

ENGLISH
GRAMMAR

Grammar

Punctuation and Grammar Activities

Complete one activity every day.



a
The ground was lit up by the hovering spaceship.



Is this sentence active or passive?

b
Can you think of a more **formal** synonym to replace this adjective?

gutted → _____

c
Read the sentence below and underline the **two** words modal verbs:



The new restaurant, The Pizza Palace, will be opening at the weekend, and my family and I may go for a meal there.

d
Insert a colon in the correct place in the sentence below to separate the two independent clauses.

The golfer dropped to his knees in celebration he had finally won a major tournament.

e
Mr Whoops has got in a muddle with his commas. Could you help him to add **two** missing commas to this sentence?

During my magic show I accidentally dropped my top hat which revealed the hidden playing cards to the audience.



f
Change these nouns/adjectives into verbs by adding the suffixes -ise, -ify, -ate or -en.

dark → _____

glory → _____

a
The ground was lit up by the hovering spaceship.



Is this sentence active or passive?

_____ passive _____

d
Insert a colon in the correct place in the sentence below to separate the two independent clauses.

The golfer dropped to his knees in celebration: he had finally won a major tournament.

b
Can you think of a more formal synonym to replace this adjective?

Accept more formal synonyms, e.g. devastated, traumatised, distraught.

e
Mr Whoops has got in a muddle with his commas. Could you help him to add **two** missing commas to this sentence?

During my magic show, I accidentally dropped my top hat, which revealed the hidden playing cards to the audience.



c
Read the sentence below and underline the **two** words modal verbs:



The new restaurant, The Pizza Palace, will be opening at the weekend, and my family and I may go for a meal there.

f
Change these nouns/adjectives into verbs by adding the suffixes -ise, -ify, -ate or -en.

dark → darken

glory → glorify

Tick the box that shows where a dash should appear in this sentence.

Fold the paper wallet



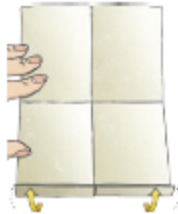
template into four



quarters be careful not to rip



the paper.



a

Do these words need to end in -ibly or -ably?

sens_____

comfort_____

reli_____

b

occurs placed varied

Replace the appropriate words in the text with synonyms from the list above. One is done for you.



Freezing happens when a liquid is made very cold and becomes a solid. When water is put into a freezer, it will become ice. Different elements and compounds have different freezing points.

mixture → combination

_____ → _____

_____ → _____

c

Underline **one** preposition in each sentence:

Go and buy me some carrots from the shop, please?" asked Grandma politely.

In the pool, the talented swimmer practised her front crawl.

d

Are the underlined words a noun phrase, a prepositional phrase or a subordinate clause?

Although he felt ill, the magician still performed his show.

e

Mr Whoops has been juggling with the letters from one of his Y6 spelling words. Can you spot what it is?

t o m t e i e c m

c _____ e _____



f

Tick the box that shows where a dash should appear in this sentence.

Fold the paper wallet



template into four



quarters be careful not to rip



the paper.



a

Do these words need to end in -ibly or -ably?

sensibly _____

comfortably _____

reliably _____

b

Underline **one** preposition in each sentence:

"Go and buy me some carrots from the shop, please?" asked Grandma politely.

In the pool, the talented swimmer practised her front crawl.

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occurs placed varied

Replace the appropriate words in the text with synonyms from the list above. One is done for you.



Freezing happens when a liquid is made very cold and becomes a solid. When water is put into a freezer, it will become ice. Different elements and compounds have different freezing points.

mixture → combination

put → placed

different → varied

c

Are the underlined words a noun phrase, a prepositional phrase or a subordinate clause?

Although he felt ill, the magician still performed his show.

subordinate clause

e

Mr Whoops has been juggling with the letters from one of his Y6 spelling words. Can you spot what it is?

t o m t e i e c m

committee



f

a



Write a sentence inside the speech bubble with a fronted adverbial that The Queen might say. Underline the fronted adverbial.

b

Read the sentence and underline the root word that could be given an opposite meaning using dis-, mis-, re- or in-.

