



-THE- CHOSEN ONES

RESOURCE PACK FOR KS2 TEACHERS & LIBRARIANS

This Resource Pack is based on *The Chosen Ones*, the second book in The Worldquake Sequence from Scarlett Thomas – author of *Dragon's Green*. It is a modern classic of adventure that will not only transport you away from the classroom to the fantastical Otherworld, but also spark the imaginations of all of the magical minds in your class (and yes, we know there are many...)!

The lessons in this Pack serve as a mini scheme of work with literacy objectives, providing material for four or more KS2 lessons – perfect for classes of any ability in Years 5–6. The aim of these lessons is for the children to improve their reading comprehension and inference skills – taking their understanding of the text to a more sophisticated level.

So it's time to pack your magical books and get ready for a reading adventure. YOU are the chosen ones, and the journey starts here...

For more information about The Worldquake Sequence, visit www.worldquake.co.uk.

THE AIM

This Resource Pack is designed for children aged 9–11. It is based on *The Chosen Ones*, the second book in the magical, fantastical Worldquake series by Scarlett Thomas. The lessons included have been designed as sequential activities and can be taught as a whole literacy unit or as individual activities to be dipped in and out of. Each activity will guide pupils through the different elements of Scarlett's fantasy writing, giving them the opportunity to develop their reading comprehension and boost inference skills when exploring new texts.



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ABOUT THE BOOK

Effie Truelove has learned to travel through magical books to the Otherworld. Maximilian Underwood, Effie's classmate, is more interested in the dark and forbidden Underworld.

When Effie and Maximilian both mysteriously vanish, their friends Raven, Lexy and Wolf don't know where to turn for help. Raven is a witch and her horse, Echo, has revealed that Effie is in deep danger and time is running out.

To make things worse, Raven's mother, the author Laurel Wilde, is caught up in a plot with the ruthless billionaire Albion Freake, who will stop at nothing to become invincible...

Where are Effie and Maximilian? Are their disappearances connected? And can Albion Freake's deadly plan be stopped?

The Chosen Ones is the second instalment in the thrilling Worldquake fantasy series by Scarlett Thomas.





CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES

This Resource Pack provides material for four hour-long lessons that can take place during KS2 classes or as extra-curricular activities. The pack covers Literacy objectives with a Reading Comprehension focus; they include but are not limited to:

ENGLISH

Reading: comprehension

- Develop positive attitudes to reading, and an understanding of what they read, by:
 - i. listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction
 - ii. discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination
 - iii. identifying and discussing themes and conventions in and across a range of writing
 - iv. making comparisons within and across books
- Understand what they read, in books they can read independently, by:
 - i. drawing inferences such as inferring characters' feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justifying inferences with evidence
 - ii. predicting what might happen from details stated and implied
 - iii. summarising the main ideas drawn from more than one paragraph, identifying key details that support the main ideas
 - iv. identifying how language, structure, and presentation contribute to meaning
- Discuss and evaluate how authors use language, considering the impact on the reader
- Explain and discuss their understanding of what they have read, including through formal presentations and debates
- Provide reasoned justifications for their views



Lesson One

PRE-READING ACTIVITIES

This lesson is designed to help students explore ideas and speculate about themes in the series. They should feel free to discuss anything that comes to mind.

LEAD-IN QUESTIONS:

- The title of the first book in The Worldquake Sequence is *Dragon's Green*. What sort of story do you think it might be?
- The title in the second book in the series is *The Chosen Ones*. How is this title different? Which title do you prefer?

TASK 1:

In groups, discuss the cover of Book 1 in The Worldquake Sequence, *Dragon's Green*. What is significant about the figure? Where is she? What surrounds her? Together, make a list of words that best describe the central character.

TASK 2:

Now look at the second image in the cover of Book 2, *The Chosen Ones*. What is different about it? What themes do the two images convey together? Choose one of the following oppositions to discuss in your groups in relation to the two images:

