

## **Key Concept: Identity**

The 7 Key Concepts are points of connection that students can make across various texts. If Areas of Exploration are overarching themes, then key concepts could be seen as analytical lens that students can adopt to view the chosen texts.

The concept of identity can be used to link your own cultural identity as a reader with the cultural identity of the writer. Students can reflect upon how identity is shaped by culture and why.

In Paper 2 exams, IB likes to ask candidates to consider a writer's personal history and its influence on the construction of meaning. For example, in 2015 May Language and Literature Paper 2, one of the questions was:

“The personal history of an author can have a significant influence on the way meaning is constructed in his/her writing. Comment on specific instances of such influence in the two works you have studied.”

So yes, you are right. You need to research on and memorize the autobiographical details of the authors you study and be able to discuss precisely how these “specific instances” influence meaning. For demonstrations, read the Level 7 samples on Paper 2 on our website.



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