Write the new prefix word.

The secretary understood the message completely.

c

Is the following sentence a statement, a command, a question or an exclamation?

What a terrible sight I saw

d

Mr Whoops has made **two** clumsy spelling mistakes in his sentences. Can you underline them and correct them?

I have always prefered salt and vinegar crisps rather than prawn cocktail - in fact, I'd say that they are my favorite. They are delicious in a crisp sandwich!



e

Find **one** word that can complete both sentences below. Write the word in the box:

- The children tried to _____ the cards in the pairs game.
- The waiter lit the candle with a _____.

f

Rewrite the sentence with a semicolon to replace the co-ordinating conjunction between the two independent clauses.

The angry crowd carried out a protest but the council still went ahead with the controversial decision.



Accept any accurately punctuated sentence with an underlined fronted adverbial to show time, place or cause, e.g. **At the palace**, my husband and I may have a garden party.



a

Read the sentence and underline the root word that could be given an opposite meaning using dis-, mis-, re- or in-.

Write the new prefix word.

The secretary understood the message completely.

misunderstood

b

Is the following sentence a statement, a command, a question or an exclamation?

What a terrible sight I saw

exclamation

c

Mr Whoops has made **two** clumsy spelling mistakes in his sentences. Can you underline them and correct them?

I have always prefered salt and vinegar crisps rather than prawn cocktail – in fact, I'd say that they are my favorite. They are delicious in a crisp sandwich!

preferred

favourite



d

Find **one** word that can complete both sentences below. Write the word in the box:

match

1. The children tried to _____ the cards in the pairs game.
2. The waiter lit the candle with a _____.

e

Rewrite the sentence with a semicolon to replace the co-ordinating conjunction between the two independent clauses.



The angry crowd carried out a protest; the council still went ahead with the controversial decision.

f



Put a tick to show whether 'me' or 'I' should be used in these sentences:

	me	I
Sarah and ____ both had a swimming lesson.		
My uncle drove Robbie and ____ to the party.		

a

Should these words end in -cious or -tious? Use a dictionary if you need to.

preten_____

face_____

b

Underline the object in this sentence.



The Olympic table tennis player hit the ball with precision and skill.

c

Underline the relative pronoun in this sentence.

The boy had had non-stop hiccups for almost three weeks, which was a new world record.

d

Forgetful Mr Whoops is very confused about main and subordinate clauses. Can you help him by saying which is underlined in this sentence?

Mother was thrilled because the children had cleaned their rooms.



e

Read these words:

transcribe describe

Tick what you think the root word 'scribe' means:

to write

to give detail

to predict

f

Put a tick to show whether 'me' or 'I' should be used in these sentences:

	me	I
Sarah and ___ both had a swimming lesson.		✓
My uncle drove Robbie and ___ to the party.	✓	

Underline the relative pronoun in this sentence.

The boy had had non-stop hiccups for almost three weeks, which was a new world record.

Should these words end in -cious or -tious? Use a dictionary if you need to.

pretentious _____

facetious _____

Forgetful Mr Whoops is very confused about main and subordinate clauses. Can you help him by saying which is underlined in this sentence?

Mother was thrilled because the children had cleaned their rooms.

_____ main clause _____



Underline the object in this sentence.



The Olympic table tennis player hit the ball with precision and skill.

Read these words:

transcribe **describe**

Tick what you think the root word 'scribe' means:

to write

to give detail

to predict

Tick the sentence in passive voice.

- The girl was jumping on the pogo stick.
- The girl had been jumping on the pogo stick.
- The pogo stick was being jumped on by the girl.



a

Insert a verb to complete the sentences below so that they use the subjunctive form.

