

# SHOW US WHO YOU ARE

ELLE McNICOLL

KS2/ KS3 NOTES FOR TEACHERS & LIBRARIANS

## CHAPTER BY CHAPTER RESOURCES

For use in the classroom or at home.

Includes for each Chapter:

- Comprehension and Inference Questions
- Writing Tasks
- Suggestions for Extra Activities



## ABOUT THE BOOK

When Cora's brother drags her along to his boss's house, she doesn't expect to strike up a friendship with Adrien, son of the intimidating CEO of Pomegranate Technologies.

As she becomes part of Adrien's life, she is also drawn into the mysterious projects at Pomegranate. At first, she's intrigued by them - Pomegranate is using AI to recreate real people in hologram form. As she digs deeper, however, she uncovers darker secrets... Cora knows she must unravel their plans, but can she fight to make her voice heard, whilst never losing sight of herself?

With Neurodivergent characters you'll root for and a moving friendship at its heart, readers 9+ will love this powerful new novel from Elle McNicoll.

CHAPTER	COMPREHENSION AND INFERENCE	WRITING TASKS	EXTRA ACTIVITIES
1 & 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What city does Cora live in?</li><li>• What do you think Cora means when she uses the term 'social mask' on page 4?</li><li>• What are your first impressions of Adrien?</li><li>• Do you think Cora enjoys school? Can you find evidence in the text to support your answer?</li><li>• What do Cora and Adrien want to be when they are older?</li><li>• What is the Pomegranate Institute?</li></ul>	<p>Write about the first time you met a good friend of yours. Where did you meet? Can you remember your first impression of them and the first words you said to each other?</p> <p>Research artificial intelligence (AI). In what ways is AI used today?</p>	<p>LITERACY = Draw a Venn diagram to show the similarities and differences between Cora and Adrien. Include everything you have learnt so far about each character and anything you can infer about them from the text.</p> <p>MATHS = Design and carry out a survey to find out more about people's attitudes towards AI. Present your results.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does the term 'artificial intelligence' mean?</li> <li>• Why does Magnus want to interview Cora?</li> <li>• Cora thinks that what they do at Pomegranate might be 'the most wonderful idea in the world.' Why might she think this? Do you agree?</li> </ul>	<p>How might it be used in the future? Write a report exploring the pros and cons of AI.</p>	<p>DT/LITERACY = Design an AI device that you think would be useful. What task will it perform? What will it look like? Write an advert for your device.</p>
<p>3 &amp; 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is an 'investigative journalist'?</li> <li>• Why doesn't Mr Ramsay choose Cora for the school newspaper editorial team? Do you think his decision is fair?</li> <li>• What do you think Cora means when she says, 'I feel like people read me all wrong' on page 25?</li> <li>• When does Cora feel best able to express her feelings?</li> <li>• How does Cora feel about social situations? Can you find evidence in the text on page 31 to support your answer?</li> <li>• Cora describes Mr Hawkins as 'intimidating'. Can you explain what this word means?</li> <li>• Why does Cora like dogs?</li> <li>• How does Adrien feel about the Pomegranate Institute?</li> </ul>	<p>Write a letter from the point of view of Cora to her best friend Zoe (who has recently moved to Australia). You could tell Zoe what's been going on both in school and out of school.</p>	<p>LITERACY/PSHE = Draw a picture of Cora on a large sheet of paper. On one side, begin a list of her strengths (the things she is good at). On the other side, begin to list her challenges (the things she finds difficult). Continue adding to your lists as you read on and get to know Cora better.</p> <p>LITERACY = What do you imagine the Pomegranate Institute will be like? Create a mind map of things you think Cora will see when she gets there.</p> <p>LITERACY/MATHS = Create an emotions graph to keep a record of your emotional responses to the book as you continue reading. Label your y axis 'Intensity of emotion' and your x axis 'Time'. You can write events in the book below the x axis, plot the intensity of your emotional responses on the graph and label the emotions you feel above each point.</p>

