



BE A FLAMINGO

In a flock of



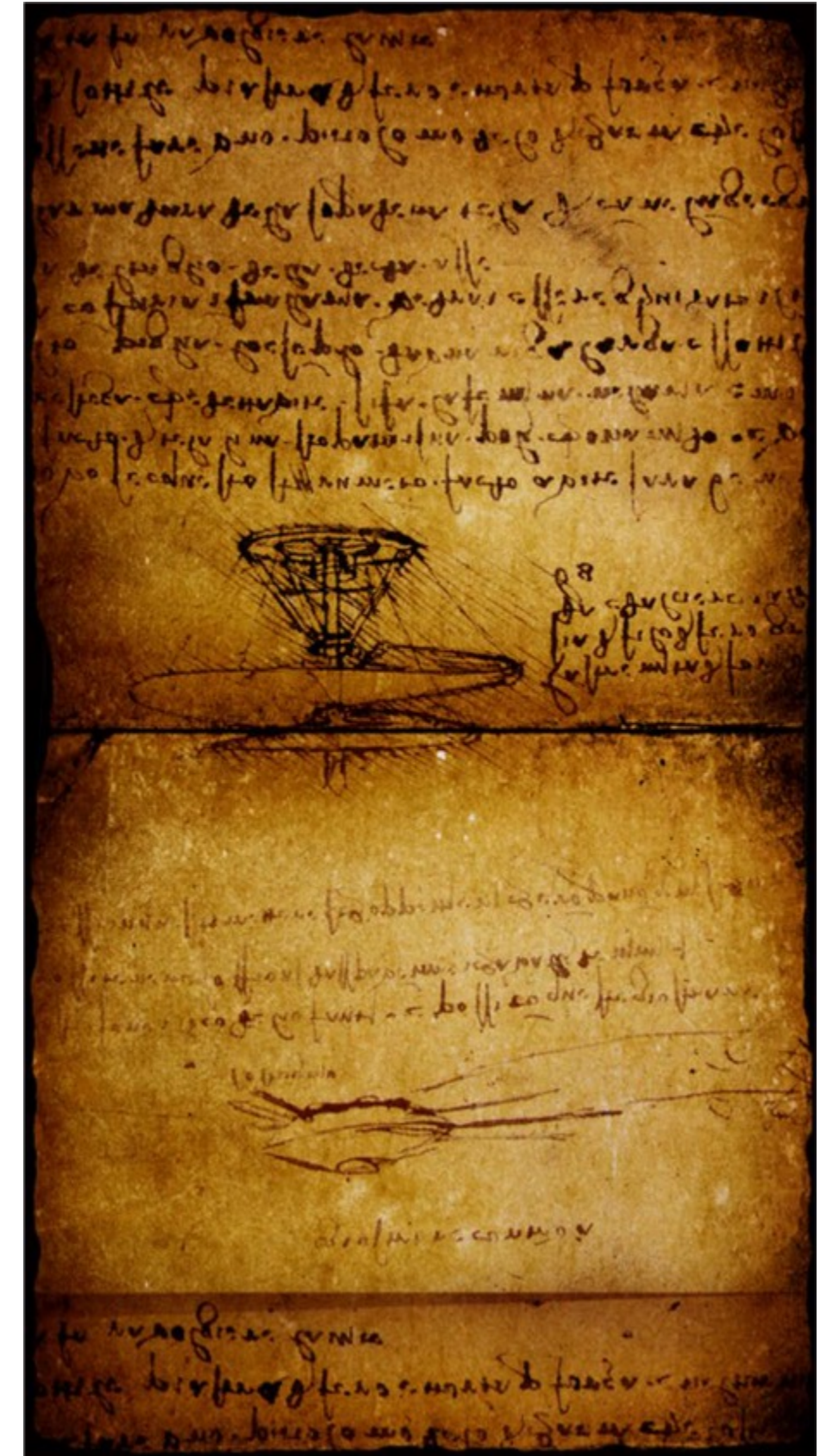