If I _____ (was/were) to be granted one wish, I would wish for unlimited wishes.



b

Can you think of the correct -ance or -ence words to match the definitions? Use a dictionary if you need to.

compliance _____

open-mindedness _____

c

Mr Whoops has got in a terrible muddle and has lost the second part of these hyphenated words. Can you help him to find them?

light- _____

high- _____

d



Underline the noun phrase in this sentence:

The timid, tiny mouse hid behind the cupboard.

e

Place the near homophones 'descent' and 'dissent' into the correct sentences:

The aeroplane began its _____ towards the runway.

Not willing to put up with _____, the referee gave the player a red card.

f



Tick the sentence in passive voice.

- The girl was jumping on the pogo stick.
- The girl had been jumping on the pogo stick.
- The pogo stick was being jumped on by the girl.



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Insert a verb to complete the sentences below so that they use the subjunctive form.

If I were (was/were) to be granted one wish, I would wish for unlimited wishes.



b

Can you think of the correct -ance or -ence words to match the definitions? Use a dictionary if you need to.

compliance obedience

open-mindedness tolerance

c

Mr Whoops has got in a terrible muddle and has lost the second part of these hyphenated words. Can you help him to find them?

e.g. light-headed/light-hearted and high-energy/high-quality

d

Underline the noun phrase in this sentence:



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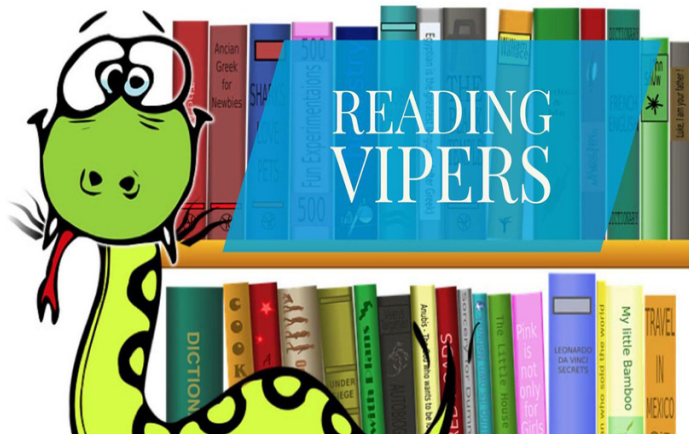
The aeroplane began its descent towards the runway.

Not willing to put up with dissent, the referee gave the player a red card.

f

Reading Activities

Choose from the variety of activities and complete one or more daily.



Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Summarise



The Outstanding Olympics

11 Do you believe that you have the power needed to compete
21 against men with Heracleian strength? Yes? Well, if I were
30 you, I would apply for this outstanding opportunity to
41 be a part of the Spartan Olympic team and honour Zeus
46 (the King of the Gods).
55 You will have the chance to choose between javelin,
62 discus, jumping, pankration (a combination of boxing
70 and wrestling), chariot racing or running. Strength of
80 mind and body are required for all events but especially
89 the marathon, when you will be required to run
97 bare-footed in memory of Phidippides, who helped win
105 the Battle of Marathon with his epic running.
109 Women need not apply.



Quick Questions



1. What is 'pankration'?



2. Find two words that are synonyms of each other.



3. Why does the author include a sentence in the subjunctive mood following the initial question?



4. Why do you think the advert ends with the phrase 'Women need not apply'?

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Answer



1. What is 'pankration'?

A combination of boxing and wrestling



2. Find two words that are synonyms of each other.

Accept 'power' and 'strength'



3. Why does the author include a sentence in the subjunctive mood following the initial question?

Accept a reasonable explanation focusing on the effect of this being to give advice to the reader to apply for the Olympics / to persuade.



4. Why do you think the advert ends with the phrase 'Women need not apply'?

Accept a reasonable explanation that focuses on the fact that 'men' are mentioned at the beginning of the advert, so these Olympics must be only for men/ women were not allowed to compete.

