

Information Book Award 2019: Category 12–16

Suffragette: the battle for equality by David Roberts

English

- Debate from opposing viewpoints: Is violent protest ever justified? Should suffrage be universal?
- Diary writing – prison diary entry.
- Persuasive language – Small deeds: how can we as individuals affect political or social change? Campaign on an issue that you feel is unfair.
- Newspaper report on the events of Black Friday, incorporating different standpoints.
- Compose a letter to your MP or blog post on social media addressing political/social inequalities.
- Write a poem on an aspect of the Suffrage movement: characters, events or women's rights in general.

History

- Look at the timeline of the Suffrage Movement 1832 to 1928. What other world events were happening? What, if any, impact did they have?
- What role did World War I play in granting universal suffrage?
- Investigate the role men played in the movement: both the activists and those who intended to keep the status quo. Who stood to benefit from keeping suffrage restricted? Does the gender of the author matter?
- Compare the aims and actions of the Suffragettes with the Suffragists. Look at parallels in history – Gandhi and passive resistance, South Africa and the Anti-Apartheid Movement. Can violence ever be condoned?
- Looking at a variety of primary sources from the period (transcriptions of speeches, newspaper reports etc.) Discuss how events were reported and the bias present.

Politics/PSHE

- Why is suffrage important? Compare a democracy to other systems of government.
- Chart the rise of feminism. What is meant by gender politics? Is masculinity in danger?
- Is equality possible? What does this mean to you?
- Research organisations that provide a voice for minority groups, why is this important?
- Universal suffrage is a human right, what other rights are fundamental?
- Look at a range of female leaders throughout history: queens, campaigners and politicians – what have they contributed? Do they support the idea of universal suffrage?
- Compare current protests e.g. climate change/environmental concerns with that of the past. What has changed, and what have we learnt?

Ethics/RE

- Discuss the importance of liberty and its preservation by the state and individuals.

Media and art

- Create your own banner or placard for a cause that's important to you.
- Curate a campaign for political/social change using a variety of different media: collage, photography, blog posts, vlogs, reportage etc.
- Look at the importance of slogans. Can you better 'Deeds not words'? What did the use of colour contribute to the Suffragettes' campaign?

Literature

- Examine women's writing of the period. Did any Victorian and Edwardian novels address the issue? Was poetry an effective weapon?