

THE UNION JACK

A.1 x 2 :The Union Jack: does this name mean anything to you?

Can you draw it? (2 minutes) Show all your drawings and compare them all!

What do you know about it? What does it represent?

- Explain history (video proj): the story of the United Kingdom and the union flag, *projectbritain.com* : written comprehension: take notes and discuss
- then how to draw it: (video proj): how to draw the union jack – accurately (text and diagrams) (www.jdawiseman.com/papers/union-jack) (*More technical*) or how to draw the union jack – tutorial (video) (www.shoorayner.com) (*More fun and good for listening comprehension*)
- now draw it again!

VOCAB: diagonals, upper, lower, quarter, one-fifth/tenth etc., a saltire, superimposed, colour hierarchy, comparative form.....

Why do flags exist?

- Possible answers: National symbol, pride, patriotism, the motherland, independence, tradition, war and peace(battlefields), negotiation (UN, other international bodies), identification, sport (football, the Olympics)
- But the Union Jack is also an iconic fashion symbol, a kind of ‘logo’: why is the Union Jack used in this way? Very different reasons(not chronological): Punk, the Royal Wedding, the 2012 Olympics/the 2012 Olympic Games, Cool Britannia (Spice Girls dress), (show selected pictures)

But has it been overused and abused? Do you have any Union Jack objects? Are other flags used like this? (the stars and stripes: Jasper Johns etc.; Pascale Tayou...) Why are other flags not *fashionable*? What about the French flag?

Can you think of where/how it is used?

Used on: Minis, t-shirts, bags, shoes, cushions, rugs, pencil cases....

→ variations eg *heart-shaped*, round, square, triangular

Whereas it *should* be rectangular (twice as wide as high)

→2 interesting reworkings: Silverstone (Formula 1) and the UK Space Agency

(The White Stripes: “7 Nation Army”)

IDEAS

- Choose a less-well known flag and work on a design project
- Redesign the Union Jack as a fashion accessory in a new and original way

B + C: Group work over 2 x 2 hours

D 1 x 2: Present this work in English: *identify, describe, explain, justify*