#### **Bank of England**



# Lesson Five



#### NARRATIVE WRITING

## Lesson objectives

- To understand ideas about the history of money and its value
- To plan and write a narrative dealing with a dystopian theme connected to ideas about money





# Getting you thinking...

- Think back over the past week and the items you have bought and paid for.
- How did you pay for those items? Did you pay with cash? A bank card? With your phone? Or online?
- How could you be sure that all of those methods of payment would have equal worth, and that the £5 note in your hand was worth the same as a tap of your card or phone?
- How often do you use cash now compared to other methods of payment?





# Do you know your notes?

- What material are banknotes made from?
- Why is this considered better than paper?
- Which former prime minister features on the £5 note?
- Which famous writer appears on the £10 note?
- Which famous scientist appears on the £50 note?





# How did you do?

- Polymer (a thin and flexible plastic)
- It is stronger (so it lasts longer) and is more secure because polymer notes are harder to counterfeit
- Winston Churchill appears on the £5 note
- Jane Austen appears on the £10 note
- Alan Turing appears on the £50 note







# Thinking more deeply

'At its core, money is trust. Money works because we all agree, as a society, that it has value. You will work hard all day and accept money because you know that the local shopkeeper will accept it. They will accept it because they know someone else will accept it when the time comes. It works because we believe it works.'

Extract from *Can't We Just Print More Money*? page 164





# Narrative writing task

- Imagine a future where trust in money is gone; where the numbers that make up our bank account disappear overnight, and our credit cards and phone payments do not work.
- How could this have happened? Who or what could be behind this?
- How will society function? What would be the consequences of this? How will we survive?

Write the opening chapter of a dystopian novel taking this idea as your inspiration.





# **Dystopian fiction: key elements**

1. Set in the near future and makes us consider what might happen if we don't manage threats to society such as terrorism, dictatorships or authoritarian regimes, environmental threats, threats to human rights and freedoms. In that way they are **allegorical**.

2. Dystopian works might contain common features such as conflict, social or class divide, poverty, loss of freedom, oppression.







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### YOU ARE AN ECONOMIST YOU JUST MIGHT NOT KNOW IT YET

