Belonging...  
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Conceptualizing Belonging....

• explores a concept
• examines how it can be represented in different texts
• analyses how notions of belonging can impact on our perceptions of self and our place in the world

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Connections to:

- Family
- Place
- Race
- Culture
- Community
- Nation

begin at birth

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'Family traditions counter alienation and confusion. They help us define who we are; they provide something steady, reliable and safe in a confusing world.'

Susan Lieberman

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Patriotism, Nationalism & Culture
Friendship
Texts can explore positive associations with belonging

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Texts can also explore the problems connected with not belonging.
A sense of *Not Belonging* however can generate negative feelings of:

- Alienation
- Disaffection
- Estrangement
- Dislocation
- Isolation
- Marginalisation
- Rebellion

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This need to belong is supported by sociological study. **Maslow’s hierarchy** of needs is represented as a pyramid with the more basic needs at the bottom.
Fighting Stereotypes

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Coping with...
Exclusion
Marginalisation
Isolation

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Fractured self - image
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Exclusion can result from…

Aggression and Intimidation

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This was the early salute of the Pledge of Allegiance, promoted by National Socialists in the USA 3 decades before it was adopted by the National Socialist German Workers' Party. Oppose modern legacies of National Socialism & the KKK in the USA today and support & visit RexCurry.net
Armed Conflict
Displacement and resettlement

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Recapping:

Our intuitive need to belong can:

• Have both positive and negative consequences
• Shape our individuality and sense of self
• Can influence our beliefs, actions and emotions
• Dictate our view of the world-mindset
• Be textually represented in various ways

Barbara Stanners 2011
Conceptualising Challenge

What do the following images say to you about belonging?

Jot down as many single word ideas as you can in the time you have – approximately 20 seconds each:

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I just want to be a part of something-anything.