

Women writers now and then

ACTIVITY 1

A. Look at the pictures of these two women writers and analyze them.

Observá las fotografías de estas dos escritoras y analizalas.

The first picture shows Virginia Woolf, a great writer of the 20th century. The second shows Rupi Kaur, a contemporary writer.

La primer foto (izquierda) muestra a Virginia Woolf, una destacada escritora del siglo XX. La segunda (derecha) muestra a Rupi Kaur, una escritora contemporánea.



Portrait of Virginia Woolf. Photograph by George Charles Beresford. (Izquierda)
Rupi Kaur reading extracts of her book. Photograph by Joe Carlson. (Derecha) Taken from Wikimedia Commons.

When Virginia Woolf's picture was taken, in 1902, she was 20 years old. Rupi Kaur's picture was taken in 2017, she was 25.

En 1902 cuando la foto de Virginia Woolf fue tomada, ella tenía 20 años. La foto de Rupi Kaur fue tomada en 2017 cuando ella tenía 25 años.

B. How would you describe the expression on their faces? Choose words from the box to describe them.

¿Cómo describirías la expresión de sus rostros? Elegí algunas palabras del siguiente cuadro para describirlas.

Pensive – Happy – Sad – Unhappy – Concerned – Reserved

Annoyed – Depressed – Joyful

Rupi seems _____

Virginia seemed to be _____

C. What do you know that was different before and during the 20th and now in the 21st century about women's lives?

¿Qué pensás que fue diferente antes y durante el siglo XX y ahora en el siglo XXI acerca de la vida de las mujeres?

You can write your ideas in this chart. Here's an example.

Podés escribir tus ideas en este cuadro. Te damos un ejemplo.

Before and during 20th century	21st century
- At the beginning of the 20th century women couldn't vote.	-
-	-
-	-
-	-

D. Think, discuss and write in your folder. Pensá, debatí y escribí en tu carpeta.

Podés ayudarte con la caja de herramientas o "Toolkit" para expresar tus opiniones.

Do you think publishing was easy for Rupi? Why? Why not? Give your reasons.

Toolkit: Caja de herramientas:

- Introduce your opinion:

I think that...

In my opinion...

- Compare two things that are similar or the same:

as + adjective + as

Women are as prosperous as men.

the same + noun + as

Women need the same conditions as men to write fiction.

- Say differences in a sentence:

but / yet

Women are talented at writing, but men are more respected.

Women are talented at writing, yet men are more respected.

ACTIVITY 2

Rupi Kaur (b. 1992) is an Indian Canadian poet, illustrator and performer. Rupi Kaur started writing as a child, throughout her life she has addressed women and girls to equality, respect of their feelings, emotions and body. Despite all her shortcomings, she has successfully experienced her dream to become true: publishing her poems.

A. Read. In pairs or groups read this extract from Rupi Kaur's life.

Leer. En pares o en grupos lean este fragmento acerca de la vida de Rupi Kaur.

B. Underline the responses Rupi had received.

Destacá las respuestas que Rupi ha recibido.

After writing and performing poetry for many years, I was inspired to publish my work. I was in writing workshops – that whole deal. I asked a creative writing professor what I needed to do in order to get published, and their response was don't bother. I was told it was too difficult. They said poetry basically never got published. I was told that I had a better chance having individual poems published in literary journals, magazines, and anthologies. I then asked them if self-publishing was a good route to take. Immediately I was told – no. To surpass the gatekeeper would be looked down upon by my literary peers.

Texto tomado de la [página oficial de Rupi Kaur](#), apartado About me, recuperado en diciembre de 2021.

C. Read and match. Leer y unir. (En este caso pueden simplemente poner el numero con la letra que corresponde)

1. Rupi wanted to publish her work after...	a. ...it was difficult.
2. Professor and people thought and said...	b. ...published in literary journals, magazines and anthologies.
3. Poetry never...	c. ...many years of writing.
4. They suggested Rupi to...	d. ...a good route to take.
5. Self-publishing wasn't...	e. ...got published.

Here is a line of one of her most famous poems:

* "something as simple as what you're born with (...)"

Kaur, R. (2014) *Milk and Honey* (pp. 173). Andrews McMeel publishing.

In this particular link, you can hear her reciting the poem in which the line appears: [Rupi Kaur*](#)

En el siguiente link podemos escucharla recitar su poema llamado Mountains*

https://www.instagram.com/reel/CTqGprIqLIA/?utm_medium=share_sheet

i want to apologize to all the women
i have called pretty.
before i've called them intelligent or brave.
i am sorry i made it sound as though
something as simple as what you're born with
is the most you have to be proud of
when your spirit has crushed mountains
from now on i will say things like, *you are resilient*
or, you are extraordinary.
not because i don't think you're pretty.
but because you are so much more than that

- rupi kaur