LIGHT/DARK

WAR/PEACE

LONELINESS/COMPANIONSHIP

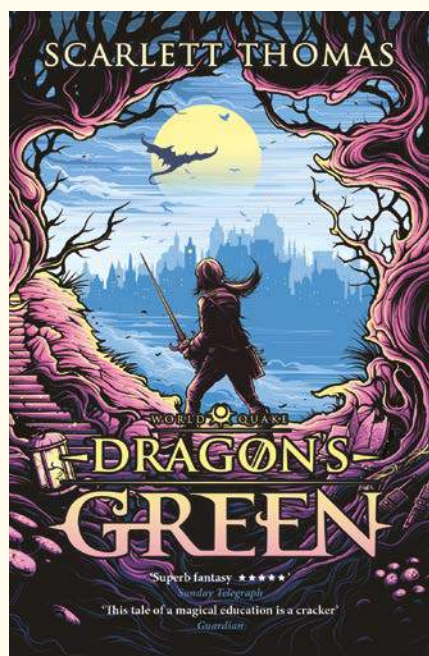
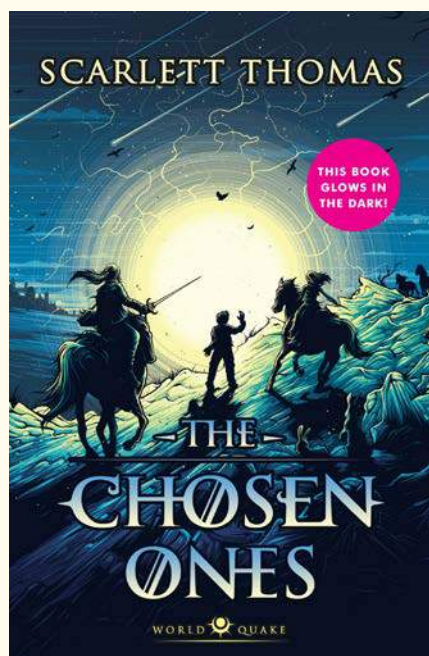
GOOD/EVIL

HOPE/DESPAIR

REALITY/FANTASY

TASK 3:

Now write a short paragraph to summarise your first impressions of the books and their themes; conclude with a prediction about what might have happened in the storyline between the first book and the second book in the series.





Lesson Two

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

OBJECTIVE:

To make inferences about a character based on an extract from the book *Outcomes: A record of personality traits for characters in The Worldquake Sequence*; a name for a fictional character that conveys an aspect of his/her personality

LEAD-IN TASK:

In pairs, look at the list below of some of the characters in *The Worldquake Sequence*:

- Effie Truelove
- Maximilian Underwood
- Pelham Longfellow
- Orwell Bookend
- Skylurian Midzhar
- Albion Freake

Which character might be the oldest?

Which character might be the youngest?

Which character might be the funniest?

Which character might be the nastiest?

Which character might be the wisest?

Make sure that you give reasons for your choices by picking out key words in each character's name. Why do you think the author has chosen these particular words?

TASK 1:

Consider the different names of the characters in the list above. Looking at any words you can see separately, draw or write the things that you associate with each word. Consider what these things might tell you about each character's personality. Use the table below to help:



Lesson Two

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

CHARACTER	KEY WORD	WHAT IT TELLS ME
Effie Truelove	e.g. LOVE	e.g. SHE HAS A BIG HEART
Maximilian Undwerwood		
Pelham Longfellow		
Orwell Bookend		
Skylurian Midzhar		
Albion Freake		



Lesson Two

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

TASK 2:

Read the extract below from *The Chosen Ones*, in which Effie is introduced for the first time:

Euphemia Sixten Bookend Truelove, known as Effie, was regretting ever coming to class. No one had been forced to come, after all. It was optional. A bit like going to school when you didn't have to. And what kind of idiot did that? Effie's friend Wolf Reed, with whom she'd been playing tennis for most of the afternoon, had gone on to rugby practice instead, and her other good friend Raven Wilde had gone home straight after school to feed her horse. So why had Effie come?

For one simple reason. Because Lexy had told her it was the only way she could go up the magic grades and become a wizard and live in the Otherworld forever.

What are your impressions of Effie from this extract? What can you infer about her personality?

TASK 3:

Can you find evidence in the extract of the following things?

1. Effie is rebellious
2. Effie is generous and loving towards her friends
3. Effie is determined and ambitious

TASK 4:

Now it's your turn to decide what YOUR Worldquake name would be. Consider what words you would use to represent yourself; do you want to seem funny, serious, young, intelligent or wise? Write your name on your very own, exclusive Worldquake badge – and remember to keep it on at ALL TIMES, especially when travelling around the Otherworld.



Lesson Two

BADGE TEMPLATES

NAME:

NAME:

NAME:

NAME:

NAME:

NAME:

NAME:

NAME:

NAME:

NAME:

NAME:

NAME:



Lesson Three

KHARAKTERS

OBJECTIVE: Predict a character's 'kharakter' based on clues from the book
OUTCOME: A piece of writing including clues so that readers can infer your own 'kharakter'

LEAD-IN QUESTION:

If you had a special skill or magic power, what would it be?

