

Key Words

- **Identity:** The qualities and beliefs that make up who you are.
- **Feminism:** the social, political and economic equality of the sexes.
- **Sexuality:** Your sexual thoughts, feelings, attractions and behaviours towards other people.
- **Privilege:** a special right or advantage available to a particular person or group.
- **Marginalised:** when a person, group or concept is made to appear or feel insignificant.

Key Skills

- **Read, listen to and discuss marginalized voices.**
- **Understand the social and cultural context of each text you study.**
- **Develop annotation skills through identifying terminology**
- **Develop analytical writing skills**
- **Consider effects of text on reader and society as a whole**
- **Bolster your oracy skills**

Sentence starters

- [The poet] suggests that conflict is.....
- 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....
- [The poet/writer] may have wanted to show that.....

Essential information

A Litany for Survival

"For those of us/who were imprinted with fear"
 "But when we are silent/we are still afraid"

We should all be feminists

"We teach girls to shrink themselves, to make themselves smaller. We say to girls: You can have ambition, but not too much. You should aim to be successful but not too successful, otherwise you will threaten the man. If you are the breadwinner in your relationship with a man, pretend that you are not, especially in public, otherwise you will emasculate him."

The Colour of his hair

"'Tis a shame to human nature, such a head of hair as his;
 In the good old time 'twas hanging for the colour that it is"
 "He can curse the god that made him for the colour of his hair."

Langston Hughes and Dave

"Tomorrow, I'll be at the table when company comes"
 "Besides, they'll see how beautiful I am"
 "Look, black is beautiful, black is excellent"
 "Black is pain, black is joy, black is evident"

What it feels like to be Transgender

"but I was more boy than girl, more Ken than Barbie"
 "I treat it like a house"

The Vanishing Half

"But years later, the neighbors would only remember one person speaking up in the meeting, a single voice that had, somehow, risen above the noise"

Swimming in the dark

"I saw the faces in the street looking up, men and women and children, the police as well, confusion and amazement drawn on them as the paper rained down like giant confetti."

Pawn in the game

- "Like a dog on a chain"
- "The Negro's name/Is used, it is plain/For the politician's gain/As he rises to fame"
- "But he can't be blamed
 He's only a pawn in their game"

Essential information

Strange Fruit

- *“Blood on the leaves and blood at the root”*
- *Scent of magnolias sweet and fresh
Then the sudden smell of burnin' flesh
“Here is a strange and bitter crop”*

The Boy with the Topknot

“Gosh.’ Her tiny cross-eyes almost disappeared into her large face when she smiled.
‘One of the best students I ever had. We’ll be lucky if you turn out half as good...”

The Underground Railroad

- *“Who knew what brand of mutiny his captives might cook up if they shared a common tongue.”*