

Celebr8

Teachers' Notes and Key

Some information to start

This is a special kit written for the launch of the British Council Inclusion and Diversity Project (INDIE). The project unites policy makers in the field of education and inclusion, head teachers and young leaders (pupils of participating schools) from Great Britain and seven other European countries and provides the opportunity to exchange ideas and develop best practice guidelines on building and developing diverse and inclusive schools. The poem 'Celebr8' by Levi Tafari was used as part of the inaugural meeting of the project in Brussels in 2008. See <http://www.britishcouncil.org/portugal-projectos-europa-competitiva-indie.htm> for further information.

The poem can be used in its entirety though some teachers may feel more comfortable if a verse or two is omitted: this is a judgement that will need to be made by individual teachers dealing with their classes on a case by case basis.

As with all BritLit kits, the materials presented can be used as a complete set or may be used selectively. However, we do advise that the pre-reading and 'The Poem' activities are done if nothing else as the purpose of the kit is primarily to familiarise students with the contents of the poem.

This kit was produced by Fitch O'Connell and Julie Harris in Porto in 2008.

Further information and work on the poet Levi Tafari can be found here:

<http://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/download/britlit/levi/levi.shtml>

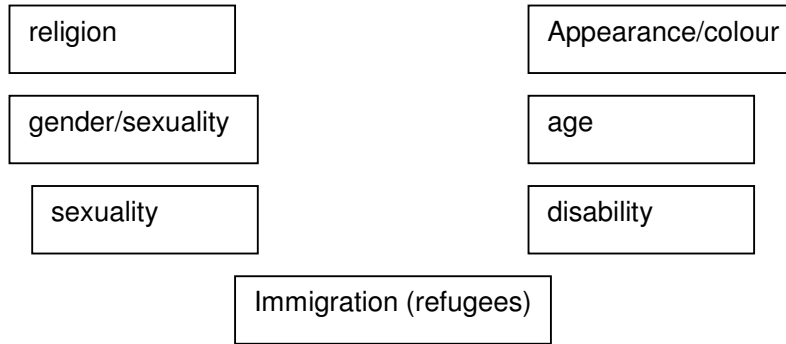
Pre-reading

1. It is possible to underline all the words in the group, although perceptions will vary as will interpretation of what contributes to discrimination (for example while 'fashion' might be argued as a source of difference and influencing certain group behaviour some might argue that this does not imply discrimination. Others would disagree.) Getting students to identify personally with forms of discrimination might need to be done discreetly and the results not shared except, perhaps, with the teacher. You will be the judge of that.

2. You could add topics for discussion within the list given: e.g. Age: do old people discriminate against young people and does the reverse happen; how old is old?; if, under 'immigration' was added those who are refugees fleeing from war or political or social turmoil, would this make a difference?; could support of sports teams e.g. football is sometimes described as tribal behaviour – does this kind of rivalry imply discrimination? Where is the borderline?

3. Individual work that need not be shared.

4.



The Poem

1.

diversity	varied; of many types
adversity	misfortune
incursions	hostile invasions or attacks
versions	variants of one thing
fuss	excessive commotion; nervous activity
cuss	curse; use bad language
grief	deep sadness or sorrow
thief	robber
rigid	inflexible; demanding
frigid	cold; unresponsive
floating	suspended in the air without visible support
voting	expressing one's choice or desire
retire	stop working
desire	want; wish for
restrain	stop someone or something from doing something
abstain	restrain oneself; not to take part or do
exclude	kept out
include	embrace or involve
sight	view
plight	difficulty or problem

2.

diversity✓
adversity

incursions
versions✓

fuss✓
cuss

grief✓
thief

rigid✓
frigid

floating✓
voting

retire✓
desire

restrain
abstain✓

exclude✓
include

sight
plight✓

Context

1.

	Sainsbury's	Barclay's	HP	Microsoft	McDonald's	NHS	MG	BAE Systems	British Army
1. Which gives the least information about its diversity policy?							X		
2. Which would appear to offer the least diversity? Why is this?									X
3. Which wants to recruit diversely to help it work better with its customers?						X			
4. Which adapts its offer to suit local requirements?		X							
5. Which makes a point of understanding individual differences in its workforce?					X				
6. Which stresses that talent is more important than background?								X	
7. Which offers a direct link between employees and the senior manager of the company?	X								
8. Which stresses the importance of teamwork?			X			X		X	
9. Which looks for talent across a wide range of approaches?				X					
10. Which publishes a document outlining its approach to diversity?		X							

2.

Texting is messing,
 my head and my English
 Try to write essays
 they all come out textish
 Gran (is) not pleased with (the) letters she's getting,
 (She) swears I wrote better
 before coming to University.
 And she's African

- 2.1 Will I see you tonight at the bar?
- 2.2 Ireland's worst ever disaster occurred today when a small two seater plane crashed into a cemetery. Irish search and rescue have received 826 bodies. Digging continues.
- 2.3 There's a dangerous virus going around. It's called work. If you receive work from your colleagues, your boss or anyone else, via e-messaging or any other means, don't touch it.
- 2.4 What's the difference between a new woman and a new dog (canine). After a year, the dog still excited to see you.
- 2.5 What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire? Frostbite
- 2.6 What should you give a woman who has everything? A man to show her how to work it.
- 2.7 What do fish say when they hit a concrete wall? Dam!
- 2.8 How do you get holy water? You boil the hell out of it.
- 2.9 Question: do you know what a wok is? Answer: Something you throw at a wabbit.
- 2.10 Two boys got arrested for drinking battery acid and letting fireworks off. One was charged and the other was let off.