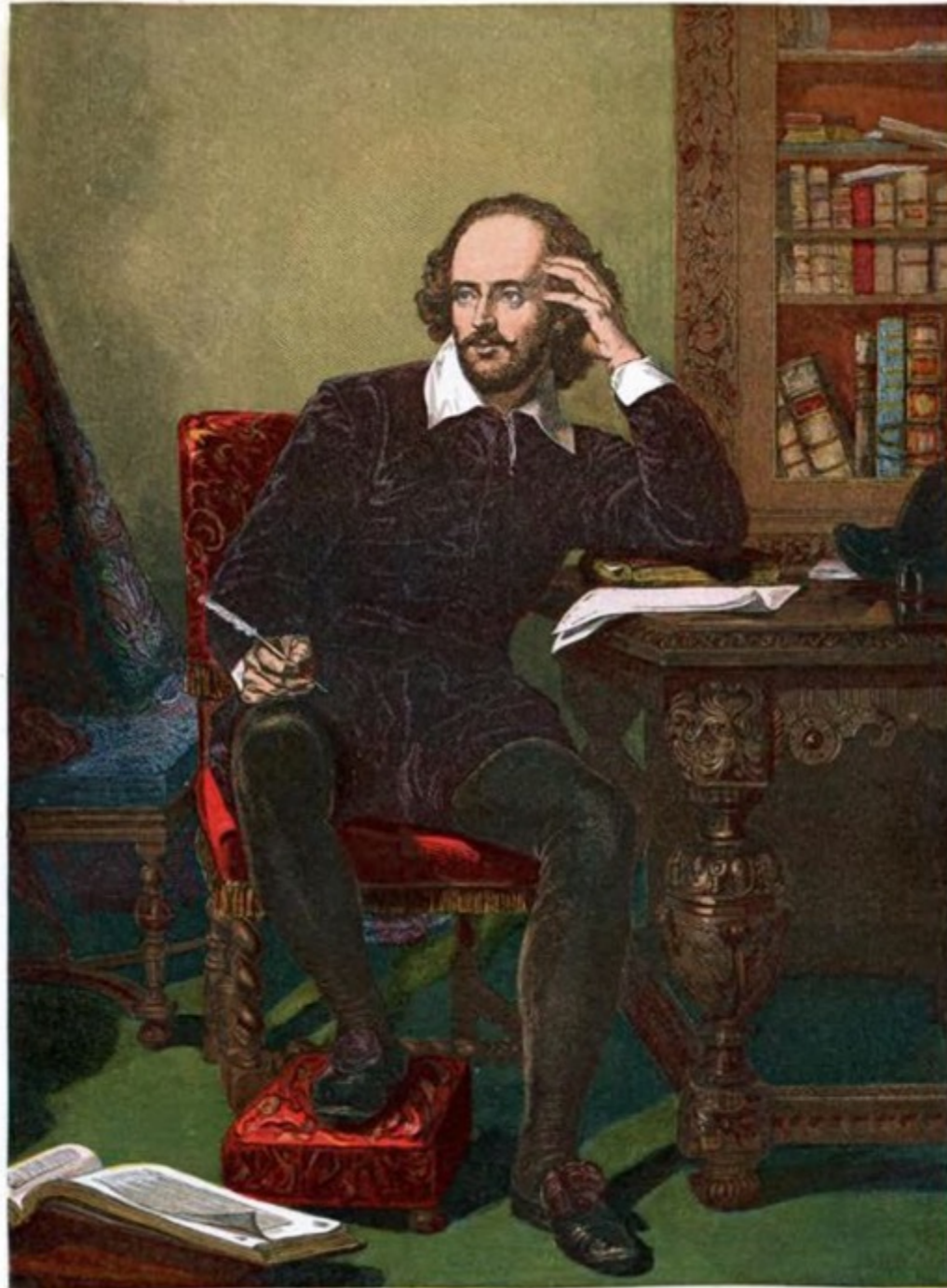
Be
a **FLAMINGO**
In a
flock of pigeons

