

Investigation lesson plans

(It is anticipated that this will take 3 lessons.)

This material stems from visitors' book comments and a letter of complaint sent to Bristol Council.

These materials ask some very pertinent questions about the place of religion in today's world and allow students to consider secular and religious responses to the art exhibition held in Bristol Central Library.

It is intended that these lessons would be most appropriate for KS4 pupils investigating the place of religion in Britain today for GCSE or otherwise.

investigation

Starter: (15 mins)

(This assumes that this investigation does not immediately follow the isay: art project lessons and is being taught to older students who have either never done the earlier project or who need reminding of it.)

Show the Exhibition Experience PowerPoint with appropriate music from the Suggested Playlist document or of your own choice.

Main activity: (30 mins)

Explain that as a result of seeing the art exhibition they had just viewed many people wrote comments in the visitors' book and one person wrote to Bristol City Council.

One person asked the question that is the basis of their investigation.

Using the Investigation PowerPoint: explain the task which is to be completed over 3 lessons.

Give out the evidence material to base the investigation on.

Please Note: If it is intended that Task 2 will be done as a whole class then keep back the letter from "Clive Jefferson" (the reply from the library) as this can be used for peer marking later.

3 lessons to complete:

1st lesson to plan.

2nd lesson to prepare in detail and "work it up"

3rd lesson to finish and present and observe others' presentations.

During the lessons: model queries and good responses as they arise.

Plenary:

Ask: Where are you up to? What are your ideas so far? What have you got to do next?

Alternative route:

You may wish to pepper the investigation with two more class-shared tasks to scaffold learning.

Task 1: Exploring the visitors' book comments: EITHER blow up the Visitors Book Sorting Grid to A3, then cut up the visitors' comments and ask students in small groups to sort the comments into the Grid, OR ask students in small groups to match comments to the Grid by writing a comment's number in the box they see fits it best. Feedback to the whole class.

Task 2: Use the Mr Harris letter sent to Bristol City Council: in pairs, read the letter carefully and discuss what the central arguments are.

- *What would need to be included in a well-written response?*
- *How would you organise your arguments?*
- *What would be appropriate language to use?*
- *What information would you need to include?*
- *How will you set out your response and address Mr Harris (bearing in mind it is a formal e-mail from Bristol Central Library)?*

Feedback to the whole class. Model on the board and discuss a good response. Individually or for homework, students write their own responses to Mr Harris.

Peer marking:

Give out the actual reply sent by Clive Jefferson (use Investigation PowerPoint slide 6 to facilitate discussion).

In pairs, students discuss in what way their response is like the one sent and in what ways it differs.

How might they improve their letter if they were to write a similar one again?

Do they think that Mr Jefferson's reply could have been improved?

Key questions:

What is the place of religious expression in modern Britain?

Should British tax-payers' money have been spent on staging an art exhibition about religious belief in a public space?

Learning outcomes:

Students will present a reasoned and rational response revealing consideration of a variety of points of view and stating their own views about the place of religious expression in the context of modern Britain.

Resources needed:

- Exhibition Experience PowerPoint
- Investigation PowerPoint
- Investigation lesson materials.