Treasure Hunting

7 In 1873, an archaeologist called Heinrich Schliemann
16 discovered a large collection of gold and other artefacts.
26 He unearthed them in a place where he believed the
36 ancient city of Troy was located. The collection is called
43 Priam's Treasure after a famous king, Priam.

48 What is in the collection?

59 There is a shield, a cauldron, a vase, two diadems,
67 rings, buttons, bracelets, goblets, a bottle, gold cups and
69 silver knives.

77 When would it have been made and used?

79 2600-2300 BC

83 Where was it found?

88 It was found in Hissarlik,
93 which is believed to be
95 Ancient Troy.

99 There is still some
102 controversy with many
105 archaeologists claiming that
110 this treasure does nothing to
115 prove the existence of Troy.



Quick Questions



1. Where was the treasure found?



2. Which two words mean the same as 'found'?



3. How does the layout help the reader?



4. Do you think this treasure proves the existence of Troy? Why?

Treasure Hunting

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102 controversy with many
105 archaeologists claiming that
110 this treasure does nothing to
115 prove the existence of Troy.



Answers



1. Where was the treasure found?

Hissarlik



2. Which two words mean the same as 'found'?

Accept 'discovered' and 'unearthed'



3. How does the layout help the reader?

Accept a reasonable explanation that the bold subheadings make it easier for the reader to find the information they need.



4. Do you think this treasure proves the existence of Troy? Why?

Accept a reasonable explanation, e.g. Yes, because this treasure dates from the time of Ancient Greek history or no, because it just proves there was a settlement there but not necessarily Troy.

Trial by Jury

10 Today I witnessed the trial of a fine man, Socrates –
19 a philosopher who questioned the existence of the gods
29 as recognised by the state. Socrates knew how the court
40 system worked but when he was found guilty by a vote
52 of 280 to 220 men, he was angry. His accusers suggested
61 that the punishment should be the death penalty. Socrates
69 found the charges against him ridiculous so initially
78 responded with the sarcastic remark that he should be
86 rewarded! He eventually suggested his fine should be
96 one piece of silver. If Socrates had proposed a stronger
104 punishment (for example, exile from Athens), the jury
110 probably would have voted for it.

120 But he left them little choice by not treating the
122 trial seriously...



Quick Questions



1. How many men were on the jury?



2. Which two words mean the same as 'recommended'?



3. Summarise the main points of this text in 20 words or less.



4. What do you think happened to Socrates in the end?

Trial by Jury

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96 one piece of silver. If Socrates had proposed a stronger
104 punishment (for example, exile from Athens), the jury
110 probably would have voted for it.
120 But he left them little choice by not treating the
122 trial seriously...



Quick Questions



1. How many men were on the jury?

Accept: 500



2. Which two words mean the same as 'recommended'?

Accept 'suggested' and 'proposed'



3. Summarise the main points of this text in 20 words or less.

Accept any reasonable summary which is 20 words or less in length.



4. What do you think happened to Socrates in the end?

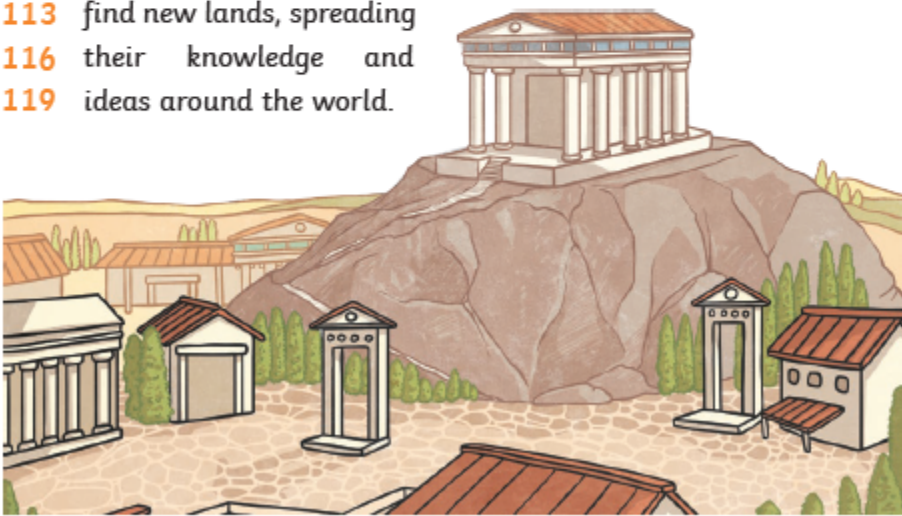
Accept a reasonable explanation that focuses on him probably dying / receiving the death penalty due to being found guilty and leaving the jury 'little choice' when he failed to give a stronger alternative punishment.