ESCAPE THE ORDINARY

**WHAT DOES CREATIVITY MEAN
TO YOU (AS A TEACHER)?**

CREATIVITY WITH A BIG

C



Creativity with a little c



THE 4-C MODEL OF CREATIVITY



MINI-C

INTERPERATIVE
CREATIVITY



LITTLE-C

EVERYDAY
CREATIVITY



PRO-C

EXPERT
CREATIVITY



BIG-C

EMINENT
CREATIVITY

Mini-c =

the novel, **personally meaningful**
interpretation of experiences, actions
and events.



DEPTH OF

- ▶ ~~MEANING~~ learning is meaningful...it offers us experiences that contribute to our own sense of self-fulfilment and purpose. (Oxford, 2016)
- ▶ Language learning tasks ... which promote creative, personal and/or open-ended responses are considered by learners to be more satisfying and motivating. (Dornyei, 2001)
- ▶ We learn language more readily and recall it more easily if the input involves *depth of meaning* (Craik and Lockhart, 1972)

IT'S MEMORABLE!





“ You have to build a memory on the scaffolding of what you already know, but then you have to violate the expectations somewhat. It has to be a little bit weird.”

-Prof. Sederberg (Ohio State University)



Unsplash: Guy Basabose

have a coffee



Unsplash: Eric Mclean

have a cup of tea

**have a
coffee**



**have a cup of
tea**



REASONS TO BE CREATIVE



A FAVOURITE POSSESSION



SPEAKING Show and imagine

- **Draw a picture of a favourite possession (pets OK, no humans).**
- **Swap pictures with your partner. Their object is now your object. Make up the backstory.**
- **Tell ‘your’ story to your partner. Partner listens with interest.**
- **Your partner tells the real story.**



DRAWING BEFORE SPEAKING



**CREATIVE, OPEN-ENDED TASKS REQUIRE
MORE INVESTMENT FROM THE LEARNER.**



Everyone has a story



A post-apocalyptic cityscape with rubble and smoke. The scene is dominated by the skeletal remains of buildings, with twisted metal and broken concrete. The sky is filled with a thick, greyish smoke or haze, creating a somber and desolate atmosphere. The lighting is dim, with a few faint light sources that suggest a low sun or moon. The overall color palette is muted, consisting of greys, browns, and a pale blue-grey, emphasizing the bleakness of the environment.

**The universe is made up
of stories, not atoms.**

Muriel Rukeyser

WHY DO WE LIKE ACTIVITIES LIKE THESE?

- Creative, personal responses
- Learner narratives
- Engagement
- Effort of imagination
- Tweaking the familiar
- No materials
- Physical and online
- Enjoyment
- Easily fits with language syllabus