<p>5 &amp; 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are your first impressions of Dr Gold?</li> <li>• How does Cora feel about Dr Gold?</li> <li>• Can you describe the Peace Garden?</li> <li>• What do you think Cora means when she says, 'A room like this is perfect for someone like me'?</li> <li>• Which room in The Pomegranate Institute is your favourite?</li> <li>• Do you think it's possible to 'upload' somebody's 'brain, soul and personality' to a computer?</li> <li>• What do you think the phrase 'digital immortality' means?</li> <li>• Do you think this book is set in the past, present or future? Give reasons for your answer.</li> <li>• Why do you think Gregory doesn't want to answer when Cora asks, 'what's ADHD like?'</li> </ul>	<p>After looking around the Pomegranate Institute, Cora says, 'My mind is a labyrinth of questions'. What questions do you have about the Pomegranate Institute and the work that is done there? Write a list of questions of your own.</p>	<p>ART/DESIGN = Draw and label a diagram of the Pomegranate Institute. Include a brief description of each room and its purpose.</p> <p>PSHE = Find out what the term 'neurodivergent' means. How does this relate to Cora and Adrien?</p>
<p>7 &amp; 8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is Cora so excited about going back to the Pomegranate Institute?</li> <li>• How does Rebecca speak to Cora? (Page 61)</li> <li>• Why doesn't Cora enjoy group work? (Page 62)</li> <li>• What are the rules about how to speak to the Grams?</li> <li>• What are emotions? Do you think it's possible for a hologram to have emotions?</li> </ul>	<p>On page 89, Cora explains that she experiences 'heightened senses'. Write a senses poem. Begin by thinking of your favourite sights, smells, tastes, sounds and things to touch. Now, write one verse for each sense. Describe your favourite things using descriptive language</p>	<p>PSHE = Write a set of ground rules and tips for working well in a group. How can you make sure that everyone is included?</p> <p>GEOGRAPHY = On page 90, Cora says, 'some places in London... they're like sensory feasts'. Go on a sensory walk of your local area. Notice how your senses are stimulated in different locations.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you describe what the Della Lacy Gram looks like?</li> <li>• Would you like to meet a celebrity hologram? If not, why not? If so, which celebrity would you like to meet and why?</li> <li>• How does Cora feel in the car on the journey home from the Pomegranate Institute? (Page 73)</li> <li>• Why doesn't Adrien go to school? What does his dad think about this?</li> <li>• Why does Cora sometimes get 'mad' at herself? (Page 91)</li> </ul>	<p>such as adjectives, similes and metaphors.</p>	<p>Mark your observations on a map. Are there any locations you think Cora would love to visit? Are there any that you think she might find overwhelming?</p> <p>PSHE/ART + DESIGN = Discuss the meaning of the terms 'burned out' and 'overstimulated'. Design a space (it could be a room or a garden) that would help somebody who was feeling burned out or overstimulated.</p>
<p>9 &amp; 10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does Rebecca tell Mr Ramsey about the project?</li> <li>• How does Cora feel about this? What does she say?</li> <li>• What is Adrien's special interest?</li> <li>• What is the 'Turing Test'?</li> <li>• How does Adrien know that Cora is 'burning out'? How does he support her?</li> <li>• What does Cora learn about Noma?</li> <li>• What does the word 'sentient' mean? (Page 113)</li> <li>• In his speech on page 113, Mr Hawkins refers to some of the objections he expects people to have about the Grams.</li> </ul>	<p>Research Alan Turing and write a fact file page about him.</p>	<p>LITERACY/PSHE = How could Cora respond to Rebecca's behaviour? What do you think she should do? Write a letter to Cora giving support and advice.</p> <p>PSHE = Compile a list of well-known neurodivergent people. What are their skills and achievements? You could create your own portrait gallery like the one on page 103.</p> <p>PSHE = Discuss how you could support a friend who is feeling burned out and overstimulated.</p>

