

Y9 BLOOD BROTHERS: KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER

Key Words

- **Social class** – a division of society based on social and economic status
- **Superstition** – belief and reverence for supernatural ideas, events and occurrences
- **Foreshadowing** – a warning or indication of a future event
- **Parallel scenes** – scenes where similar situations are repeated for effect
- **Dramatic Irony** – a situation understood by an audience but not the characters

Key Skills

- Explain the effects of Russell’s use of language, considering impact on the audience and language techniques used
- Offer thoughtful personal responses to the play
- Apply knowledge of the context to analysis and interpretation
- Communicate clearly in cohesive coherent analytical paragraphs

Help/Support

- Russell presents (character/theme) as.....
- The line/phrase “.....” tells the reader that.....
- This implies/suggests/explores the idea that....
- The word/phrase/image “.....” shows/implies/suggests
- During this time in history
- Russell may have wanted to show that.....
- The audience may be...

Key Quotations

Main Characters	Secondary Characters	Themes
<p><u>Mrs Johnstone</u> “A mother, so cruel, there’s a stone in place of her heart” “By the time that I was 25 I looked like 42” “They say I should put some of them into care” “Kids can’t live on love alone” “We’re starting all over again.” “Do you still keep that locket I gave y’?” “You’ve not had much of a life with me, have y’?” “Tell me it’s not true. Say it’s just a story.”</p>	<p><u>Narrator</u> “A debt is a debt, and must be paid” “The devil’s got your number” “And who’d dare tell the lambs in spring what fate the later seasons bring” “There’s a mad man” “Do we blame superstition for what came to pass? Or could it be what we, the English, have come to know as class?”</p>	<p><u>Social Class</u> “If my child was raised in a palace like this one” “Pissed off” / “you say smashing things... I will look them up in the dictionary” “It was more of a prank, really” / “He was about to commit a serious crime.” “Workin’ overtime” / “I go away to university tomorrow” “It’s just another sign of the times.”</p>
<p><u>Mrs Lyons</u> “We thought children would come along” “You do know what they say about twins, secretly parted...” “You gave your child away” “You’re already being threatened by the welfare” “Mrs Lyons shows the Bible to Mrs Johnstone” “Don’t you ever come round here again” “I curse you.Witch!” “I took him. But I never made him mine”</p>	<p><u>Linda</u> “Peter Pan. We always shoot at that...” “The girl in the middle of the pair” “I’ve got Mickey a job” “There’s a girl inside the woman waiting to get free.”</p>	<p><u>Violence</u> “Do you wanna be my blood brother, Eddie? ...Producing a pen knife. It hurts y’know.” Sammy :produces a knife “Mickey. Don’t shoot Eddie. He’s brother... I couldn’t afford to keep both of you.”</p>
<p><u>Mickey</u> “Gis a sweet/Gis a ciggie” “He could swear like a soldier” “Workin’ overtime” “That’s why I take [anti-depressants]. So I can be invisible.” “You! Why didn’t you give me away... almost uncontrollable with rage. I could have been him.” “I grew up. An’ you didn’t, because you didn’t need to” – to Eddie</p>	<p><u>Sammy</u> “I’m gonna get a real gun soon” “He’s a friggin’ poshy” “Sammy burnt the school down” “Look at y’, Mickey. What have y’ got? Nothin, like me mam”</p>	<p><u>Superstition</u> “Never put new shoes on a table” “The whole thing’s just a game” “The Devil’s got your number” “Go home before the bogey man gets you”</p>
<p><u>Eddie</u> “He knew every word in the dictionary” “I wish that I could be like... that guy.” “Take a flying fuck at a rolling donut” “I’ve got money. Lots of it” “I’m not saying a word” “If I couldn’t get a job I’d just say, sod it and draw the dole, live like a Bohemian”</p>		