

TIME MACHINE – PRE & POST VISIT LESSON PLANS

Your workshop at Madame Tussauds . . .

Students will be visiting Madame Tussauds to step forwards and backwards in time. They will be invited to explore new worlds, past, present and future – increasing their understanding of historical context while also developing empathy skills. Together, they will take characters from Madame Tussauds into the Time Machine and explore the concept of *fame through the ages*.

The core objectives of these corresponding lessons include but are not limited to:

1. Identifying significant individuals throughout history
2. Understanding how individuals are shaped and challenged by the historical contexts in which they live
3. Empathising with individuals from different historical periods
4. Gaining historical perspective by placing knowledge in different contexts
5. Understanding the history of Madame Tussauds and its founder: Marie Tussaud
6. Exploring different historical contexts through drama, role-play and writing

Subject links: History, Literacy, Drama, Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) (UK), Citizenship, Critical Literacy, National Health Education Standards (NHES) (US), Morality and Society curriculum (China).

PRE- AND POST-VISIT LESSONS

OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES

This pack provides material for at least two, hour-long lessons; the first should be delivered *before* visiting Madame Tussauds, and the second should be delivered *after* visiting, to consolidate learning.

Pre-visit Lesson: Celebrities Through History

Objectives:

- To identify significant figures throughout history and their achievements
- To carry out research into the different historical contexts of two significant individuals and challenges that they faced
- To create a dialogue between two significant individuals from different historical periods

Outcomes: Completed research into two significant individuals from different periods in history; a dialogue and role-play between the two individuals.

Post-visit Lesson: Celebrity Interviews

Objectives:

- To empathise with a significant individual from history by acting in-role as that person
- To convey a character through appearance, voice, body language, and facial expression
- To understand and use the conventions of a modern interview

Outcomes: A diary entry in role as Marie Tussaud; a list of questions to ask a celebrity from another historical period; a modern-day interview with a celebrity performed as a piece of drama.

PRE-VISIT LESSON

CELEBRITIES THROUGH HISTORY

Lead-in questions:



- Which significant historical individuals or 'celebrities' can you think of?
- What makes someone 'significant' in world history?
- Which significant individuals do you hope to see on your visit to Madame Tussauds?

Task 1:

Can you think of a significant individual from history who has inspired you? Take a few minutes to consider any important people that you have learned about in the following categories:

- Scientist
- Writer
- Politician
- Musician
- Artist
- Film Star
- Sportsman/Sportswoman

Extension task:

In groups, discuss the importance of each profession, both in a historical and a modern context.

Task 2:

Look at the list of some celebrities that can be found our Madame Tussauds attraction. Sort some of the figures into the categories from Task 1. Are there any categories that are missing?

- David Beckham
- Oscar Wilde
- Jessica Ennis
- Pablo Picasso
- Marie Tussaud
- Donald Trump
- King Kong
- Ed Sheeran
- Deepika Padukone
- Theresa May
- Miley Cyrus
- Daniel Craig
- Meghan Markle
- Shrek
- William Shakespeare
- Emma Watson
- Elizabeth Windsor (The Queen)
- Albert Einstein
- Mo Farah
- Brad Pitt
- Dua Lipa
- Ironman

Task 3:

Choose two figures from the list that you think are similar in terms of their achievements, but separated by history (at least one century apart). Carry out some research into each person, focusing on the historical context in which they lived, and the different challenges they might have faced.

CELEBRITY ONE

Name:

Profession:

Significant dates:

Challenges they faced:

Historical Context:

CELEBRITY TWO

Name:

Profession:

Significant dates:

Challenges they faced:

Historical Context:

Task 4:

Imagine that your two significant figures from history could meet each other. What would they say to each other? How would they compare their experiences and achievements? What questions would they ask each other? Write a short dialogue between the two people.

Task 5:

In pairs, bring your dialogues to life by creating a role-play between your celebrities. Don't forget to perform your role-plays to the class and, even better, get your teacher to film them!

POST-VISIT LESSON

CELEBRITY INTERVIEWS

Recap questions:

- Think back to your visit to Madame Tussauds. What did you learn?
- Which significant individuals did you learn about or encounter on your visit?
- If you could meet any one significant individual from history, who would it be?

Task 1:

Write a diary entry in-role as Marie Tussaud as she reflects on her modern-day interview from the Time Machine Workshop. How would she feel about the interview? What questions would she have about the modern world and how her legacy still has an impact in the 21st century?

Task 2:

Choose another historically significant individual that you met on your visit to Madame Tussauds.

Task 3:

Come up with a list of three questions that you would like to ask your chosen person if you could interview him or her in real life.

MY QUESTIONS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Task 4:

If your chosen person was interviewed on the television, what do you think he or she would be like? Make a note of your ideas using the following headings:

APPEARANCE

VOICE

BODY LANGUAGE

FACIAL EXPRESSIONS

Task 5:

Now, in pairs, one of you will be in role as your chosen significant figure, and one of you in role as the interviewer. Using the list of questions that you came up with in Task 3, conduct another

modern-day interview for the television. Try to incorporate elements of your chosen person's personality and identity when you answer questions.

Task 6:

Write your interview in the style of a modern newspaper, magazine or blog!