

Teachers' Resources 1

These are guidelines to trigger your imagination and to provide interaction with students. These notes can be used independently, or in conjunction with the book 'Violet Jelly'.

I am happy to receive e-mails to answer any questions, for advice or giving feedback at the following e-mail address: info@annsharples.com

Collections

What is a Collection?

What do you collect?

How and where do you find items for your Collection?

Is your Collection an open one, or is it private?
(It may not be tangible in that it could be a collection of memories)

How do you feel about your Collection?

Does it bring memories with it?

Does it give you a sense of satisfaction, achievement, pride?

Some of these questions can be posed and openly discussed whilst others are for the student to reflect upon.

In what medium will you use your theme of Collections?

It could be used for Art, Writing, Drama.

Decide which is relevant to the needs of the students. Do they need a challenge or are you hoping for self reflection?

Art

A collage, a painting, a model or an installation could serve as a medium. The resulting work is a portrayal, in some way, of the relationship between the student and the student's Collection.

Thought must be given as to what materials will be needed and how they will be used to best effect. Will you mount an exhibition?

Writing

Following discussion and thought, words and phrases that come to mind, whether this will be a composition or a poem, a diary entry or a letter, need to be decided upon.

Having made these decisions, give your students time to make notes, draw doodles, collect words and phrases, plan their work and to make their initial copy. These can then be worked on until the student decides that it is a finished piece.

Drama

As this will be a group activity, the first decision is to whether to make it a whole class activity or to divide the students into groups.

The group option could prove interesting in that the word Collections will be interpreted differently within each group.

The class, or the groups, will need to think about how to use the title Collections (or Collection). Once their theme is decided upon, the scene must be set.

Who are the characters?

Where is it to be set?

What happens to bring about the action?

How does it end, become resolved?

Think about how the situation differs and how the characters differ from how they were at the beginning.

The drama can be for within the classroom, or it can be shown to others. What effect do you hope for on the audience? (whether the other class members or an audience outside the classroom)

Something is being said and this is your aim - to put it across.

I wish you success and enjoyment in exploring the theme Collections.

Ann Sharples - author of the 'Violet Jelly' trilogy.