	<p>What objections does he refer to? How does he argue against these objections?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In her speech, Dr Gold says, 'we will change the world.' In what ways do you think the Pomegranate Institute will change the world?</li> </ul>		<p>LITERACY/ART = Imagine you work for the Pomegranate Institute's advertising department. Design a logo and slogan for the Pomegranate Institute. Write a radio or TV advert persuading people to visit the Pomegranate Institute.</p> <p>PHILOSOPHY/ETHICS DISCUSSION = Should AI devices have rights and freedoms?</p>
<p>11 &amp; 12</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What does Cora feel she has in common with Dr Gold?</li> <li>What reasons does Dr Gold give for wanting to interview Cora?</li> <li>What advice does the real Noma give Cora?</li> <li>Cora says she has been changing her mind 'over and over again' about going to the disco. What are her reasons to go and what are her reasons not to go?</li> <li>What 'corny dance moves' do Adrien and Cora perform at the disco?</li> <li>How does Cora feel as she dances with Adrien?</li> <li>How do the other students at the disco react to Adrien and Cora's dancing?</li> <li>What do you think Cora means when she says,</li> </ul>	<p>Write a character description of Adrien. Include information about his hobbies, interests, skills, aspirations and personality.</p> <p>Write a paragraph that begins: 'A good friend...'</p>	<p>DANCE/PSHE = Put on some party music and make up or learn a fun dance together. Finish with a class conga! How does it feel when the whole class is enjoying music and dancing together?</p> <p>MUSIC = Create a playlist of songs that help you to feel free and happy (just as Cora and Adrien feel at the disco).</p> <p>LITERACY/PSHE = Draw the outline of a star. On the inside, write down the things you like about yourself and the things that make you unique. What makes you, you?</p> <p>PSHE = What are the characteristics of a good, healthy friendship?</p>

	<p>'they don't have what we have' on page 125?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you think of 5 words to describe Adrien's character?</li> </ul>		<p>Discuss as a group. Can you come up with 8 words to describe a healthy friendship?</p> <p>ART = Cora and Adrien link pinkie fingers. Create a piece of art based on this gesture. You might want to include some of the friendship words from the activity above in your piece of art. What will you name your artwork?</p>
<p>13 &amp; 14</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What word does Adrien use to describe the Grams on page 138?</li> <li>• On page 138, Adrien asks Cora if she'd like a Gram made of her. What does she say? Would you want a Gram made of you?</li> <li>• What happens to Adrien?</li> <li>• How did you feel after reading chapter 13?</li> <li>• What does Dr Gold tell Cora?</li> <li>• What are your thoughts about Dr Gold? What do you think Dr Gold's motivations are?</li> <li>• What do you think Adrien would want Cora to do?</li> <li>• Did anything you read in these chapters surprise you?</li> </ul>	<p>Cora has to decide whether to do the interview at the Pomegranate Institute or not. Put yourself in Cora's position and write down the pros and cons of doing the interview. Then put a star by the reasons you think influence Cora the most as she makes her decision.</p>	<p>LITERACY = When you have read to the end of Chapter Thirteen, think about what might happen next in the story. Write down your predictions and keep them to look back on when you have finished the book.</p> <p>DRAMA = Role play a conversation between Dad and Gregor. What are their feelings, worries and concerns?</p>