Who Were the Ancient Greeks?

11 Greece was one of the most important places in the ancient
20 world – there is evidence of settlers from around 40,000BC,
28 but the influential period was around 2,500BC onwards.
36 These ancient Greeks were fantastic thinkers, writers, actors,
42 artists, athletes, warriors, architects and politicians.

51 The Greeks called themselves 'Hellenes' and their land was
62 'Hellas'. The name 'Greeks' was given to the people of Greece
72 later by the Romans. They lived in mainland Greece (which
80 was split into city-states including: Athens, Sparta, Corinth
90 and Olympia) and the Greek islands, but also in colonies
97 scattered around the Mediterranean Sea, including: Italy,
104 Sicily, Turkey, North Africa, and even France.

109 They sailed the sea to trade and
113 find new lands, spreading
116 their knowledge and
119 ideas around the world.



Quick Questions



1. What was the true name of Ancient Greece?



2. Which word tells us that the Ancient Greeks were spread out?



3. Name four things the Ancient Greeks were talented in.



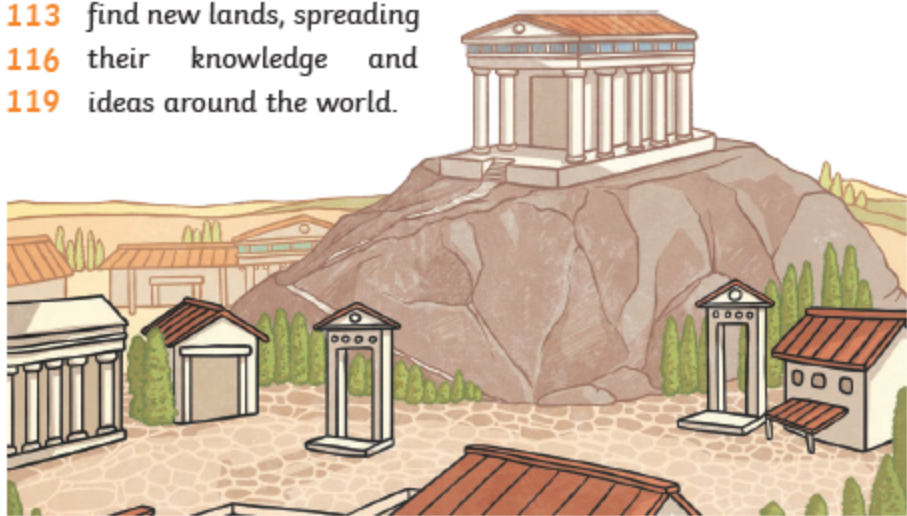
4. How were the Ancient Greeks influential?

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97 scattered around the Mediterranean Sea, including: Italy,
104 Sicily, Turkey, North Africa, and even France.

109 They sailed the sea to trade and
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116 their knowledge and
119 ideas around the world.



