

**1a** Read the quotes about originality. Which are positive? Which are negative? Do you agree or disagree with the quotes? Match the quotes to the people.

- A Herman Melville                      B George Bernard Shaw                      C Voltaire

1 .....

It is better to fail in originality than to succeed in imitation.

2 .....

Originality is nothing but judicious imitation. The most original writers borrowed one from another.

3 .....

Caesar was a man of great common sense and good taste, meaning thereby a man without originality or moral courage.

**1b** What did you do the last time you had an original idea? Did you keep it to yourself? Or did you share it with others? Why?

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**2** Do the crossword.

**Across**

- 2 very strong or large in amount
- 6 to begin using new ideas and methods
- 7 an activity or job that is right for a certain person

**Down**

- 1 you make this when you decide something
- 3 a person who leads a country without having an election
- 4 probably going to happen
- 5 an interesting person with new and different ideas

**3a** Do you know who invented these things? What more do you know about these inventions? Put the phrases in the correct group.

only 200 were made in the beginning      police in Stockholm started using it in 2018  
 was bought by Microsoft for \$8.5 billion      was created by Niklas Zennström and Janus Friis  
 was first made in 1999      was first sold at a price of \$666.66 in 1976      was first sold in 2001  
 was invented by Dean Kamen      was invented by Steve Wozniak      was started in 2003

<b>Segway</b>	
<b>Apple computer</b>	
<b>Skype</b>	

**3b** Choose one of the inventions in 3a, or choose another invention. Work with a partner and prepare a short presentation about the invention for your class. Make notes first.

Invention: .....

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When/Where invented: .....

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Invented by: .....

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Why it is original: .....

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How popular it is: .....

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**4** Read the chart. Complete the information as you read the book.

Name	What made them “originals”?	Problems / Reasons for (possible) failure
Dean Kamen		
Carmen Medina		
Martin Luther King, Jr.		
Lucy Stone		
Jackie Robinson		
Edwin Land		
Lewis Pugh		

**5 Read the main ideas and write the chapter (1–8) they refer to.**

- a If you can manage your feelings, you can better prepare for success or failure. ....
- b Original ideas can be encouraged if we avoid the desire to reach agreement. ....
- c Rejecting the default is one of the keys to creativity. ....
- d Coalitions can be both good and bad, depending on the relationships of the people within. ....
- e Delaying and procrastinating are very useful tools. ....
- f It's important to know the right time to speak, and how we can make sure people hear us. ....
- g Birth order is more important than age when it comes to originality. ....
- h The problem is not how to have new ideas, it's how to select the right ideas. ....

**6 Answer the questions with your own ideas. What might / could have happened if . . .**

**1** Jackie Robinson had been born the older brother?

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**2** Publishers had rejected *Harry Potter*?

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**3** Dean Kamen hadn't kept his ideas to himself?

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**4** Stone and Anthony had been able to work together?

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**5** Martin Luther King, Jr hadn't procrastinated?

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**7** Write a book review of *Originals*. Use the following structure to help you:

- an opening line/title to grab the reader's attention
- give it a star rating out of five
- say briefly what the book is about
- say what you liked and disliked, and why
- conclusion (would you recommend it?)

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**8** Do you have any experience of groupthink? Do you think it's more difficult to avoid in a school and work culture that encourages collaboration?

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**9a** Imagine you are interviewing the author of the book. What questions would you ask him?

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**9b** Work with a partner. Take it in turns to imagine you are the author of the book. Ask and answer your questions from 9a.