LANGUAGE LINKS



Descriptive adjectives

It's a bit old / worn / tatty /
faded

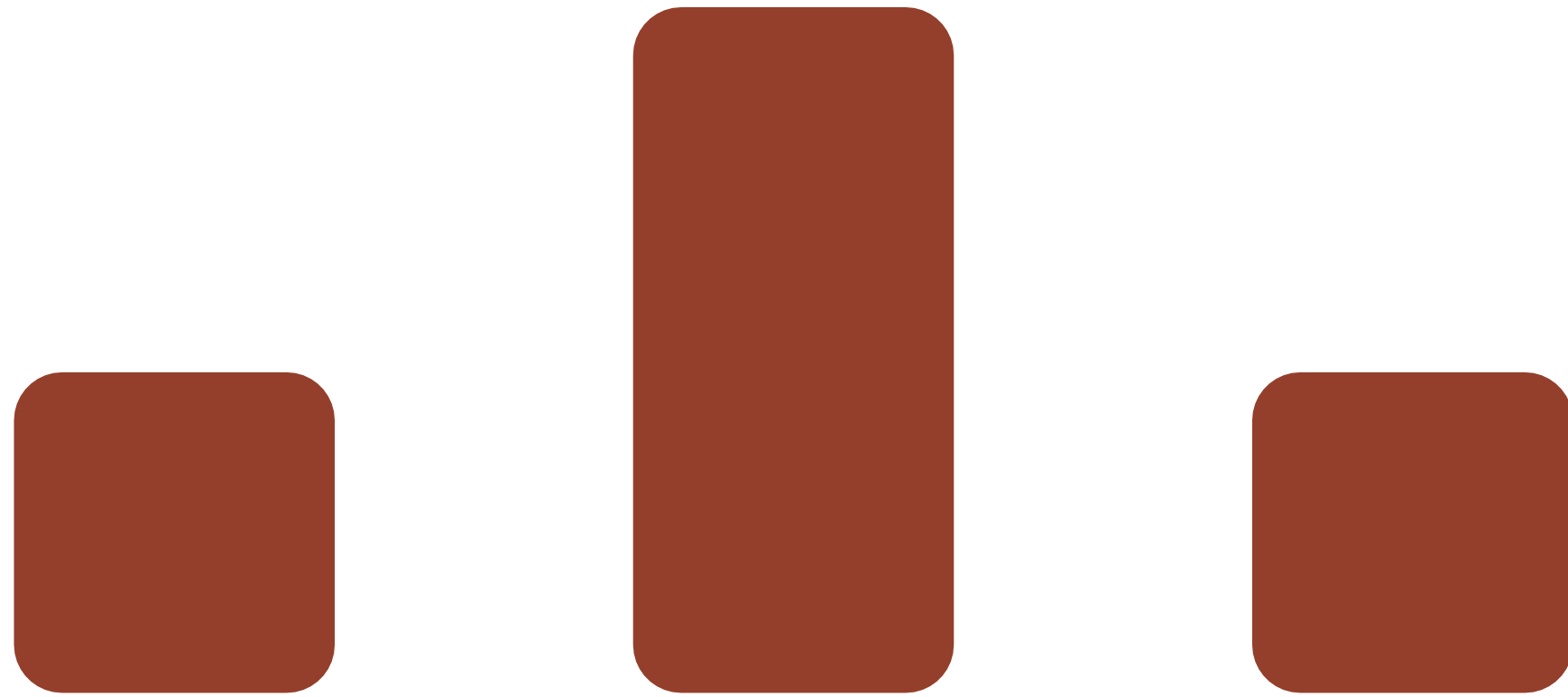
Narrative tenses

I got it when I ...

