

## **TEACHERS' NOTES: VIRTUAL WORKSHOP**

We have created a 'virtual workshop' to help your students write their own Anglo-Saxon-style riddles. This is in the form of a video, which can be found on our Youtube account here: <https://youtu.be/XFoy7lpouWw>

The video is designed for you to run in class. The first section provides an overview of Anglo-Saxon riddles, plus a reading of one such riddle. The video then goes on to provide a framework to help students write their own riddles, using a series of questions.

### **What You'll Need**

Students will need paper and pens / pencils. That's it.

### **How The Workshop Works**

John Berkavitch will ask students to choose an object to personify. Pause the video for as long as you need for your students to make their selection. He will then ask a series of questions, which students must answer as their object. Pause the video after each question, to allow students time to consider their answer. Remind them to write their answers in full sentences. So, if they are an acorn, and the question is 'where were you born?', don't simply write 'on a tree', but something like 'I was born high up off the ground'. This will ensure that the finished poem makes sense. Continue the video after each question until students have answered all questions, and their first drafts are complete. You can take as long as you like over this process, but it will usually take between 45 and 90 minutes to complete.