

KS3 English – 'Operation Flashback'

Exploring plot manipulation and creative writing techniques using the story of Kelvedon Hatch Nuclear Bunker

Lesson 3 – Show not tell

National Curriculum relevance

- KS3 > English > Grammar and vocabulary > consolidate and build on their knowledge of grammar and vocabulary
- KS3 > English > Writing > write accurately, fluently, effectively and at length for pleasure and information
- KS3 > English > Writing > plan, draft, edit and proof-read

Main teaching points

- In this lesson, we will be thinking about creating a sequence of writing which shows, rather than tells.

Activities

Watch the video clip selected from the resource for this lesson at coldwarflashback3.lgfl.net. Do students think they would have suspected something?

Now imagine our character lives in a village where he thinks that lots of people did know that something was going on at the Farm. He thinks that people would have **guessed** or **speculated** that there was a secret there.

How can we show this by describing how:

- people look at our main character when he goes into the village: stopping talking, looking furtive...
- local visitors to the farm look over at the site
- the main character feels when he goes into the village

Ask students to write a passage based on one or all of these points for classwork or homework, focussing on the 'show' rather than the 'tell'.