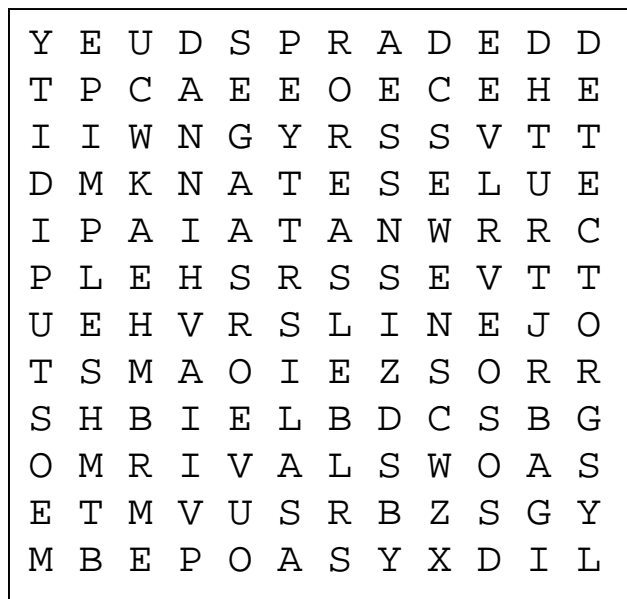


Ex Poser

After Reading

Checking

Let's check that you have picked up all the main ideas of the story. Below is a word search puzzle. It contains 10 words (nouns, adjectives, verbs) which can be directly related to the story. It also contains 5 words which don't have anything to do with the story. Discover the words, which can be across, down, diagonal or backwards, and write them in the correct list below the square. (You are given the first letter of each word, and the number of letters missing is indicated) Good luck – you've got fifteen minutes!



Words connected to the story

1. D _ _ _ _ _ _ _
2. E _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
3. G _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
4. K _ _ _ _ _ _
5. L _ _
6. L _ _ _
7. P _ _ _ _ _ _
8. P _ _ _ _
9. S _ _ _ _
10. T _ _ _ _

Words not connected to the story

1. A _ _ _ _
2. A _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
3. H _ _ _ _
4. R _ _ _ _
5. S _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Ex Poser

After Reading

Further Reading

Here is a poem by the poet Benjamin Zephaniah. It has some things in common with the story 'Ex Poser'. For example, there is a word play in the title and there is a strong feeling of green-eyed envy in the last line. How many other parallels can you find?

The title 'Kiss and Smell' is a play on words, based on the expression 'to kiss and tell'. This refers to the action by some people who have a love affair with a famous person, and then go to the newspapers to sell their story!

As you read the poem, try to work out the answer to these questions:

1. Who are 'so and so'?
2. How many positive experiences when kissing flowers are given?
3. Who do you think the poet is? (*look at the last line*)

"I have been called a dub poet, an oral poet, a performance poet, a pop poet, a pub poet, a rap poet, a Rasta poet, a reggae poet and even a black poet, the list goes on. In all honesty, none of those titles offend me, I am probably all of these persons but if I had to chose one I would start with oral poet. I say this because as I write my poetry, I can hear the sound of it, sometimes I can be heard giving birth to my poems by those close to me and sometimes those that are close to me get tired of hearing me give birth too often."

Benjamin Zephaniah



KISS AND SMELL

So and so loved kissing flowers
 Small ones and ones fully grown,
 Sometimes they kissed them for hours
 They could not leave them alone,
 Their favourite places were gardens
 Or big parks where big flowers grew,
 They would go looking for plants then
 Do all that kissing they do.

Flowers who knew of the duo
 Knew it was very good fun,
 Many would wait in a neat row
 Waiting for when they would come,
 People who saw them could not tell
 What all this kissing stuff meant,
 The doctors report said they seem well
 And it's lawful to sniff with intent.

Spring times and summers were just great
 Flowers would grow a big smile
 Everything grew at a fast rate
 When rains came to help out the soil,
 Indoors they always kiss pot plants
 And if they had any time spare,
 They would wait on street corners for a chance
 To kiss flowers in somebodies hair.

So and so loved kissing flowers
 Any shape, colour or size
 They said 'All flowers are ours'
 And 'We are for flowers'
 That's wise,
 So and so keep kissing flowers
 Some say they may have kissed fern,
 And maybe I've gone a bit sour
 Waiting so long for my turn.

A little glossary

row *linha*

sniff *aspirar o cheiro de*

rate *andamento*

fern *feto (planta)*
 sour *amargo*