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***Manifesto: On Never Giving Up* (2021) written by Bernardine Evaristo**

Pre-Reading



1) In today's class, we're going to talk about Bernardine Evaristo! An award-winning writer, she has written several novels and her most recent book was a non-fiction one named *Manifesto: On Never Giving Up*, published in 2021. Above are three images of different covers of the same book by Evaristo. Based on the information you already have about the author, the title of the book, these images and the genre of the book, can you guess what the book will talk about?

2) You are going to read an extract of an autobiography named *Manifesto* (2021) by Bernardine Evaristo. Read the following characteristics and select the ones you think are going to be in it.

- It is about the life of a person.
- It is in the third person.
- It has facts.
- It is written in a subjective way.

Reading

3) Read the following excerpt from Bernardine Evaristo's *Manifesto* and mark the questions with T as true or F as false. If it is false, correct the sentence so it could be true. Please use the excerpt that you have below.

"As a race, the human one, we all carry our histories of ancestry within us, and I am curious as to how mine helped determine the person and writer I became. I know that I come from generations of people who migrated from one country to another in order to make a better life for themselves, people who married across the artificial constructions of borders and the manmade barriers of culture and race.

My English mother met my Nigerian father at a dance in central London in 1954. She was studying to be a teacher at a Catholic teacher-training college run by nuns in Kensington; he was training to be a welder. They married and had eight children in ten years.

Text adapted from: Evaristo, Bernardine. *Manifesto – On Never Giving Up*. New York: Grove Press, 2022.

a) The author is interested in learning about her past to better understand the type of writer she wants to be. ()

b) Evaristo's father was born in Nigeria. ()

c) Evaristo has eight siblings. ()

d) Evaristo studied at the church so she could become a teacher. ()

e) Evaristo's father was trained to become a welder. ()

f) Evaristo's mother was born in the United States of America. ()

4) Leia o fragmento abaixo do livro da autora e responda às perguntas em português.

"Growing up, I was labelled 'half-caste', the term for bi-racial people at that time. Like all these categories – Negro, coloured, black, mixed-race, bi-racial, of colour – they function as accepted descriptors until they are replaced. We now understand that race doesn't actually exist – it is not a biological fact – and humans share all but 1 per cent of our DNA. Our differences are not scientific but due to other factors such as the environment. But race is a lived experience, therefore it is enormously consequential. Understanding the fiction of race doesn't mean that we can dispense with the categories, not yet.

From: Evaristo, Bernardine. *Manifesto – On Never Giving Up*. New York: Grove Press, 2022.

a) Bernardine Evaristo não era considerada branca e nem negra quando mais jovem.

Retire do texto o termo em inglês que classificava a autora? Você consegue encontrar uma equivalência em português para o termo?

b) Como a autora define raça? É uma constatação biológica ou constituída pelo meio?

Post-Reading

5) Por que você acha que a autora não deseja ignorar as categorias de raça/etnia para representar os seres humanos?

6) A história da Inglaterra é marcada pela colonização em outros países e pelo apagamento destas culturas. Em um resultado dado pela BBC, na Inglaterra já tem cerca de 7,5 milhões de residentes originários de outras nações - um aumento de 3 milhões nos últimos dez anos. Qual a importância de autoras como Bernardine Evaristo no mercado editorial inglês?

7) Ao ganhar o Booker Prize (semelhante ao Prêmio Jabuti) em 2019 pelo romance *Garota, Mulher, Outras*, Bernardine Evaristo teve que dividir o prêmio com a premiada escritora canadense Margaret Atwood pelo livro *Os Testamentos*. Pela primeira vez na história da premiação o prêmio foi dividido e Evaristo foi a primeira mulher negra a receber a honraria. Comente a sua opinião em relação a importância da vitória para Bernardine Evaristo e as implicações que a divisão do prêmio traz para a autora.
