**English Activities**

Here are some creative writing tips and activities from Hull Truck Theatre’s Associate Director, Tom Saunders.

<https://www.hulltruck.co.uk/blog/category/writing-daily-with-tom-saunders/>

# Have you written a poem or short story that you’re really proud of? Visit this page for more information on ‘The Solstice Prize for Young Writers 2020’ competition. Entry is completely free, and first prize is £50 cash for entrant, £50 in book tokens for the school and your writing will be published online. What are you waiting for?!

<http://www.writingeastmidlands.co.uk/young-writers/solstice-prize-2020/>

Take part in the National Theatre’s at Home Quiz with Helen Mirren, Lenny Henry, Lesley Manville and Ian McKellen. Rounds are on History, Sport and the National Theatre. You will need a pen and some paper, and the answers are at the end of each round. See how many you can get!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LJQ160k_VN4>

Explore a selection of short clips that are based on some of Shakespeare’s best- known works, but with a modern twist.

<https://globeplayer.tv/shakespearelives>

Every Thursday evening at 7pm the National Theatre are screening free performances of famous plays. ‘A Streetcar Named Desire’ by Tennessee Williams is currently on and is followed by ‘This House’ by Graham James on 28th May.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUDq1XzCY0NIOYVJvEMQjqw>

Here are some writing prompts that change daily including a story starter, sentence challenge and a drawing task relevant to your work.

<https://www.pobble365.com/>

Kickback and relax with one of the BBC sounds classic stories audiobooks. Choose from Mary Shelley’s gothic ‘Frankenstein’ to Carroll’s ‘Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.’ Year 10, A Christmas Carol is on there too!

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p06w4v4x>

Explore your poetic side with famous writer Benjamin Zephaniah. Learn how to use your own experiences to influence your poetry.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ks3-gcse-creativity-poetry-literature/zb6gpg8>

Become an expert in the life, work and legacy of William Shakespeare. Click on the link below to find an array or interactive articles to brush up on your Shakespeare knowledge.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/shakespeares-life-work-legacy/znc3hbk>

Listen to a fifteen-minute podcast for a fun lesson on the life of famous British writer, Charles Dickens. You’ll be left wanting more (sir).

[https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000j1xp?xtor=CS8-1000-[Discovery\_Cards]-[Multi\_Site]-[SL10]-[PS\_SOUNDS~C~~P\_HomeschoolHistoryCharlesDickens]](https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/m000j1xp?xtor=CS8-1000-%5bDiscovery_Cards%5d-%5bMulti_Site%5d-%5bSL10%5d-%5bPS_SOUNDS~C~~P_HomeschoolHistoryCharlesDickens%5d)

Interested in writing and history? Click on the link below to find out how to flex your writing muscles for good over the half-term break. The ‘Young Walter Scott Prize’ is a competition for budding historical fiction writers and is ready to take you on an adventure. Entries are free and close on 31st October 2020.

<https://www.walterscottprize.co.uk/young-walter-scott-prize/how-to-enter/>