## Year 7 Knowledge Organiser: Canonical Texts

## 'The Canon':

$\checkmark$ A group of books, poems, plays, etc., that are traditionally considered to be very important
$\checkmark$ The group of authors or works that people recognise as worthy of study: these are the texts that are regularly in print, are studied for school examinations and in universities
$\checkmark$ Texts are seen as having 'status'

| Status | the position of respect and importance given <br> to someone or something |
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| Public Library | A library that is accessible by the general <br> public, from which you can borrow books |
| Reference Library | a library, typically one holding many reference <br> books, in which the books are not for loan but <br> may be read on site. |
| Characterisation | the way an author or a playwright describes or <br> shows what a character is like |
| Setting | the place where something is positioned or <br> where an event takes place |

Why are libraries important?

- Is it important that we have books seen as more important than others?
Is it important that people know about certain books and writers?

| Famous British Libraries |  |
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| The British Library | - Largest British library <br> - Created in 1973 (before then was part of the British Museum) <br> - Between 170-200 millions items (not all books) - 3 million items are added every year <br> - Over 625 km of shelves -9.6 km of shelves are added every year |
| The <br> Bodleian Library | - $2^{\text {nd }}$ largest library in Britain <br> - In Oxford, linked to University of Oxford <br> - Opened in 1602 - one of the oldest libraries in the world <br> - Has over 12 million printed items in it. |
| Chetham's Library | - Manchester <br> - Oldest free public reference library in the English-speaking world <br> - Established 1653 |
| The Library of Birmingham | - Birmingham <br> - Opened 2013 <br> - Public library <br> - Contains: a state-of-the-art gallery space, a studio theatre, an outdoor amphitheater, and the British Film Institute Mediatheque. |
| The Chained Library, Hereford | - Hereford <br> - Largest surviving library of its kind, with a striking collection of books secured to the shelves by chains. <br> - Around 1,500 books are displayed in the chamber, dating from the year 800 to the early 19th century. |



What do you notice about:
[. Dates? Gender of writers? How the women writers published their work?

