

## Diverse Voices – Core Knowledge

### 1. **Tolerance and Respect:** *May Malone* by David Almond

- David Almond (1951 – Present) is a British author who writes fictional short stories and novels for children and young adults
- The story is written from a third person perspective and describes the life of a teenager called Norman
- There is a rumour that the local lady – May Malone – keeps a monster in her home
- Norman decides to investigate and makes a very different discovery
- Contains themes such as childhood, friendship, disability, acceptance



### 2. **Identity and Community:** *The Colour of Humanity* by Bali Rai

- Bali Rai (1971 – Present) is an English author who writes short stories and novels for children and young people
- The story is written from the second person perspective of a young man who was murdered by a childhood friend
- It describes stories from their childhood and questions what events led to the murder
- Contains themes such as childhood, racism, and friendship



### 3. **Equality and Responsibility:** *Welcome to Nowhere* by Elizabeth Laird

- Elizabeth Laird (1943 – Present) is a British author who has won many awards for her children's fiction and travel writing
- The novel is written from the first-person perspective of Omar
- Omar is a young boy growing up in Syria
- When the war begins, he and his family are forced to leave their home
- Contains themes such as childhood, family and war



### 4. **Identity and Stereotypes:** *My Polish Teacher's Tie* by Helen Dunmore

- Helen Dunmore (1952 – 2017) was a British poet and author of adult and children's literature
- *My Polish Teacher's Tie* is a short story written from the first-person perspective of Carla, a dinner lady who works in a school canteen
- Carla begins writing to a pen pal from Poland
- She keeps her real identity a secret
- Contains themes such as stereotyping, friendship and education



### 5. **Control and Freedom:** *Nineteen Eighty-Four* by George Orwell

- George Orwell (1903 – 1950) was a British author who predominantly wrote about social issues and politics



- 1984 is a dystopian novel set in a totalitarian world where the lives of the people are controlled by their leader, Big Brother
- The novel is written from a third person perspective and describes the life of Winston Smith
- Life in the imagined world is cruel and harsh
- Contains themes such as politics, technology and leadership

6. **Conflict and Justice:** *Every Man Dies Alone* by Hans Fallada

- Hans Fallada (1893 – 1947) was a German author who lived under the Nazi regime
- The novel is written from a third person perspective and is set in Germany during World War II
- It describes the lives of Anna and Oto, a married couple whose son is killed
- They join the German Resistance against the Nazi regime
- Contains themes such as family, war and courage



**Further Reading Challenge:**



Studied Text	Recommended Additional/Similar Reading
May Malone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Loose Change</i> by Andrea Levy</li> <li>• <i>Love from A to Z</i> by S.K. Ali.</li> </ul>
The Colour of Humanity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Here I stand: stories that speak for freedom</i> by Amnesty</li> <li>• <i>You're Welcome, Universe</i> by Whitney Gardner</li> </ul>
Welcome to Nowhere	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Other Side of Truth</i> by Beverly Naidoo</li> <li>• <i>Words in the Dust</i> by Trent Reedy.</li> </ul>
My Polish Teacher's Tie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Can't Take That Away</i> by Steven Salvatore</li> <li>• <i>You Truly Assumed</i> by Laila Sabreen</li> </ul>
Nineteen Eighty-Four	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Hunger Games</i> by Suzanne Collins</li> <li>• <i>Crongton Knights</i> by Alex Wheatle</li> <li>• <i>China Dream</i> by Ma Jian and translated by Flora Drew.</li> </ul>
Every Man Dies Alone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Internment</i> by Samira Ahmed</li> <li>• <i>Moxie</i> by Jennifer Mathieu</li> </ul>



## Key Literary Terms

Term	Definition	Sentence Stem
First Person Perspective	Writing from 'I'.	[...] is written from a first person perspective to create a connection/reveal...
Second Person Perspective	Uses 'you' to address the reader.	[...] is written from a second person perspective to create a bond/connection...
Third Person Perspective	Writing about characters by referring to their names or pronouns such as he, she, they etc. The narrator is outside if the story.	[...] is written from a third person perspective to create a sense of separation/sympathy/detachment...
Tense	Past, present, or future.	
Linear Narrative	A plot that happens in chronological (time) order.	A linear narrative is used to make the reader feel close/connected to the action/characters.
Non-linear Narrative	A plot that does not happen in time order.	A non-linear narrative is used to create a sense of confusion and unpredictability.
Cyclical Narrative	A story that ends in the same way that it begins.	A cyclical narrative is used to convey the sense that nothing has changed/monotony/boredom/perfection.
Flashforward	When the narrative jumps to the future.	The writer uses a flashforward to reveal...
Flashback	When the narrative returns to a moment in time.	The writer uses a flashback to reveal...
In Medias Res	A narrative that opens in the middle of the action.	The narrative opens in medias res to create a strong sense of action/drama/tension...
Simile	When two or more things are compared using 'as' or 'like'.	The writer uses a simile to paint a vivid picture of...
Metaphor	When something is described as if it was something else.	The writer uses a metaphor to convey the impression of...
Personification	When something non-human is described as if it were a human.	The writer uses personification to show the liveliness/violence/anger/...
Imagery	Visually descriptive language.	The writer uses imagery so the reader can imagine...



## Key Vocabulary

Prejudice	An opinion or judgement not made on reason, fact or actual experience.
Discrimination	Unfair treatment based on someone's gender, age, ethnicity etc.
Racism	Treating someone differently or unfairly because of their ethnic or racial group.
Stereotype	An oversimplified, generalised or widely held image or idea about a person or group of people.
Ableism	Discrimination against someone with a disability.
Dystopian	An imagined state where there is great injustice and/or suffering
Refugee	A person who has been forced to leave their country as a result of war, natural disaster, or persecution.