Answers



1. What was the true name of Ancient Greece?

Hellas



2. Which word tells us that the Ancient Greeks were spread out?

Accept 'scattered'



3. Name four things the Ancient Greeks were talented in.

Accept any of the following: thinkers, writers, actors, artists, athletes, warriors, architects and politicians



4. How were the Ancient Greeks influential?

Accept a reasonable explanation that focuses on the fact that they travelled, spreading their knowledge and ideas around the world.

Rapid Reading Activities

Question Types

w/p	Words and Phrases
i	Inference
kf	Key Facts (Retrieval)
ot	Other (e.g.: Language Choice, Comparisons)

Text Difficulty

l	Low Level Text
m	Middle Level Text
h	High Level Text

The Humble Potato (part 1)

Where it all began

Potatoes were first grown for food in South America thousands of years ago. People found a way to preserve them by leaving them out at night in the cold and then warming them in the sun the following day. During the day, the potatoes were crushed by stamping on them. After doing this for five days, 'chuno' (a potato pulp) was made which could be stored and kept for up to ten years in case crops failed.

kf Where were potato plants first grown for food?

kf How long could the chuno pulp be stored for?

w/p Find one word in the text that means to keep for a long time.

ot Why does 'a potato pulp' appear in brackets?

The Humble Potato (part 1)

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kf Where were potato plants first grown for food?

South America.

kf How long could the chuno pulp be stored for?

(up to) 10 years.

w/p Find one word in the text that means to keep for a long time.

Preserve.

ot Why does 'a potato pulp' appear in brackets?

It explains the meaning of the word chuno.

The Humble Potato (part 2)

Where it all began

In 1532 Spanish traders, who had been searching for gold, brought potatoes back from South America and used them on board ships as food. It was not long before farmers in Spain began to grow what they called 'patatas' and the potato spread across the rest of Europe. They were regarded with suspicion, however, and many people thought they weren't suitable for humans to eat, partly because of their odd shape. In some places, they were grown just as food for animals.

kf What were Spanish traders looking for?

w/p Find and copy **two phrases** which show people were unsure about eating potatoes.

i How can you tell the traders felt fine about eating the potatoes?

The Humble Potato (part 2)

Where it all began

In 1532 Spanish traders, who had been searching for gold, brought potatoes back from South America and used them on board ships as food. It was not long before farmers in Spain began to grow what they called 'patatas' and the potato spread across the rest of Europe. They were regarded with suspicion, however, and many people thought they weren't suitable for humans to eat, partly because of their odd shape. In some places, they were grown just as food for animals.

kf What were Spanish traders looking for?

Gold.

w/p Find and copy two phrases which show people were unsure about eating potatoes.

regarded with suspicion; weren't suitable (for humans to eat); (partly because of their) odd shape; (they were grown) just as food for animals.

i How can you tell the traders felt fine about eating the potatoes?

They ate them on the ships as food.

The Humble Potato (part 4)

Potatoes today – good to eat and good to grow!

Potatoes are very popular today and, despite what some people think, they are also good for you. A baked potato contains a surprisingly large amount of vitamin C – and more fibre than two slices of wholemeal bread.

Potatoes also provide carbohydrates and other important nutrients like vitamin B6. They are low in fat too, provided you don't fry them or add lots of butter!

Potatoes are easy to grow. This makes them a perfect crop for farmers in the developing world, who can grow a nutritious food in poor soil. There are plenty of different varieties to choose from and they usually produce a good harvest.

i Give two reasons why the potato is important to people today, all over the world.

kf What would stop a potato being healthy?

w/p Copy a phrases that tells us there is more than one type of potato.

The Humble Potato (part 4)

Potatoes today – good to eat and good to grow!

Potatoes are very popular today and, despite what some people think, they are also good for you. A baked potato contains a surprisingly large amount of vitamin C – and more fibre than two slices of wholemeal bread.

