grammar, text structure and organisational features relates to meaning
- Recognise, understand and apply new literary vocabulary, including a range of poetic conventions
- Perform play scripts and poetry, using different dramatic strategies to add impact.

Key Stage 3/3rd Level – History

As part of the lesson, students will be encouraged to:

- Understand the history of Britain and how people's lives have shaped the country
- Understand aspects of the history of the wider world
- Learn about challenges for Britain, Europe and the wider world, including the First World War