<p>15 &amp; 16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How does Dad react when Cora tells him she wants to do the interview?</li> <li>• How does Cora feel before her interview?</li> <li>• Can you describe the interview room?</li> <li>• Who interviews Cora?</li> <li>• How does Dr Connelly think Cora should refer to herself? How does Cora prefer to refer to herself? Who has the right to decide? (Page 161)</li> <li>• What are your impressions of Dr Connelly?</li> <li>• What does Cora think of when Dr Gold asks her what it feels like to be her?</li> <li>• How do you think Cora feels at the end of chapter 16 and why?</li> </ul>	<p>On page 158, Cora considers what it means to 'mask'. Draw an outline of face on paper or card and cut it out. On one side, write down words to describe how Cora wants to appear to the world. On the other side, write down words to describe how she often feels inside. Why does Cora 'mask'? How do you think it feels to have to mask your feelings a lot of the time?</p>	<p>PSHE = Find out the difference between person-first language and identity-first language. What are the arguments for each? Like Cora, many autistic people prefer to use identity-first language. If you are not sure which language someone prefers to use to describe themselves, what could you do?</p>
<p>17 &amp; 18</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What does the word 'empathy' mean? Why does the Pomegranate Institute need an 'empathy department'?</li> <li>• How does Mr Hawkins feel about Adrien's dog, Cerby?</li> <li>• How does Ria describe Adrien on page 174?</li> <li>• Why do you think Ria doesn't visit Adrien's Gram?</li> <li>• What does Cora overhear the technicians say? What do you think they might mean?</li> </ul>	<p>Imagine you work for the Pomegranate Institute's 'Empathy Department'. Write a leaflet for customers to read before they meet a Gram. What do you think they will need to know?</p> <p>What do you know about Adrien's life before he met Cora? Write a past diary entry from Adrien's point of view. Your diary entry could be</p>	<p>LITERACY/ART = Based on what you know about Adrien's character, draw a picture of what you imagine his bedroom might look like.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is behind the mirrors?</li> <li>• What does Mr Hawkins do while he is eating his lunch?</li> <li>• What do you think might happen next?</li> </ul>	<p>set at any time in the past before the events of the book began.</p>	
<p>19 &amp; 20</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do you think Cora means when she says, 'I'm only one autistic person' on page 188?</li> <li>• How do Dr Connelly's questions make Cora feel? Why do you think she feels this way?</li> <li>• Cora doesn't always express her emotions outwardly (through facial expressions, body language or words). Does this mean she isn't feeling any emotions on the inside?</li> <li>• Can you define the word 'prejudice'?</li> <li>• How does Cora feel when she sees her Gram?</li> <li>• What message does Cora's Gram have for Cora?</li> <li>• Look at the front cover. What can you see? How do you think the cover illustration relates to the events so far in the book?</li> <li>• Why do you think Chapter Twenty is named 'Gifts'?</li> <li>• What are your feelings about the Pomegranate Institute at this point in the story?</li> </ul>	<p>With a partner, re-write the interaction between Cora and her Gram on pages 205-208 as a playscript. Act out the scene together.</p> <p>Write Cora's inner monologue at the end of Chapter Twenty. What is she thinking? How does she feel? What questions does she have?</p>	<p>PSHE = What assumptions do you think Dr Connelly has made about Cora? What would you like to say to Dr Connelly?</p>