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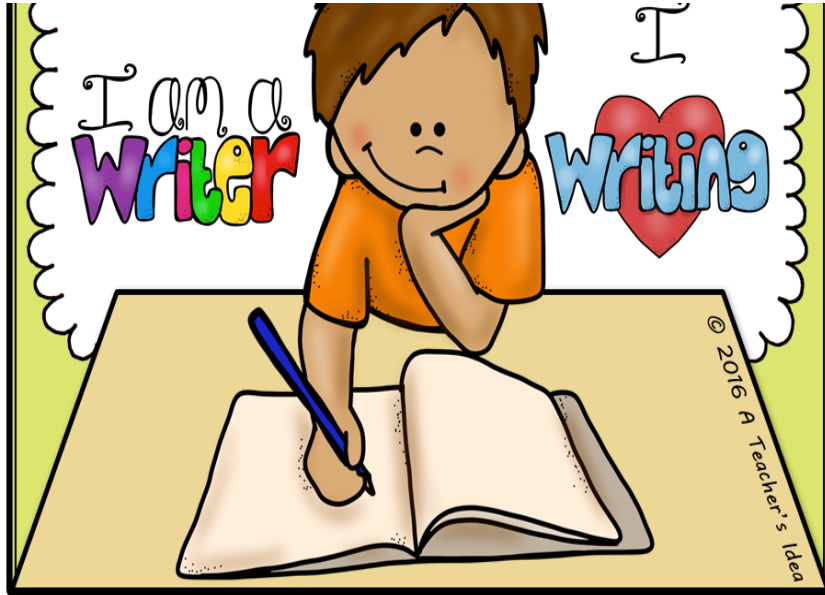
Potatoes are easy to grow. This makes them a perfect crop for farmers in the developing world, who can grow a nutritious food in poor soil. There are plenty of different varieties to choose from and they usually produce a good harvest.

i Give two reasons why the potato is important to people today, all over the world.
Easy to grow (in poor soil); perfect for growing in developing world; potatoes are good for you (any of the nutritional values); produce a good harvest

kf What would stop a potato being healthy?
If you add butter or fry them.

w/p Copy a phrases that tells us there is more than one type of potato.
(plenty of) different varieties

Creative Writing Tasks



Choose one task and complete daily.