TASK 1:

Read the extract and answer the comprehension questions below:

'How many kharakters are there?'

'Twenty,' said Festus. 'Well, if you include wizard, which not everyone does. Otherwise, nineteen. Of course the really interesting thing is the combination of kharakter and art. That's what makes people unique.'

'What combination do you think I am?'

Festus smiled kindly. 'You wear the ring of the True Hero, and you're a plucky little thing. I heard about how you defeated Leonard Levar. It's rare to be a hero, but that surely is your kharakter.'

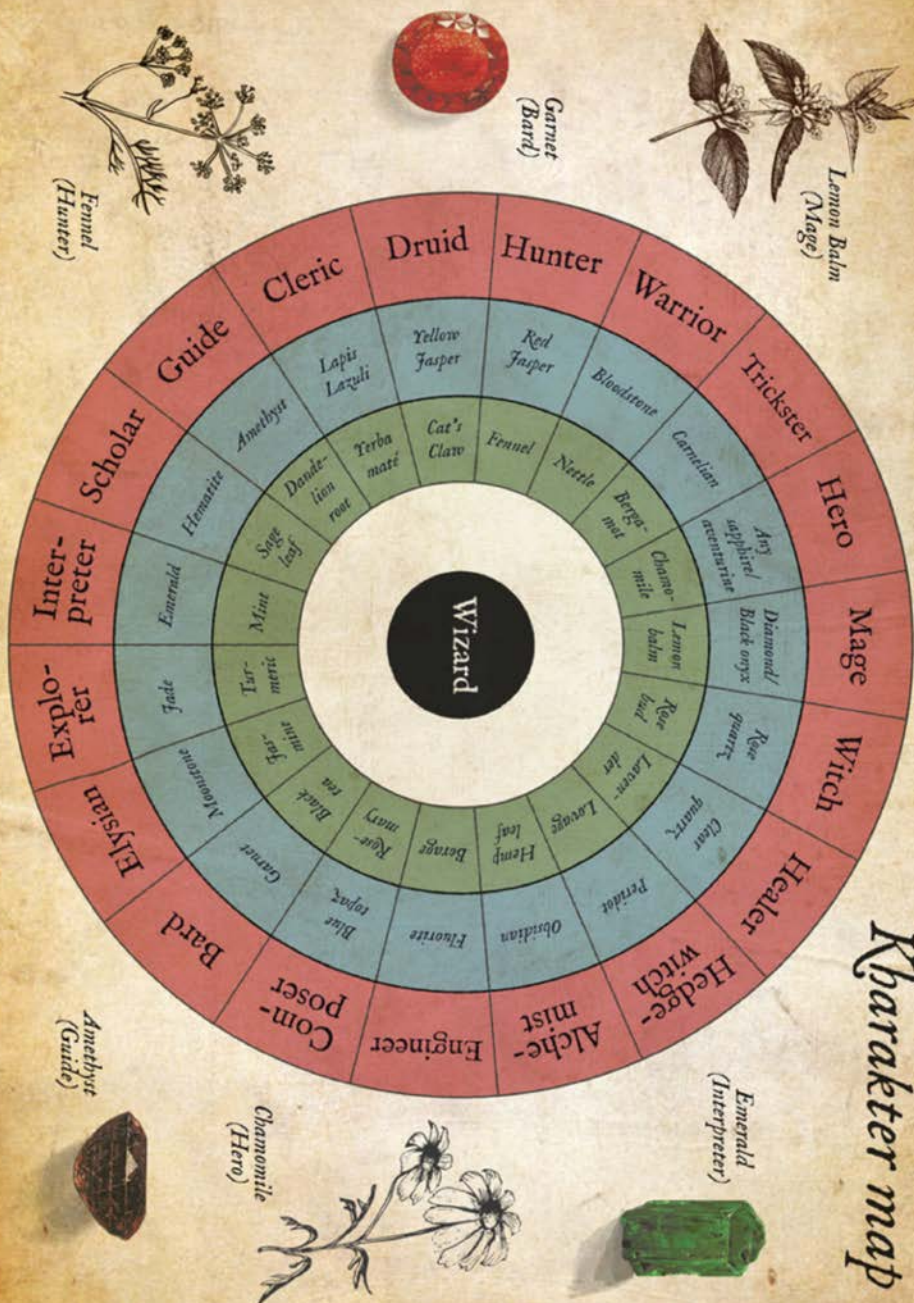
1. How many kharakters are there altogether, according to Festus?
2. What are the two types of kharakter mentioned in the extract?
3. How does Festus identify that Effie's kharakter is to be a Hero?
4. What qualities does Effie possess that suggest she is a 'True Hero'? Pick out key words and phrases in the extract.
5. What other clues have you had about Effie's personality that might have helped you guess her kharakter?

