

Activity title:	LIFE CHANGING MOMENTS
Description:	Listening to autobiographical stories/recall/narrative skills
Year groups:	7/8
Link to LNF:	ORACY • present topics and ideas coherently, using techniques effectively • discuss opposing viewpoints and negotiate ways forward • respond positively and thoughtfully to new ideas and alternative points of view • listen to information and ideas (on-screen or live) and identify how evidence is used, e.g. to defend a point of view, or misused, e.g. to mislead by exaggeration READING • read with concentration texts, on-screen and on paper, that are new to them, and understand the information in them • use inference and deduction to understand layers of meaning • evaluate texts in terms of quality and level of interest. WRITING (for extension) • adapt presentation of material according to intended meaning and effect, e.g. choice of how much detail needed to be convincing • in planning writing make choices about content, structure, language, presentation to suit the purpose • use criteria to identify ways to improve and then redraft • select, analyse and present ideas and information convincingly or objectively • organise longer pieces of writing making links within and between paragraphs • write with grammatical accuracy, varying the length and structure of sentences to make meaning clear • use the full range of punctuation in order to clarify meaning, e.g. semicolons, colons, quotation marks • use a variety of strategies and resources to spell familiar and unfamiliar vocabulary and subject-specific words correctly • produce fluent and legible handwriting
Dylan Thomas Text:	Text extracts of 'A Child's Christmas in Wales' or 'Return Journey' (under Resources section of website)



Resources required:	Gillian Clarke reminisces about her father's encounter with Dylan Thomas https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifxfEl9biwk
Suggested teaching sequence:	Open with general discussion about the importance of memories, favourite memories of childhood etc. Explain about Dylan Thomas's use of his memories of family and home areas as material for his writing, mentioning 'A Child's Christmas in Wales' or 'Return Journey'. Read extracts together. Discuss the autobiography genre and what makes an interesting story to tell, e.g. variety of facts, humour, tension, expression, freshness, a dramatic ending. Listen to Gillian Clarke tell the story of when her father met Dylan Thomas when she was a child, and then the effect on her of hearing his voice. Listen again, listening specifically to how she tells the story. Make notes on the grid. Answer the questions. Complete the task of thinking about, and narrating a story about a moment when you met someone remarkable. Prepare to tell it in a way which other people will enjoy hearing.
Extension activities:	 Write your autobiographical story out in full with plentiful details to add interest. Practise your stories well in a group, then record a selection of the stories and play them to the class.