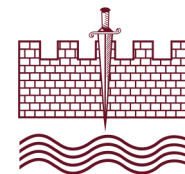


Half term 5 & 6

Noughts & Crosses

Key Stage 3: Year 9

Knowledge Organiser



WHAT IS THE SUMMARY OF NOUGHTS & CROSSES?

Sephy is a Cross - a member of the ruling class. Callum is a nought - a member of the underclass who were once slaves to the Crosses. The two have been friends since early childhood. But that's as far as it can go. Until the first steps are taken towards more social equality and a limited number of noughts are allowed into Cross schools. Against a background of prejudice and distrust, intensely highlighted by violent terrorist activity by noughts, a romance builds between Sephy and Callum - a romance that is to lead both of them into terrible danger.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Malorie Blackman was the Children's Laureate from 2013 to 2015. Blackman's motivation for writing Noughts and Crosses: 'I wanted to turn society as we know it on its head in my story, with new names for the major divisions in society. I wanted to see this new world through the eyes of the main two characters, Callum (a nought) and Sephy (a Cross). Race and racism are emotive issues that most people are loathe to discuss, but I think they should be discussed, no matter how painful.'

OTHER BOOKS IN THE SERIES

- Knife Edge, Checkmate, Double Cross, Cross-fire, Endgame, Callum, An Eye for an Eye and Nought Forever

EXAM SKILLS:

- AO1: Read, understand and respond to texts using textual references. Identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas.
- AO2: Use PEEL to analyse how the writers use language and structure techniques to achieve effects and influence readers
- AO3: Show understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written
- AO5: Respond creatively, effectively and imaginatively. Adapt tone, style and register for different forms, purposes and audiences.

"Race and racism are emotive issues that most people are loathe to discuss, but I think they should be discussed, no matter how painful." – Malorie Blackman

SUCCESS CRITERIA:

1. Identify techniques and analyse language, form and structure.
2. Understand and comment on the writer's intentions.
3. Understand and evaluate the reader's response.
4. Understand and evaluate the effects and significance of context (audience, social, historical, cultural).
6. Be able to explore a text independently and interpret and evaluate the ideas.
7. Use precise evidence to support ideas.
8. Analyse multiple meanings/interpretations where possible.
9. Use material to create own creative responses

KEY CHARACTERS

The Hadley Family (Crosses):

Sephy Hadley - a main protagonist—half of the novel is from her perspective . She starts this novel at 13

Kamal Hadley - Sephy's father—a wealthy politician

Jasmine Hadley - Sephy's mother

Minerva (Minnie) Hadley - Sephy's sister

The McGregor Family (Noughts):

Callum McGregor - a main protagonist—half of the novel is from his perspective . He starts this novel at 15

Jude & Lynette McGregor - Callum's siblings

Ryan McGregor - Callum's father

Meggie McGregor - Callum's mother

KEY TERMS

Segregation – setting people apart

Oppression – cruel or unjust treatment

Prejudice – unreasonable opinion (also bigotry)

Discrimination – unjust treatment of difference

Inequality – difference in how you're treated

Injustice – unfair treatment

Intolerance – unwillingness to accept something

Identity – who you are and what you believe

Radicalisation – being made to adopt extreme views