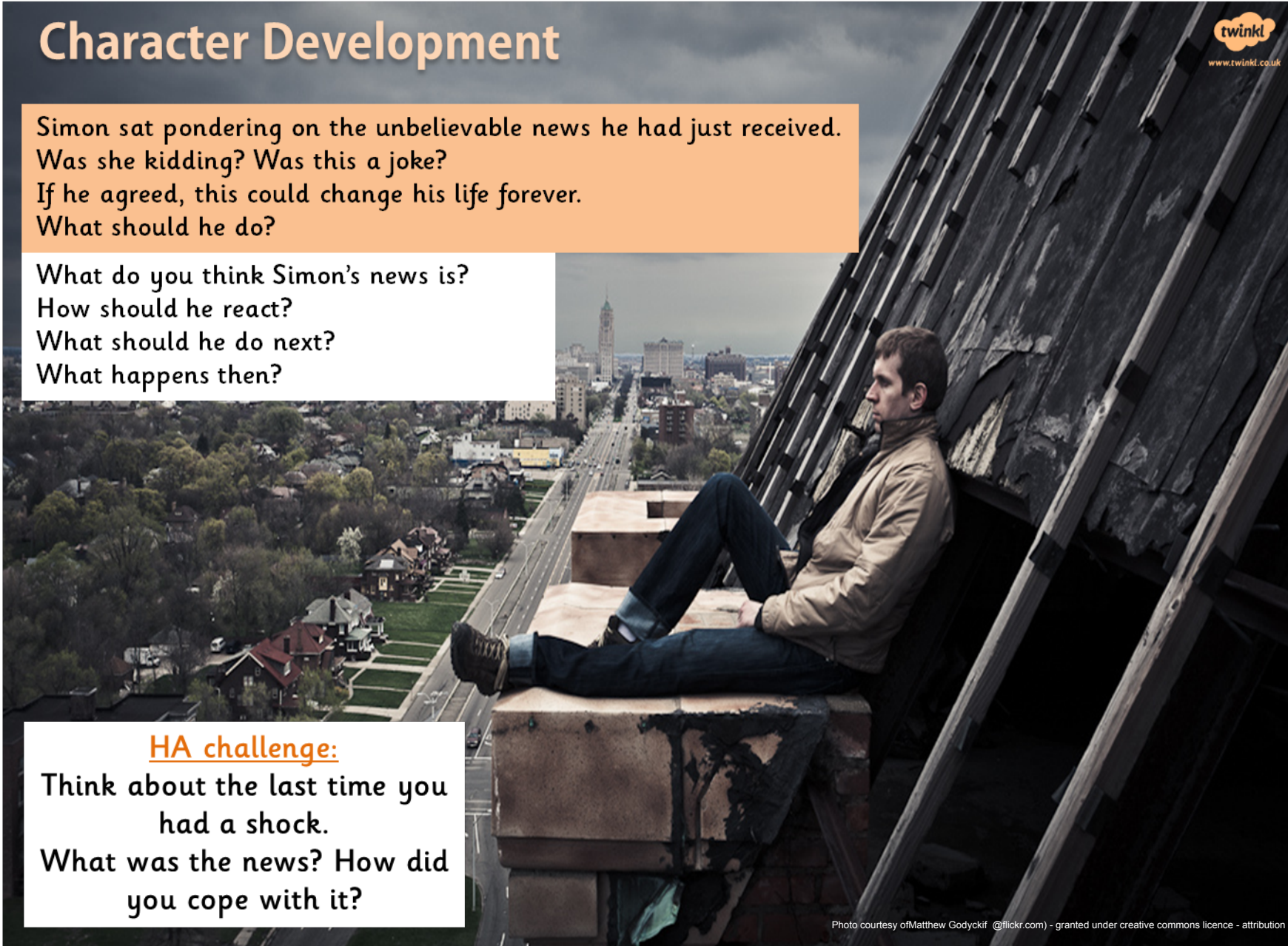


Character Development

Simon sat pondering on the unbelievable news he had just received.
Was she kidding? Was this a joke?
If he agreed, this could change his life forever.
What should he do?

What do you think Simon's news is?
How should he react?
What should he do next?
What happens then?

HA challenge:
Think about the last time you
had a shock.
What was the news? How did
you cope with it?





Descriptive Writing

This is an orang-utan from Borneo.

Make notes on:

- its hair
- its eyes
- its mouth
- its fingers
- its body position in the photo

Next turn your notes into a paragraph describing the orang-utan's appearance. Use thesauruses to help you.

LA: Write 4 sentences about the orang-utan you can see.



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Invent the Plot to a Story

Imagine this is the main character in your story.

What is the story called?

Where is it set?

Who is this character?

What is his name?

Set the first scene in the book.

Describe what you can hear, see, smell, feel beneath your feet.

HA challenge:

Write the first lines that this character says. Use full speech punctuation.



Explanation

Why are flamingos pink?

Photo courtesy of CHeitz @flickr.com - granted under creative commons licence - attribution

To write about this, you don't need to know the answer! You can guess!
You can think of crazy explanations e.g. its favourite food is raspberries!

In fact, the more interesting, the better.
Just make sure you really explain yourself.



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Predict What Happens Next

For weeks now, the small Scottish village of Loch Nar had been furiously planning their winter firework display. It was an occasion everybody looked forward to.

Douglas McBride had found it particularly difficult to persuade some of the villagers on the outskirts to join them in the fun.

Despite the disagreements, the night had finally arrived. As the villagers looked on in awe of the spectacular display, a strange odour was trickling from the fireworks...

Explain what happens next...

What goes wrong?

How is it solved?

LA:

Use words like 'but' and 'so'