

Views from Edinburgh

Introduction and Index.

Introduction

'Edinburgh' is the second in a series of BritLit teacher resource kits produced by teachers from Hungary, in conjunction with the British Council, Hungary, which looks at British cities through the eyes of one or more of its poets.

The Project. The BritLit project was started in 2003 with the intention of providing teachers of English in the state sector in Portugal additional resource material for the extensive reading requirements of years 10 and 11. It is a joint venture between the British Council in Portugal and APPI (Associação Portuguesa de Professores de Inglês.) Since then the project has become more international and alternative versions of the original materials for other culture groups are being produced by teachers around the world, and this kit is the second to be produced by Hungarian teachers as part of the project.

The Resource Kits. Much of the material provided is intended to be used with mixed ability classes and while the input from the materials is the same, the output from the students will vary considerably. Other materials are generally classed according to their degree of difficulty using the Council of Europe Framework now adopted by many European countries as benchmark criteria for language assessment (http://www.alte.org/can_do/cef.cfm). The resource kits provide a never-ending source of material for the teacher inasmuch as teachers are asked to contribute their own experiences and ideas to the project; we would like to see the materials mutate and mature with use. One of the advantages of using an electronic form is that each section can easily be personalised; we would be interested to see examples of this approach.

This Kit. Based on the works of Jackie Kay and Ron Butlin this kit looks at the Scottish city of Edinburgh. It differs from original BritLit kits in that there is no single narrative text to work through. Instead, four initial poems with two connecting threads are explored and put into the context of the author's home city. A further poem and a short story by Edinburgh author Ron Butlin are introduced as further reading activities, giving another view of Edinburgh.

The Authors. This kit was written by Christina Smart, Csontos Erzsebet, Solyom Zsuzsa, Andrew Reid and Fitch O'Connell and coordinated by Christina Smart.

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Section	File	Activity
Pre-reading and Poems	Activity 1 Activity 2 Activity 3 Activity 4	Pre-reading activities based on 'Try my Best' Pre-reading activities and the poem 'Dusting the Phone' Pre-reading activities based on 'Sassenachs' 'Attention Seeking' poem.
Context	Quiz Royal Observatory New Year – Edinburgh Interview with Jackie Kay	True/ False activity MCQ reading activity Matching activity Matching questions and answers in a short interview with the poet
Language Work	Stative Verbs Glossary	Stative and dynamic verb forms Monolingual glossary of terms used in 4 poems
After Reading	A recipe for Whisky Taking Jazza's Place	Poem by Ron Butlin Short story by Ron Butlin

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