

Using the Creative Writing subject benchmark statement: group activity

Collection: The Subject & pedagogy

Resource: Working with the Creative Writing subject benchmark statement

Approximate duration

One hour

Learning outcomes

After completing this activity you or your PGC students will be familiar with the Creative Writing Subject Benchmark Statement and therefore with the core values and features of studying for and achieving an honours degree in Creative Writing. Further, you or your students will be familiar with the way the Creative Writing Subject Benchmark Statement is useful to distinct members of the subject community. After completing this activity you or your students will also have gained:

1. clearer insight into the challenges presented by the subject, its ways of thought, of writing, of arguing, of quoting;
2. a framework in which to enact a critical understanding of curriculum and assess its current fitness for purpose;
3. the raw material (and possibly confidence) to propose and argue to colleagues for a new module or form of assessment, or of teaching based on the relevant components of the benchmark statement.

Introduction

The Creative Writing Benchmark Statement is both a practical and theoretical resource for early career lecturers. It lays out the fundamental aspects of the subject that are widely shared across the UK. This activity is an opportunity to 'drill down' in the



1 | *This resource is part of a set of professional development resources for Higher Education English (including English Literature, English Language & Creative Writing) called 'The Pool'. The resources were developed by the English Subject Centre in 2011 as part of a JISC/HEA Open Educational Resources (OER) Project.*

This work by English Subject Centre is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 UK: England & Wales License.

document in order to gain an understanding of how the benchmark might be useful to a range of constituents. The idea is to demonstrate that the Benchmark is not a resource to be set aside after the PGCHE is complete but rather one that can be useful on an on-going basis.

The activity

Ask participants to read the Benchmark and make a list (with at least two or three items each) of how the following members of a Creative Writing programme might use the Benchmark:

- Final year undergraduate student
- Early career lecturer designing a new module
- Newly appointed head of department

This exercise can be expanded by presenting more detailed scenarios or asking the students to develop their own scenarios in which the Benchmark could become useful.

Links & References

- [The Creative Writing Subject Benchmark Statement](#)

Relationship to the Professional Standards Framework

- **Area of Activity 1:** Design and planning of learning activities and / or programmes of study.
- **Area of Activity 5:** Integration of scholarship, research, and professional activities with teaching and supporting learning
- **Core Knowledge 2:** Appropriate methods for teaching and learning in the subject area and at the level of the academic programme
- **Professional Values 3:** Commitment to the development of learning communities
- **Professional Values 4:** Commitment to encouraging participation in higher education, acknowledging diversity and promoting equality of opportunity



2 | This resource is part of a set of professional development resources for Higher Education English (including English Literature, English Language & Creative Writing) called 'The Pool'. The resources were developed by the English Subject Centre in 2011 as part of a JISC/HEA Open Educational Resources (OER) Project.

This work by English Subject Centre is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 UK: England & Wales License.

More information about the Professional Standards Framework can be obtained from the summary factsheet in the Subject & Pedagogy Collection in HumBox.

<http://humbox.ac.uk/2731/>

Resources in the *Subject and Pedagogy* Collection

- Subject and pedagogy: introduction to the collection
- Working with the English subject benchmark statement: resource overview
 - Using the English subject benchmark: group activity
 - Using the English subject benchmark: individual activity
- Working with the Creative Writing subject benchmark statement: resource overview
 - **Using the Creative Writing subject benchmark: group activity (* you are here)**
 - Using the Creative Writing subject benchmark: individual activity
- Writing and the teacher: resource overview
 - Writing tasks: group activity
 - Metaphors: group activity
- Hearing yourself teach: resource overview
 - Keeping a teaching journal: individual activity
- Working with threshold concepts: resource overview
 - Crossing the line: individual activity
 - Crossing the line: group activity



3 | This resource is part of a set of professional development resources for Higher Education English (including English Literature, English Language & Creative Writing) called 'The Pool'. The resources were developed by the English Subject Centre in 2011 as part of a JISC/HEA Open Educational Resources (OER) Project.

This work by English Subject Centre is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 2.0 UK: England & Wales License.