

EXERCISE 3

Another character who meets Jade is **Mary Seacole**. Born in Jamaica, Mary always knew she wanted to treat sickness. She travelled to Britain, and applied to help nurse injured soldiers in the Crimean War. Her application was rejected.

Despite limited funds and no official support, in 1855, Mary travelled to Crimea herself and set up a British Hotel, providing the troops with food, clothing and medical care. The plot of Mary's story is complicated; she faced constant adversity that had to be overcome.



Start to develop the plot of your story, by following the steps below:

1. Describe one big dream, your greatest ambition, or something you can't stop thinking about.
2. Imagine working to achieve your dream, including any obstacles faced and how you can overcome them.
3. Think about who might be with you on your journey, and what could you accomplish together in the future.

Well done for completing the exercises! You know your plot, characterisation and genre, and now you can **have fun writing your unique story**.

Don't forget to send us your finished story for the chance to be featured in 'The Fantastically Great Library of You'! Send a picture or scanned version of your finished story to: **marketing@kennywax.com**. Or, you could post your story to: **Fantastic Marketing Team, Kenny Wax Limited, 8th Floor, Imperial House, 8 Kean Street, London, WC2B 4AS**.

Join the **Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World** at **Theatre Royal Stratford East** until **17 July** and at the **Pleasance Grand, Edinburgh**, from **4 - 29 August**.

KS3 ACTIVITY SHEET

BACKGROUND

'**Fantastically Great Women Who Changed the World**' is the musical stage adaptation of **Kate Pankhurst**'s best-selling picture book, evolving out of the minds of dramatist **Chris Bush** and No.1 hit songwriter **Miranda Cooper** (Girls Aloud, Kylie Minogue)!

Like Pankhurst, they took inspiration from the stories of incredible wonder women, bringing characters like **Jane Austen**, **Frida Kahlo** and **Mary Seacole** to life. The production tells the story of Jade who breaks away from her class on her school trip in the local museum.

Jade is at a cross-roads; she never steps out of line, she's bright and polite, but also bored and ignored! She struggles to make her mark on the world, until she learns to trust her own unique story and celebrate what makes her important.

YOUR STORY

Everyone has a great story to tell, including you. Your experiences are rich, interesting and unique; the perfect origins for a fantastically great story. Writing your story allows you to express what you think about the world; why not challenge yourself to try?

Complete the exercises below to help you craft your story. Once completed, you could have the chance to see your story featured in 'The Fantastically Great Library of YOU', letting everyone else see how you change the world!

EXERCISE 1

Whilst lost in the museum, Jade meets **Jane Austen**, who wrote some of the world's most successful books. In 1811, Austen published *Sense and Sensibility*, the first of her six major novels.

Like all good stories, Austen's novels went through planning stages, draft versions and edits. Start to plan your unique story, by first deciding on your literary genre.



To help you decide, take inspiration from three books that you like at the library; they can be fiction or non-fiction. Write down your fantastically great books here, and why you chose them:

1.....
.....
.....

2.....
.....
.....

3.....
.....
.....

Hint - Try to define the genre of your favourite stories. You can normally use one or two simple words to do this, like fantasy, thriller, drama, autobiography or memoir.

EXERCISE 2

At the museum, Jade spends time with **Frida Kahlo**. Kahlo was a Mexican artist, whose expressive and colourful paintings look at themes of the body and identity.

Kahlo painted self-portraits, which allowed her to characterise herself exactly as she wanted. Characterisation is key to all successful stories, and the main character of your story is you!

Complete your character fact file below, thinking carefully about your own experiences, and exactly what makes you fantastically great:

Name, age, and where you live:
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Your favourite food, and why:
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Your favourite outfit, and why:
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.....

Your favourite place, and why:
.....

Your family, and what makes them special:
.....

Your friends, and what makes you all laugh together:
.....

What you think happiness is, and why:
.....

One example of when you had to push yourself to be brave, and what you achieved:
.....
.....

Hint - To create a vivid picture, try to use interesting metaphors and similes, and don't forget to use all your senses when writing descriptions (sight, sound, smell, taste and touch)!