TASK 2:

Look at the Worldquake Kharakter Map below & complete the following tasks:

- Find Effie's 'kharakter' on the map
- What is Effie's designated gemstone?
- What is Effie's designated herb?

Karakter map





Lesson Three

KHARAKTERS

TASK 3:

Now it's your turn – what would your 'kharakter' be? You can complete the Kharakter Quiz online at www.worldquake.co.uk or simply choose a kharakter from the Map that you feel best represents your personality.

TASK 4:

Imagine you are an author like Scarlett Thomas. You want your readers to guess what your 'kharakter' might be. Write a paragraph explaining things about yourself, but you cannot at any point refer directly to your kharakter. You should include some or all of the following clues instead:

- Traits that are associated with your particular kharakter
- Words that are associated with your particular kharakter
- Gemstones and colours that are associated with your particular kharakter
- Herbs and plants that are associated with your particular kharakter

TASK 5:

Swap your paragraphs with your partner. Can you each guess the other's chosen kharakter from what they have written? Read out some examples as a class!





Lesson Four

DEAR DIARY

OBJECTIVE: To infer a character's feelings from an extract in the book

OUTCOME: A diary entry in role as a particular character

LEAD-IN QUESTION:

What is your most precious object or possession? Why?

TASK 1:

Imagine someone is trying to take your precious object or possession away from you. How would you feel?

Put the emotion cards below in order from 1–5 (1 being the emotion you'd feel the most and 5 being the emotion you'd feel the least).

TASK 2:

There is a blank emotion card for you to add your own ideas. Is there any emotion not listed that you think you might feel?

determined	angry
ANXIOUS	desperate
FEARFUL	



Lesson Four

DEAR DIARY

TASK 3:

Read the extract and complete the task below:

'Why exactly do you want my ring anyway?' asked Effie.
'I beg your pardon?'
'Why do you want my ring?'
'It is a boon, and you have brought it to my class. Therefore I must confiscate it.'
'But –'
'There's no need to argue. Do as you're told, please.'
'What will you do with it?'
'I will give it to the Guild. If it were a registered boon, I'd be able simply to give it back to you next Monday. But an unregistered boon...' He shook his head. 'You'll have to write to the Guild and get an application form to register the item and, I believe, fill in another form to request an application to get in back. And –'
'No,' said Effie, surprising herself.
Mr Green's eyes narrowed. 'What did you say?'
'No,' she repeated. 'I'm not going to give it to you. I'm sorry. I just can't.'
'I do have ways of making you,' said Mr Green, taking a step towards Effie. 'But of course it won't come to that. Hand it over.'
Effie took the ring from where she'd hidden it in the lining of her bottle-green school cape. The ring was silver, with a dark red stone held in place by a number of tiny silver dragons. Her beloved grandfather Griffin had given it to her just before he died. There was no way Effie was handing it over to anybody. She put it on her left thumb, where it fitted best. A feeling of confidence and power rippled through her.

Using your emotion cards again, rank how Effie feels by putting them in order from 1–5 (1 being the emotion she feels the most and 5 being the emotion she feels the least). For each card, pick out a word or phrase that shows evidence of it. There might be more than one word or phrase for each emotion.

Don't forget to add another emotion that you think Effie has onto the blank emotion card.



Put yourself in Effie's shoes. Mr. Green is trying to take your most precious and prized possession from you. Write a diary entry to explain how you are feeling.

Dear Diary...

[illegible]



Conclusion

REFLECTION ACTIVITIES

REFLECTION ACTIVITIES

- What intrigues you about The Worldquake Sequence and the latest book in the series, *The Chosen Ones*?
- What makes *The Chosen Ones* different from other stories you've read or heard about?

Take a look at the work that you have completed.
You should find the following things:

- ☐ Book cover analysis and summary from Lesson One
- ☐ Worldquake names from Lesson Two
- ☐ Kharakter description from Lesson Three
- ☐ Diary entry from Lesson Four

With your partner, take turns to complete the following statements:

My favourite piece of work is... ..
.....

The thing I'd like to learn more about is... ..
.....
.....

Congratulations!

YOU'VE COMPLETED **THE CHOSEN ONES RESOURCE PACK**

Now, don't forget to share your work. Send pictures and examples to us on Twitter at @canongatebooks. We can't wait to see all of the Otherworldly magic that you've been conjuring...

The Canongate Books Team