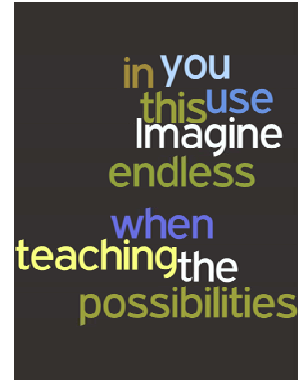


### Using [www.wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net)

Wordle is a fantastic tool which lets you input any text and then manipulate it in a variety of ways. The result of inputting the text is a 'word cloud', which can be used in many different ways.

### Suggested uses can span from year 7 right up to year 13. Enjoy!

- Use as a starter to explore initial ideas about a text or theme.
- Use as a prediction tool. Each student adds a word to create a comprehensive cloud of thoughts based on a book/poem title. A cloud can be referred to at the end of reading and a new one can be created for comparison.
- Write a poem/haiku
- Essay planning. Have students storm their ideas in the text box in order to remove the linear approach to planning; by clicking 'randomize' you can help the discussion and consider different approaches to writing an essay.
- Scanning race. Test students' speed reading skills by getting them to read (and write) the original sentence.
- Note-taking race. Have students note down the most important words from a text.
- Organise the sentence. Focus on quotations from a character or on a theme; students identify the sentence.
- Key-words. At the beginning of a new unit of work, when new words are being introduced, issue a key-word 'word cloud' and get the class to identify the word and definition.
- Proverb. Teacher issues a 'word cloud' of a proverb for students to identify.
- Genre. Create a range of clouds from different genres and have students identify which is which, based on words in the clouds. As an extension, students can take a cloud and write the article/story using the cloud as inspiration.
- Identification competition. Split class into teams and get each team to create word clouds of themes/proverbs/quotations/directions etc. Get the rest of the class to compete and guess the original.
- Theme cloud. At the end of a chapter/poem/book/text, cloud the most important words or ideas then display or use for revision reference. Vote on the words - the more votes a word gets, the bigger it becomes!



Wordle image and tool courtesy of Jonathan Neal [www.wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net)

- Associations. Groups create a 'character' cloud, which is then passed onto a second group who have to identify which character is being described. Second group could vote on the words to help classify importance.
- Different words for ... Brainstorm better words for the 'dull words' (nice, bad, good etc.), then display.
- Quotation revision. Identify quotations for different characters. Print out a range of quotations, students reorganise them/cut them up to create the real quotation then use as a wall display (in both cloud and cut-up format).
- Quotation work. Cloud a quotation, then get students to vote on which of the words are most important for learning about the character/theme - this will enable word level analysis.
- Stream of consciousness. Just type words/phrases and watch your train of thought develop. Fantastic tool for teaching the basic concept of stream of consciousness: charting/mapping thoughts as they flow/develop.
- Social context. Create clouds for social, economic, political, art world etc. at the time the text was written. Great for KS5.
- Thought process. Note down the words and feelings of a character at a certain point in a text
- Media audience. Create the target audience during a marketing project.
- Newspapers. Paste an article into Wordle and issue to students, they are to identify the gist of the story and re-write it based on their thoughts.
- Detective short stories. Create a cloud containing various clues and allow the students time to try to identify what happened.
- Word/sentence level analysis (KS5). Paste a long text/poem to create a cloud, identify which words have been omitted and discuss why they have been left out, what difference it makes, should they still be added, how do those words affect the reading?