STRESS STATUES

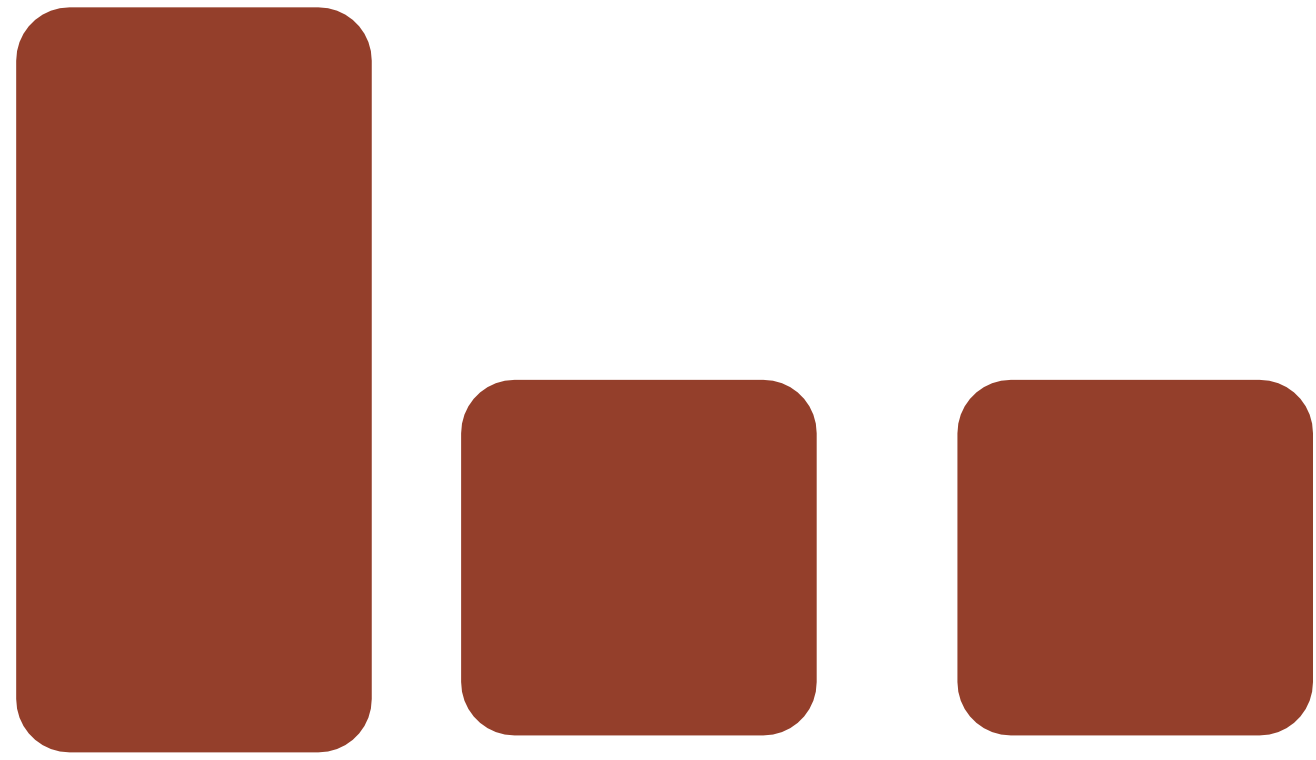


flamingo



flamingo

elephant



elephant

decisive

catastrophe

catastrophic

advertisement

decisive

archeological



READING AND LISTENING

The beast





THE STORY SO FAR...

A young couple are thinking of buying an empty apartment in an old building which was rumoured to be haunted, especially the living room of the apartment they were looking to buy. The couple get permission to spend the night in the apartment. They go into the allegedly haunted room. They lock all the doors and windows from the inside. The woman in the couple tells the story of what happened next.

So late that evening, we went into the ...

...living room. We locked the windows and the door, from the inside. We also covered the floor with ...

...white flour, just to see if anyone stepped across it. We switched off the lights and settled down into two comfortable chairs. We talked for a while and waited, but nothing happened. Outside, a full moon shone brightly in the night sky.

Then just after midnight ...

...the locked door suddenly opened. The locked windows flew open and then a strong wind blew into the room. We looked at each other in shock. And then we heard a ...

...terrifying sound like the howl of a wolf
and in the moonlight we saw ...

...the shape of an enormous beast move across the room and through the wall. The door closed and locked itself, the windows flew shut and then

...

...silence.

For a few moments, neither of us moved. Then I switched on the light. We looked around the room. Nothing had changed, except the ...

...floor. In the flour, we saw ...

...four footprints of a massive animal.

We ran to the door, shaking with fear. Just before we ran out of the room, I stopped, turned and ...



...took some photos of the prints in the flour.



We ran out of the building and out into the street. All was calm and quiet. We stopped to catch our breath. I checked my camera and looked at the photos of the beast's footprints. The photos were very clear, with the floor covered in white flour. But ...



...there were no footprints!



WHY DO WE LIKE ACTIVITIES LIKE THESE?

- Engagement
- Intensive reading and listening
- Practising prediction
- Creative and quirky responses
- Easily slots into a lesson
- Fits well with a language syllabus ...



LANGUAGE LINKS

-ing adjectives v *-ed* adjectives

A **terrifying** sound

We were **terrified** ...

Narrative tenses

We **switched off** the light.



Dramatic language for narrative/descriptive texts

The **howl** of a wolf a **terrifying** sound a **massive**

animal an **enormous** beast **shaking with fear** the

windows **flew open**



Image: Jamie Street (Unsplash)

QUALITIES OF A CREATIVE TEACHER (RICHARDS, 2013)

