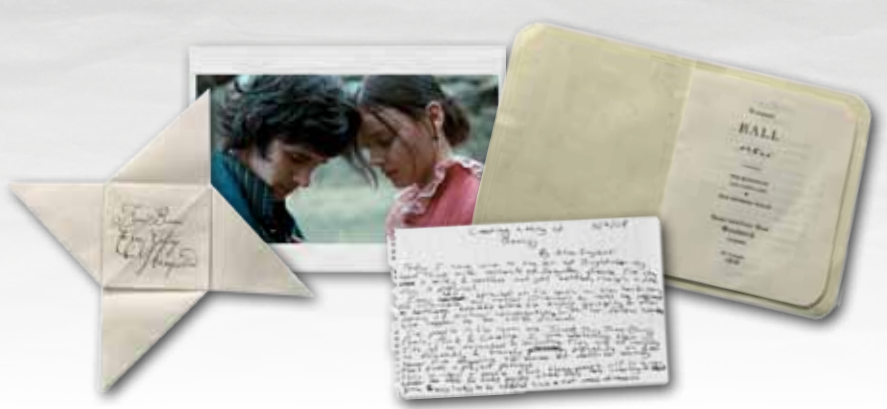


# Bright Star



Student Task Sheet:  
BIOGRAPHY AND BIOPIC

## Keats' letter to Fanny Brawne

In one scene from the film *Bright Star*, we hear Ben Whishaw reading Keats's words in a letter to Fanny Brawne. The text used in this scene is given below, and is taken from an original letter written by Keats in 1819.

To view the clip, go to the Film Education site for *Bright Star* and look at the section on Biography and Biopic.

Watch the clip closely, thinking about the overall impression this scene has on you as a viewer. Watch again and use the text below to record your responses to the language, the images and the sounds of the scene as you interpret them.

My dearest lady,

I am now at a very pleasant cottage window, looking onto a beautifully hilly country, with a view of the sea; the morning is very fine. I do not know how elastic my spirit might be, what pleasure I might have in living here if the remembrance of you did not weigh so upon me. Ask yourself, my love, whether you are not very cruel to have so entrammelled me, so destroyed my freedom. For myself I know not how to express my devotion to so fair a form: I want a brighter word than bright, a fairer word than fair. I almost wish we were butterflies and lived but three summer days. Three such days with you I could fill with more delight than fifty common years could ever contain

*Adapted from Keats's original letter to Fanny Brawne, written on the Isle of Wight on July 1st 1819*