

‘Spinners, Matches and Karaoke’ Teaching Ideas

Learning Objective: To read for understanding.

Success Criteria:

- To read for comprehension and inference – find implicit and explicit meaning.
- To support responses with reference to the text where appropriate.
- To expand vocabulary through careful investigation of key terms and unusual word use.

This lesson pack includes all the elements for a differentiated reading comprehension for KS3 and 4. As in GCSE exams, the reading material is the same for all pupils. Where appropriate, the different levels of questions and vocabulary sheets can be given to students. Many of the extension tasks require further research or class discussion. If you do not wish to use these tasks as individual extension tasks, you may enjoy using them for class discussion points or starters for independent or group research and presentations.

Students might enjoy extra tasks such as creating a fact file around a great inventor. There are many books available for appropriate lists of inventors or internet research may be used. Students might consider Thomas Edison, Leonardo da Vinci, Benjamin Franklin or a more modern inventor like James Dyson. They might wish (particularly with Leonardo and Dyson) to look at the challenges faced in the process of inventing. Thomas Edison famously said: “I have not failed. I’ve just found 10 000 ways that don’t work” when discussing his invention of the lightbulb filament. They might use the [Great Inventor Fact File](#) to record responses or create their own. Students will find a variety of interesting articles and stories associated with successful inventions on the internet.

Students may also enjoy creating their own invention. They could be tasked with producing and possibly costing (cross-curricular) their design and then presenting their work to the class. The class could act as a judging body, determining which presentation and design should go forward to be produced. This could provide an opportunity for persuasive spoken language activities. They might also write creatively about an invention, the inventing process or the after-effects of inventing something successful.

Alternative tasks around patents include: a debate around the issues of patent, a discussion of how long any inventor should be able to hold an exclusive patent, a look at the use of patents and pricing in the pharmaceutical industry or researching some of the strangest patent applications (these include: hiccup treatments, animal ear protectors, three-legged tights and a high five machine). They might also look at other intellectual property subjects, such as trademark and copyright.