1. Knowledgeable

2. Confident

3. Committed to helping their learners succeed

4. Non-conformist

5. Familiar with a range of strategies

6. Risk-takers

7. Seek to achieve learner-centred lessons

8. Reflective

“

*“Look for ways to genuinely connect with
your learners’ experiences.”*

**STUFF
HAPPENS
WHEN YOU
THINK ON
YOUR FEET...**



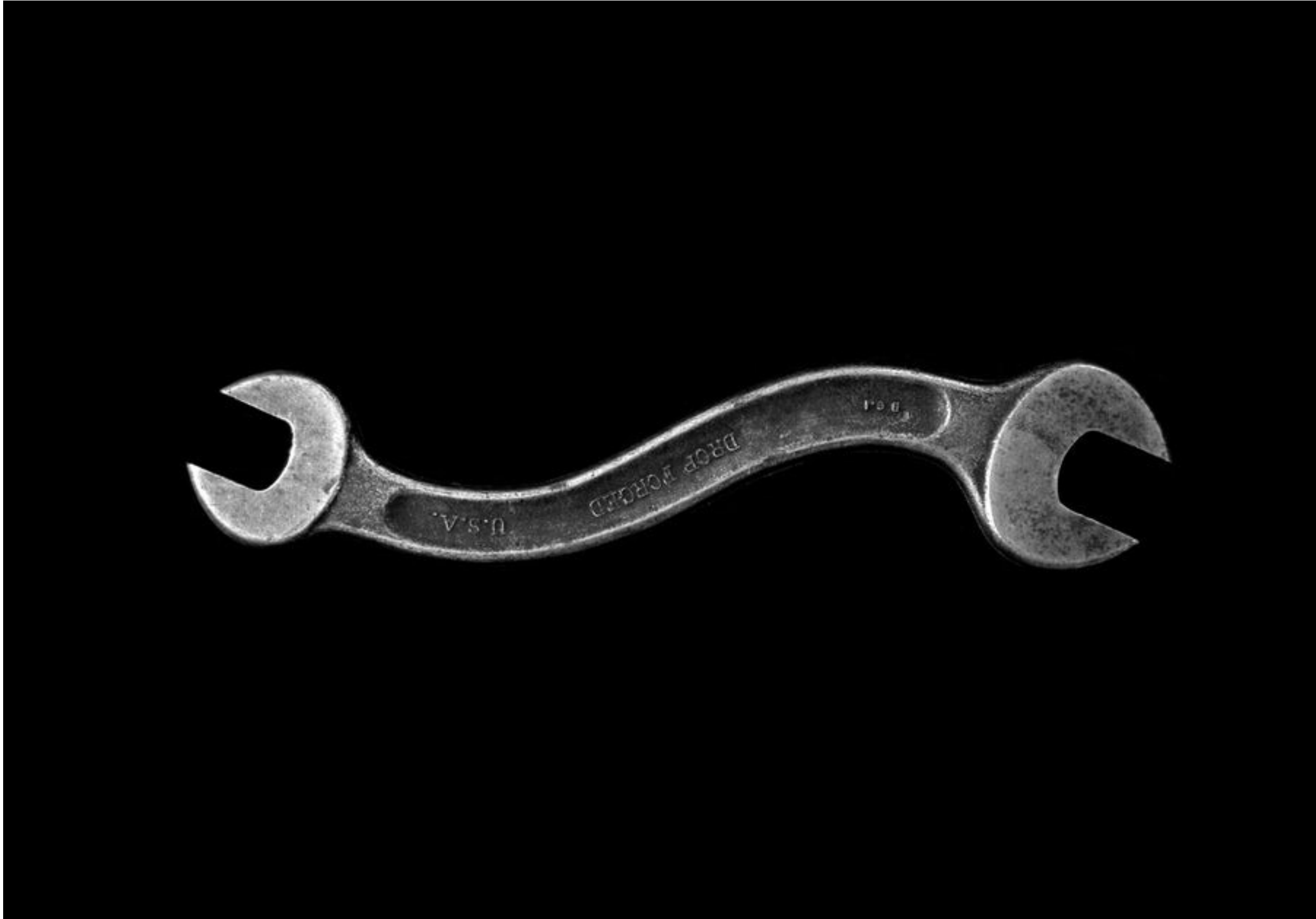


Photo by [Matt Artz](#) on [Unsplash](#)

Yes / No Game

Do you like ice cream?

Are you a good singer?

Have you ever kissed someone you don't like?

Have you ever caught a snowflake on your tongue?

Have you ever run more than 5km?

Have you ever climbed a mountain?

Have you ever lost your temper in public?

Do you think you are a creative person?



**CREATIVE, OPEN-ENDED TASKS
REQUIRE MORE INVESTMENT FROM
THE LEARNER.**



Photo by [Calum Lewis](#) on [Unsplash](#)

TIME PRESSURE



Image: Veri Ivanova

**creativity is
an act of
defiance**

Twyla Tharp



A red brick wall featuring three arched windows with white corrugated metal shutters. Below the windows, the phrase "Together, We Create!" is painted in a black gothic font on a light grey background. The mural has a distressed, weathered appearance with some paint chipping and staining. The leftmost window has some purple and black graffiti on its shutter.

