



Being creative peacemakers!

≡ School of Modern Languages and Cultures

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Mother Tongue Other Tongue Poetry Competition



We are proud and very excited to run Mother Tongue Other Tongue, a multilingual poetry competition that celebrates cultural diversity and the many languages currently spoken in schools across the UK.

The aim of the Mother Tongue Other Tongue competition is to **celebrate languages, culture and language-learning**, giving secondary school students the opportunity to practise and improve their foreign language skills (any language they are learning in school) and/or appreciate and celebrate their heritage, using poetry. The regional competition is being led by Routes into Languages West Midlands at The University of Warwick.

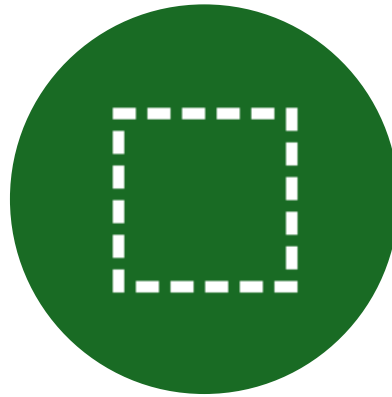
This year we are working in collaboration with Coventry Cathedral to mark the 80th anniversary of the Second World War and Warwick's 60th anniversary. The competition will centre on the themes of embracing diversity, peace and justice and healing the wounds of the past. A display will be created in the cathedral with our entries.



What does peace mean to you?



WHERE DO YOU FEEL
PEACEFUL?



WHEN DO YOU FEEL
PEACEFUL?



WHO HELPS MAKE
PEACE?

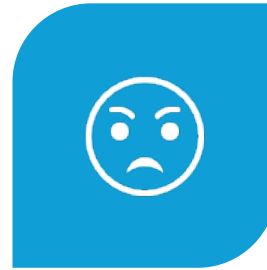
Peace is hard! We don't always feel peaceful



'YOU ALWAYS BLAME
EACH OTHER!'



'THEY DON'T LISTEN
TO ME!'



'YOU'RE ALWAYS
GETTING ANGRY'



'THEY DON'T
UNDERSTAND ME'

Key themes

Learning to
live with
difference

Celebrating
diversity

Peace and
reconciliation

Reconciliation statue



How does this picture make you feel?

Who do you think the people might be?

How are they feeling?

It comes from ... Coventry Cathedral

- Bombed in World War 2
- Old cathedral nearly destroyed
- New cathedral built next to it to symbolize HOPE at a time of war
- Coventry now known all over the world as a PEACE cathedral
- There are now lots of Reconciliation statues around the world, in
 - Japan
 - Ireland
 - Germany



What would you put in a building made to celebrate peace?



Peace words – can you think of some?

- Friendship
- Love
- Kindness
- Listening
- Hope
- Saying sorry
- Freedom



How does learning
a language help
people come
together?



Celebrate!

- What is being celebrated in these pictures?





Building peace through understanding

- Learning about languages and cultures helps us understand each other better.
 - Can you tell us about times when
 - Learning about another culture made you think
 - Learning something new about your own culture made you think
 - Learning something special or important about a friend made you think
 - Watching a film or reading a book made you think
 - Write a short story or short paragraph that connects your experience with one of the three themes
-



Making your peace poem 1:
writing in the language
you're learning

Don't forget to illustrate /
decorate your poem



Adjective poem - example

Line 1: Noun

Line 2: Same noun + is/are + adjective

Line 3: Same noun + is/are + adjective 1, adjective 2

Line 4: Is/are + adjective 1, adjective 2, adjective 3

Line 5: Adjective 1, adjective 2, adjective 3 ,
adjective 4

Line 6: New (related) noun OR New (related) phrase

Line 1: Les amis

Line 2: Les amis sont importants

Line 3: Les amis sont importants et drôles

Line 4: Les amis sont importants, drôles et tolérants

Line 5: Les amis sont importants, drôles, tolérants et gentils

Line 6: L'avenir est belle ... OR Nous espérons la paix

Acrostic poem

L'amour

Aime

Paix

Amical

Intelligent

Xcellent

You could add more to build sentences

L'amour je veux

Aime les amis

Paix est forte

Amicale

Intelligente

Xcellente

haiku

Line 1: Five syllables

Line 2: Seven syllables

Line 3: Five syllables

Je n'aime pas la guerre

Je n'aime pas l'intolérance

La vie est super

[Book Creator | Calligrams Vol. 1](#)
[2025 \(7 to 9\)](#)

Caligram: write a poem in the shape of a symbol representing a peace idea

