

# Dead Poets Society

## Individuality versus Conformity in Dead Poets Society




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**Degree of difficulty:** elementary / pre–intermediate



**Interests/Skills:**

- individuality and conformity
- philosophy of life in DPS

**\* Additional Exercises (Wahlaufgaben) If you have enough time you should do these exercises as well!**

Group work: 		
(1) <b>Stummes Schreibgespräch:</b> <b>individuality – conformity</b>  <b>definitions: Individuality – conformity</b>		
***(2) <b>Mindmap</b>		
(3) <b>Memorable scenes</b>		
***(4) <i>The road not taken</i> by Robert Frost		
(5) <b>A piece of art: Individuality – conformity</b>		

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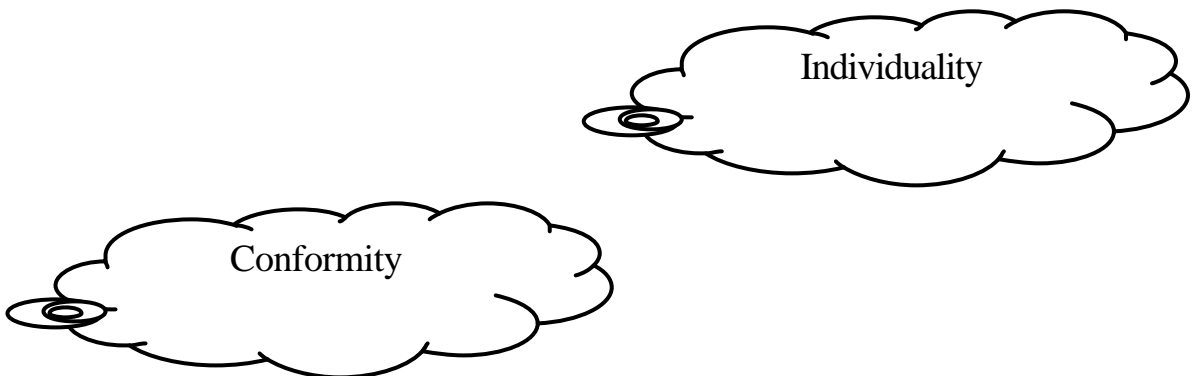
TOPIC	Part 05	material	timing	group	Where to find information
Individuality Conformity	Producing a piece of art		 about 240 minutes		

## 1. What is INDIVIDUALITY? CONFORMITY?

**A**





- (1) Take two big pieces of wrapping paper and put them on two tables.
- (2) Write down in the middle:



- (3) Now write down your ideas. (Use different colours.)  
Comment on your fellow-students' statements.
- (4) You may do this exercise in ENGLISH or in GERMAN!
- (5) Stop after 15 – 20 minutes.

**B**

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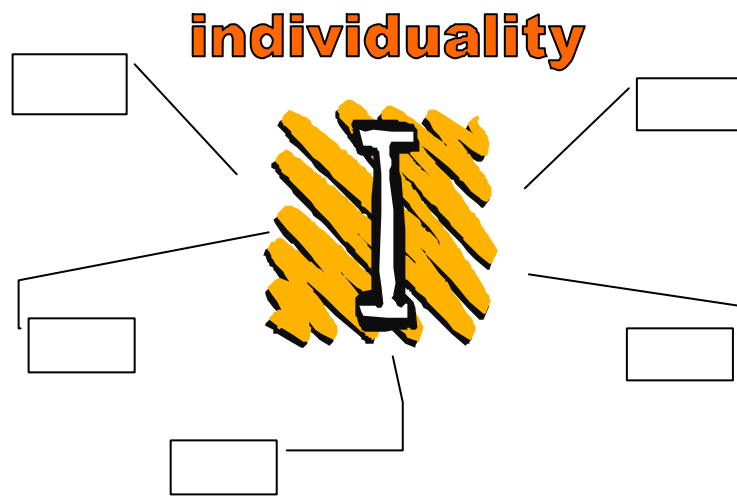
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Look up the two terms in the LONGMAN DICTIONARY OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE. Write them down!

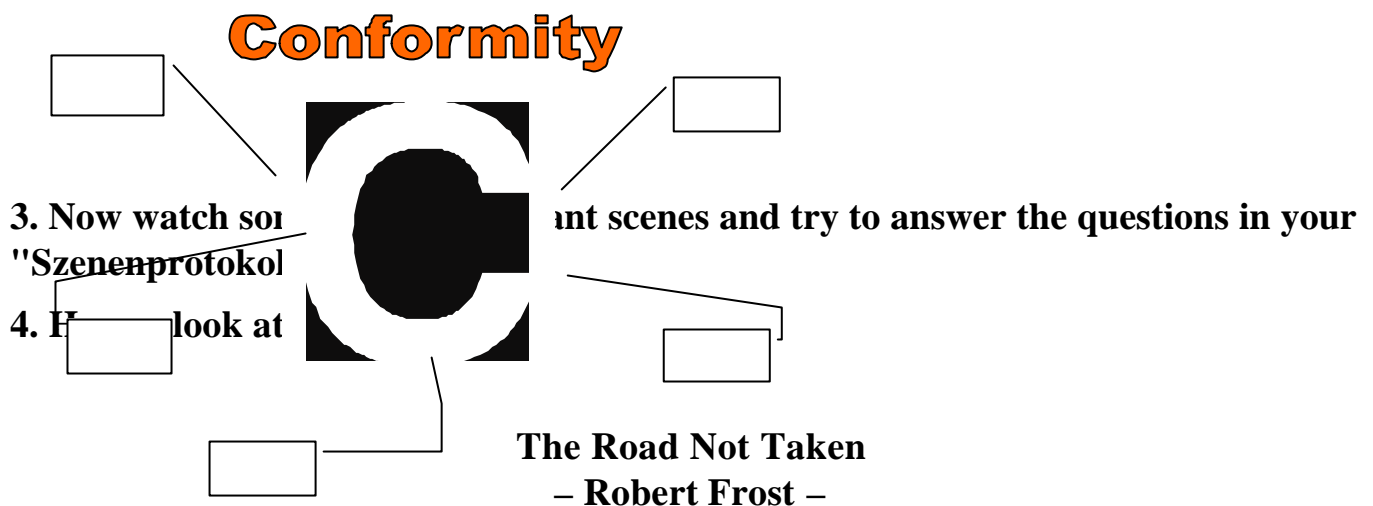
### \*\*\*2. Mindmap:

Make two mindmaps: Individuality and Conformity:

Your results in Exercise 1 should help you!



**Conformity**





3. Now watch some important scenes and try to answer the questions in your notebook

4. Finally look at the following poem:

**The Road Not Taken**  
– Robert Frost –

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Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveller, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair;  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, And I-  
I took the one less travelled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

What is the poem about?

Why does it describe "individuality"?

How quickly did the writer decide? – Was it a spontaneous decision?

5. Produce a piece of art showing the difference between

**INDIVIDUALITY** and **CONFORMITY**.



# **Methodensammlung: Stummes Schreibgespräch**