Together, We Create!





BE A FLAMINGO

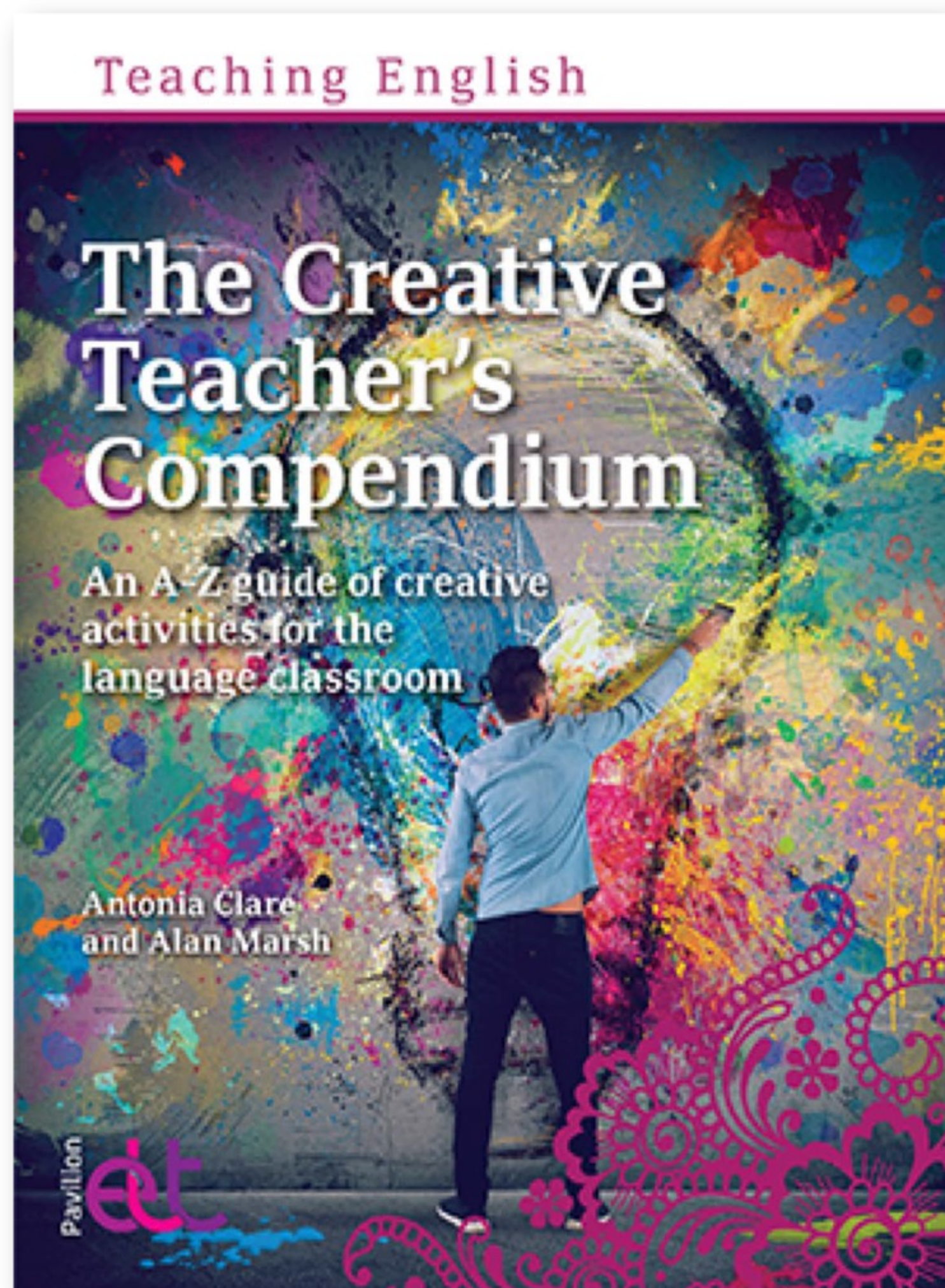




Antonia Clare



Alan Marsh



THANK

YOU!

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