Spring | English | Powerful Voices

Part 1: Racial Conflict

- Key context: In 1955 Rosa Parks refused to give her bus seat to a white person; in 1963 Martin Luther King gave his famous 'I Have A Dream' speech; in 2009 Barack Obama became the first African-American President.
- In 1852, Harriet Beecher Stowe wrote the anti-slavery novel Uncle Tom's Cabin, and in 1853, Solomon Northup wrote the tale of own life as a slave.

Part 2: Culture Conflict

- Key context: in 1588 the Spanish Armada set sail from Spain to overthrow the Protestant Queen Elizabeth I; in 1933 Hitler rose to power and Jews were made second class citizens; in 2001 Osama Bin Laden said the 9/11 terrorist attack was revenge for persecuting Muslims.
- Anne Frank's Diary of a Young Girl and Imtiaz Dharker's poem 'The Right Word' both show the impact of cultural conflict.

Part 3: Climate Conflict

- Key context: In 1852, the Great Smog of London was the first sign of climate issues; in 2015 the Paris agreement said that all countries needed to reduce emissions.
- Charles Dickens' Bleak House, diary entries from the great smog and Greta Thunberg's speeches all show why climate change needs to be tackled.

Part 4: Gender Conflict

- Key context: in 1867 the London Society for Women's Suffrage was formed; in 1928 all women over the age of 21 were given the vote; in 1979 Margaret Thatcher became Britain's first female Prime Minister.
- Many suffragettes wrote letters and diaries that show the journey to gender equality. Modern speeches (such as Emma Watson's) show this is still ongoing.

Part 5: Class Conflict

- Key context: in 1900, there were two million servants in Britain; in 1948 the NHS was set up to aid the vulnerable; in 2018 a study found 30% of children are still born into poverty.
- Victorian texts such as Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens and North and South by Elizabeth Gaskell show the class divide.



















Racism	Where someone treats another person differently because their skin colour is not the same as theirs.
Discrimination	The unjust or prejudicial treatment of different categories of people, especially on the grounds of race, age, sex, or disability.
Emancipation	To free from restraint, control, or the power of another especially to free from bondage.
Suffrage	The right to vote in political elections.
Industrial Revolution	The Industrial Revolution was a period of major development and innovation that took place during the late 1700s and early 1800s. It was the transition to new manufacturing processes.
Climate Emergency	A situation in which urgent action is required to reduce or halt climate change and avoid potentially irreversible environmental damage resulting from it.
Et hnicit y	Belonging to a social group that has a common national or cultural tradition.
Speaker	Sometimes a poem isn't about the poet; a speaker is used instead.
Stanza	A group of lines in a poem.
Enjambment	Where a complete sentence runs on over more than one line of poetry.
Capitalism	An economic system where the country's trade and profit is privately owned by the wealthy few.
Child labour	The employment of children in an industry or business, especially when illegal or considered exploitative.
Simile	Where you make a comparison using the words, 'like' or 'as'. 'Her hair was as golden as the sun.'
Metaphor	where you make a comparison without using the words 'like' or 'as'. 'Her hair was a golden sun.'