

Introduction

This kit is produced as part of the BritLit series, 'Meet the Author'. It is intended for use as an introduction to the work of Benjamin Zephaniah, and will be especially useful if a visit by the author is planned for your area.

The kit is divided into two parts. In the first part, some short articles and other sources of information introduce the poet: 'Biography', 'Poet's Prose', 'Bibliography', 'Poet's Choice' and 'Poet?'. Like all BritLit projects and worksheets they each stand alone, and you can do as many or as few as you wish.

The second part looks at some of Zephaniah's poems, and suggests ways of exploring some of the language and meaning behind the poems. Links to the extended poems and to further poems on-line are also given. Once again, each poem is presented as a free standing item.

This kit was compiled as a result of a tour Benjamin Zephaniah made in Portugal in 2005, and puts together various efforts from teachers and students throughout the country. In particular thanks are due to Rosa Castro (Porto), Lisete Costa (Lisbon) and Luiza Nora (Coimbra).



Zephaniah *al fresco* in Portugal

BritLit is a joint project between British Council, Portugal, and the Portuguese teachers' association APPI. BritLit promotes the use of contemporary British literature as a means of language learning.

For further information about the BritLit project see our site on www.teachingenglish.org.uk (follow the BritLit links) or contact the BritLit office (email brit.lit@pt.britishcouncil.org, tel 00351 22207 3060 fax 00351 22207 3068)

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