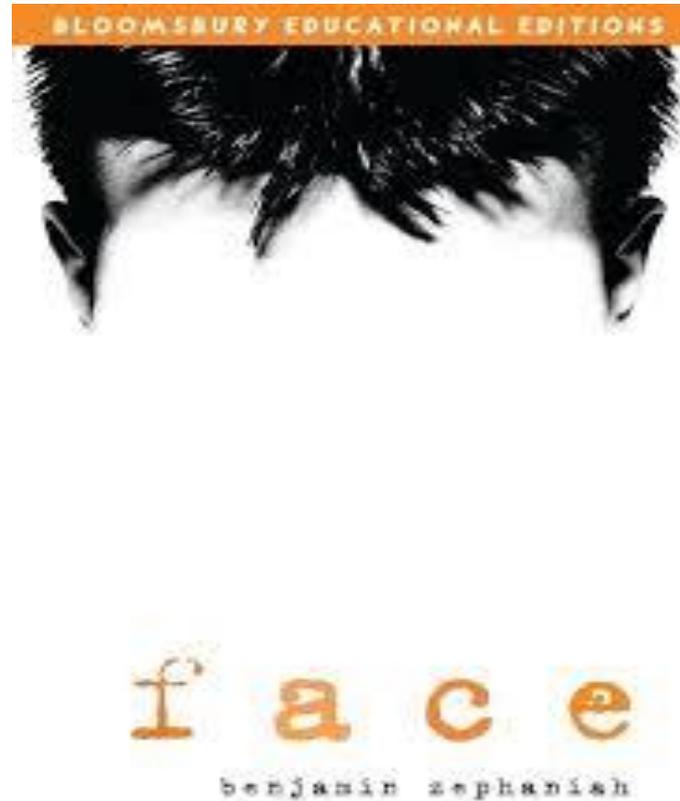


# Face – Benjamin Zephaniah

Reading Tasks



# Chapter 1: Pick an Activity

- Read up to ‘... into his old leather briefcase.’ Write Mr. Lincoln’s weekly blog for an online teaching website based on the end of term. It should be no more than 300 words long and three paragraphs. Discuss his feelings about the school where he works, the students he teaches and Martin in particular.
- Write Martin’s end of year report based on what you read on pages 1–3.
- In groups of four script and role play a meeting between Martin, his parents and his form tutor based on his report above.
- Use a Venn diagram to compare and contrast the figures of Mark and Matthew based on pages 2–4.
- Think about what you are told on page 5 about Natalie. Look through a magazine and find a picture of what you think she might look like. Around it write 10 adjectives to describe her personality.

## Chapter 2: Pick an Activity

- At the funfair. Write a 300-word, three-paragraph account describing the funfair, appealing to the reader's sense of:
  - sight
  - smell
  - sound
- **Role-play scenario** – imagine you are a member of the Stokie Crew. Improvise a phone call to another member of your gang about what happened with the Big E gang at the fair. It should be about one minute long.

## Chapter 3 / Chapter 4: Pick an Activity

- A number of countries are mentioned during this chapter. Find a map of the world on the internet, print it off, stick it in your exercise book and colour in those countries mentioned in this chapter. What does this tell you about modern London?
- Look at the flyer on page 20. Design a flyer for a club night in your area.
- As a starter try out some of Martin's dance moves on pages 25 and 26 with a friend.
- Find and cut out a map of East London and stick it in your exercise book. Highlight important landmarks.

# Chapter 5: Pick an Activity

- Listen to 'That's Entertainment' by The Jam. Make a table and list all the things the singer lists when describing the estate where he lives that you can see, hear, taste, smell and touch. Use this as a springboard to write your own description of a place. It should have four paragraphs and appeal to the reader's senses through use of simile, personification, metaphor, onomatopoeia and alliteration.
- Report the accident that takes place in this chapter as:
  - a local radio news broadcast
  - a front page newspaper article
  - Create a wanted poster for Apache.
- In a group of four, script and perform the scene when two police officers go and tell Martin's parents about the accident.

# Chapter 6

- Imagine you are Martin's mother. Write a diary entry about your thoughts and feelings after your first visit to the hospital. It should be four paragraphs long and cover the following areas:
  - how you felt when you saw your son
  - how you feel about the man driving the car
  - what you think about Upminster
  - your fears for the future.

