



# NATIONAL WRITING DAY

27<sup>th</sup> June 2018

*WRITE AWAY* Session Guidance Key Stage 1 & 2

"I feel most free when..." 

We're trying to beat last year's records for numbers of people involved so please do share any photos of the process as you undertake this activity as well as your outcomes.

## Introduction:

You might wish to start the session by playing the audio clip embedded into the PowerPoint. This is a group poem composed in the first session as part of an ice-breaker activity at Hampstead School in London led by the poet Dean Atta.

## Step 1: Word Race

This activity could be adapted to suit the needs and abilities of your group. We suggest taking a piece of A4 paper and cutting into 8ths then providing each student with 5 separate pieces of paper for the task.

We've deliberately aimed to allow for free association around the concept of freedom rather than a more concrete definition or structured approach. We find this will lead them to more unusual ideas and more variation within groups, but if you'd prefer, you could ask them to look for particular categories of words (one object they associate with freedom, an activity, a person).

## Step 2: Discussion

The discussion element will help to build confidence of the students and familiarity with the different interpretations of freedom - once completed, each group to have a unique bank of words that they associate with freedom. *We would love for you to share a photo of these with us on social media if you can.*

## Step 3: Free Write

The structure of the free-write and the prompts is intended to connect items in the word bank together and trigger specific memories that your students can draw from and write about. They may only choose to write about one thing or many, but the important thing is for them to use concrete detail and personalize.

## Expanding on this task:

You may wish to spend additional time on this task and ask the students to share their pieces in groups or to the whole task. Following Dean Atta's example, each student chose a favourite line and used that to create a group poem.

You could then type this piece up and display it in your classroom or record it as an audio or video piece and share it on social media via the following hashtags #nationalwritingday and #writeaway.

You can also find out more about National Writing Day via our website [www.nationalwritingday.org.uk](http://www.nationalwritingday.org.uk).



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*P.S. What*