

## Year 7 - Identity and Growing Up Poetry

<i>Summary</i>	Students will learn to develop their reading and writing skills through reading poetry about their identity and growing up. Students will learn key poetic features and will be able to identify and examine the use of these features in a range of different poems. Students will study selection of Jackie Kay poetry from her collection, <i>Red, Cherry Red</i> as well as a selection of other poems surrounding the theme of identity. As well as reading poetry, students will be writing their own poetry throughout the topic and will be able to use key features in their own writing. Students will be introduced to the idea of context and will be able to identify common themes in the poems.
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### Poems studied in this unit

Sour Sixteen - Jackie Kay	This poem explores the negatives of adolescence.
My Face is a Map - Jackie Kay	This poem explores the way we look and how that can become our identity. The speaker in the poem has a birthmark in the shape of Australia on her face. She has been given the option to get it removed and is worried her perception of her identity might change.
Leaving Home - Jackie Kay	The persona in this poem has left home and uses the extended metaphor of a boat in a stormy sea to express her feelings of isolation and emotional turmoil.
No 115 Dreams - Jackie Kay	The speaker explores her house and remembers her family in each room
Sketch of Girl in Class - Jackie Kay	The speaker watches a girl in her class and wonders what she is thinking about. The reader gets a sense that the girl is going through a lot at home.
First and Foremost - Jackie Kay	The speaker explores her identity in a positive way.
First X - Jackie Kay	The speaker remembers their first kiss
Way Down in the Streets of Paris - Jackie Kay	The speaker of the poem is a red balloon and the reader is made aware of the strong connection between the young boy who owns the balloon and the balloon.
Bush Fire - Jackie Kay	This poem uses figurative language to describe a fire as if it is alive

### Biographical information about studied poet

**Jackie Kay** - Born in 1961 to a Scottish mother and Nigerian father, Jackie Kay and her older brother Maxwell were adopted and brought up in Glasgow, where they were the only black children on the council estate where she lived.

Vocabulary	Literary devices
	Rhyme
Identity	Half rhyme
Individual	Rhyming couplets
Culture	Rhyme scheme
Diverse	Simile
Society	Metaphor
Community	Extended Metaphor
Adolescent	Alliteration
Race	Repetition
Influence	Enjambement
Prose	End stop
Independence	Stanzas
Themes	
Identity	Rhythm
	Personification
Growing up	Intonation
Independence	Figurative language
	Persona
	Theme