

Knowledge Map: The Terrible Fate of Humpty Dumpty

Introduction:

This unit will cover reading the whole play, written by David Cullcutt. Students will develop appreciation of the characters through the use of the character descriptions and stage directions. They will have to create and perform a monologue as the character of Mr Dumpton. Furthermore, they will develop their understanding of the themes of 'peer pressure' and 'guilt' among other ideas and motifs that run through the drama. They will be conscious of the very particularly feature of this dramatic form.

<p>Themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bullying Conflict Death Peer pressure Fear Guilt Deceit Pity Crime Gangs Blame Grievance 	<p>The Characters:</p> <p>Terry Dumpton – quiet, reserved, the gang’s victim Stubbs – powerful, intelligent, the gang leader Jimmy – gang-member, a bit of a thug, not very bright Pete – gang-member, a joker Kathy – gang-member, touch Kay – gang-member, touch Janet – gang-member, scared of the others Tracey – gang-member, scared of the others Sammy - Terry's friend, weak, hanger-on of the gang Police Officer 1 Police Officer 2 Mrs Dumpton – Terry’s mother, strong, the family’s breadwinner, in her 30s Mr Dumpton – Terry’s father, out of work, in his 30s Lesley Dumpton- Terry’s younger sister, aged about 8 Ross Webster – local press reporter, ambitious, in his early 20s Mrs Vickers – witness, in her mid-40s, a little vain The Headteacher – woman, in her early 40s, defensive Mrs Williams – acquaintance of Mrs Dumpton, in her 30s Mrs Clark – Janet’s mother, friend of Mrs Williams, in her 30s.</p>	<p>How to read the play...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the characters names are in capital letters, to make them clear. • All stage directions are in brackets and italics. These must be read by someone, even if it’s midway through a character speaking. The character must then act upon these stage directions. For example: '(<i>STUBBS points at TERRY</i>)' the student playing Stubbs must point at the student playing Terry. • When an ellipsis is used (...) you must allow that break in the speech. • Use punctuation correctly when reading. If there is a question mark (?), read it in a questionable tone. • There are line numbers on the right hand side, in 10s. Use these to direct which line number you are reading from. • At the bottom of some pages there are boxes with a question mark, this gives the reader some context based on when the play was written (1984). 	<p>Assessment tasks:</p> <p>Writing (to be completed halfway through the unit and performed as an S&L task): Write a monologue speaking as Mr Dumpton.</p> <p>Reading (to be completed at the end of the unit): How is the theme of guilt presented throughout the play?</p>
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Dramatic Devices

Flashback: A transition to an earlier event or scene that interrupts the normal chronological development of the story.

Monologue: a long speech by one actor in a play or film, which they address to the audience.

Dramatic Irony: when the audience know something that the characters do not.

Stage Directions: an instruction in the text of a play indicating the movement, position, or tone of a character, or the sound effects and lighting.