# Chapter 7

- Imagine you are Alan Green, the Clinical Psychologist, who works with Martin in chapter 7. Write up your notes for the day thinking about:
  - your first impressions of Martin
  - what you find out about him from the call to his parents
  - your fears about Martin looking at his face so soon after the accident
  - Martin's reaction on seeing his face.

# Chapters 8 & 9: Pick an Activity

- Imagine you are DI Byrd. Make up a list of questions you would like to ask Apache should you find him.
- As DI Byrd, create a timeline of events for the night of the crash starting with Martin going with his friends to Natalie's house. Make up the actions and timings for Pete Mosley and Apache.
- Write a diary entry as Martin describing the visit by Mark, Matthew and Natalie to the hospital. Think about:
  - how it felt to see them and how they behaved around you
  - Mark's injuries
  - Natalie's reaction to seeing you
  - your fears about the future.
- You are a famous footballer with West Ham United and you have been asked to send a card to Martin to cheer him up as you are his favourite player. Write about 50 words.

# Chapters 10 & 11

- Have you ever had an operation? If so talk about the experience with your partner. What was it for? When did you have it? How did you feel the night before? How did you feel the next day? What can you remember about the doctors and nurses who worked with you?
- Do some research into joyriding. Bullet point five things you find out about it.
- Imagine you are Martin's headteacher. Write and deliver a speech for an assembly at school about what has happened to Martin and the dangers of joyriding/drug abuse.
- Imagine you are Anthony. Write a diary entry of three paragraphs outlining your first impressions of Martin. You might want to think about:
  - how Martin reacted on seeing you
  - your first impressions of his room
  - the fact that he has a girlfriend
  - Why Martin reminds you of yourself.

# Chapters 12 & 13

- You are Martin. Write a card of thanks to everyone who looked after you at Newham Parkside Hospital.
- You are Detective Hudson. Write Martin's police statement about the night of the crash. It should be about 300 words long and written in three paragraphs.
- In a group of three, improvise a role-play in which Martin tells his mother and father that he wants to go back to school. How will his parents react to the news and what will they be worried about?
- In the same group, now do another role-play but this time between Natalie, Matthew and Mark. What will their fears and worries be about Martin's return to school?

## Chapter 14

- Martin's first day is a disaster. Imagine you are Mrs Powell, the Headteacher. Improvise what you would say in a phone call home to Martin's parents about what happened that day and also about actions you will take to make sure things are better in future.
- Look again at page 86 and the ideas for assemblies. Plan and write a speech for an assembly for Y6 students in which you try to inspire them about the need to be determined and resilient. You may wish to use a poem, image or song to help you convey your message.
- Write Martin's diary entry in which he reflects on his first day back at school. Write a paragraph about each of the following - how his friends behaved on the walk into school, his fight with Simon Hill during his science lesson and Martin's feelings about the 'get well soon' card given to him at the end of this chapter.

## Chapters 15 & 16

- Martin describes his week as one of ‘highs and lows.’ Use a graph to plot the highs and lows of his week. Put the days of the week on the x axis and the lows/highs on the y axis.
- Find the meanings of the following words:
  - discrimination
  - prejudice.

## Chapters 17 & 18

- The *Newham Echo* is a tabloid newspaper. What is the difference between a tabloid and broadsheet newspaper?
- Make a list of tabloid newspapers and then a list of broadsheets.
- Do some research and make a list of ten tabloid headlines that sensationalise recent news stories.
- Write a short paragraph of about ten sentences explaining how Martin's attitude to school and learning has changed since Chapter 1.
- Make a collage of images and key words to illustrate how Martin was before and after the accident. Do it on A3 paper.

## Chapters 19-21

- **Chapter 19:** Events in this chapter are among the most difficult for Martin. Write his thoughts and feelings after the incident in the park and seeing Natalie with her new boyfriend. It should be at least three paragraphs long.
- If Martin was your friend, what advice would you give him at this stage? Discuss what you would say with a partner.
- **Chapter 20:** Compare your advice with what Alan Green says to Martin at the start of this chapter.
- Why do you think Zephaniah reintroduces Anthony in this chapter?
- **Chapter 21:** The school gymnastics team does not win the competition but Martin is certainly a winner. How?
- Read the poem at the end of the book. Write a verse or two of your own to add to it.
- Create a new front page for the novel.