<p>21 &amp; 22</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who does Cora feel able to talk to about her mum?</li> <li>• Why does Cora feel like a 'square peg trying to get into a round hole'? (Page 212)</li> <li>• How does the description of Della Lacy on page 215 compare to the description of her Gram on page 70?</li> <li>• How does Dad feel about Cora?</li> <li>• Why do you think Cora refers to The Ugly Duckling and Rumpelstiltskin on page 217?</li> <li>• How is Adrien's Gram different to the real Adrien? How does Cora feel when she discovers this?</li> <li>• What does the word 'condescending' mean? (Page 223)</li> <li>• How does Mrs Hawkins feel when she finds out about Adrien's Gram?</li> </ul>	<p>Write a description of a friend or family member. Focus on why they are special to you and what like and appreciate about them.</p>	<p>ART = On page 217, Dad says, 'While everyone else sees sepia Kansas, you're in technicolour Oz.' Create a piece of art to show the world through Cora's eyes.</p> <p>ART/LITERACY = On page 218, Cora says, 'A door opens in my ribcage, allowing all of the feelings to spread out'. Draw an outline of a body and fill it with colours and shapes to represent all of Cora's feelings at this point in the story. Include words to describe her emotions.</p> <p>PHILOSOPHY/ETHICS = On page 74, Cora looks at pictures of Della Lacey on social media. Do the pictures look more like Della's Gram or Della in real life? Why do you think this might be? Discuss the potential pros and cons of using filters on social media. Write a balanced argument in response to the question: 'Should filters be allowed on social media?'</p>
<p>23 &amp; 24</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How has Cora's opinion of the Pomegranate Institute changed?</li> <li>• On page 238, Cora uses the phrase 'digital eugenics'. What does this phrase mean?</li> </ul>	<p>Draw a picture of Dr Gold. Fold it in half. On one side write down words to describe how Cora saw Dr Gold at the start of the story and</p>	<p>LITERACY = Can you think of 5 words to describe Cora at this point in the story? How do you think Cora has changed since the start of the book? If you could give her</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is the missed call from Dr Gold’s mother significant? What does it tell Cora?</li> <li>• What do you think Cora means when she asks, ‘Isn’t that how it starts?’ on page 245?</li> <li>• Why has Dr Gold been studying Cora?</li> <li>• What adverbs does Cora use to describe how Dr Gold speaks on page 248?</li> <li>• Does Dr Gold remind you of any other characters you know from books, fairy tales or films?</li> <li>• In what way does Cora show empathy and compassion for Mr Hawkins?</li> <li>• Why do you think Chapter Twenty-Four is called ‘The Cora Test’?</li> </ul>	<p>on the other side write down words to describe how she sees her now.</p> <p>How does Gregor feel now he knows the truth? Draw a speech bubble and write Gregor’s thoughts inside.</p>	<p>some words of encouragement, what would you say?</p>
<p>25 &amp; 26</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In what way is the real Adrien ‘with’ Cora at the Debate Hour recording?</li> <li>• What are Cora’s motivations to speak out?</li> <li>• How does Cora define love? Do you agree with this definition?</li> <li>• How do the audience react to Cora? How would you react if you were in the audience?</li> <li>• How does Cora feel about being autistic?</li> <li>• Who is Sheyda and what does she say?</li> </ul>	<p>Write a newspaper article reporting on the events of Debate Hour.</p>	<p>LITERACY = Write some tweets you think audience members might have sent after watching Cora’s intervention on ‘Debate Hour’. What hashtags might they have used?</p> <p>PSHE = Write a letter to yourself that you can open and read any time you are doubting yourself or feeling low in confidence and self-belief. What advice do you have for yourself? What words do you need to hear?</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How do you feel as you read Cora’s speech? Underline any sentences that inspire you.</li> <li>• Why does Cora go back to the Pomegranate Institute?</li> <li>• What has Cora learnt about grief?</li> <li>• How does Cora feel at the end of Chapter Twenty-Six?</li> </ul>		<p>Seal the letter and put it somewhere safe. You can open it any time you need it.</p> <p>PHILOSOPHY/ETHICS DISCUSSION = Do AI devices have opinions? Can they be prejudiced? What if AI devices are designed and built by people who hold prejudices (such as ableist, racist or sexist beliefs)? Discuss the problem of bias in AI What can we do to protect against this?</p>
27 & 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What happens to Adrien’s chip? What does Cora do with her own chip?</li> <li>• What happened in the weeks and months after the live TV broadcast of ‘Debate Hour’?</li> <li>• How does Cora refer to Dr Connelly?</li> <li>• Why does Clara Linell correct the journalist who calls her the ‘first autistic lawyer’? Page 296</li> <li>• What do you think would have happened if Cora had not taken the action she did?</li> <li>• What is ‘The Spectrum’?</li> <li>• Reflect on the book’s title, ‘Show us who you are’. How does it relate to the story? Why do you think the author chose this title?</li> </ul>	<p>Write one of the speeches Cora has given since her appearance on Debate Hour.</p>	<p>LITERACY = Write a thank you letter to Cora from the point of view of someone she has inspired.</p> <p>LITERACY = Write a magazine profile of Cora. ICT = Choose one inspiring quote from the book. Make your quote into a poster to display on your classroom wall.</p> <p>LITERACY = What articles and features do you think will be in the first edition of ‘The Spectrum’? Design your own class newspaper. What will you call your newspaper? What topics will you cover?</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What have you learnt from reading the book that you didn't know before?</li><li>• Do you have any questions you would like to ask the author, Elle McNicoll?</li></ul>		PSHE = On page 303, Cora says, 'Sometimes, you have to show people the world you want to live in.' What world do you want to live in? Write a description. What actions could you take to help create this world?
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