

# English

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Today we will use a poem called 'Instructions' by Neil Gaiman to begin to explore the features of instruction sentences.



# Today's activities

**IMPORTANT!** Parent or Carer – Please read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and with any weblinks or use of the Internet required.



This symbol shows optional challenges. You don't have to do these but you can if you want to and if you have the time.

## 1. Time to Listen!

Listen to Mrs Riley reading the first part of the poem 'Instructions' by Neil Gaiman. Talk to your grown up about it.

## 3. Command sentences

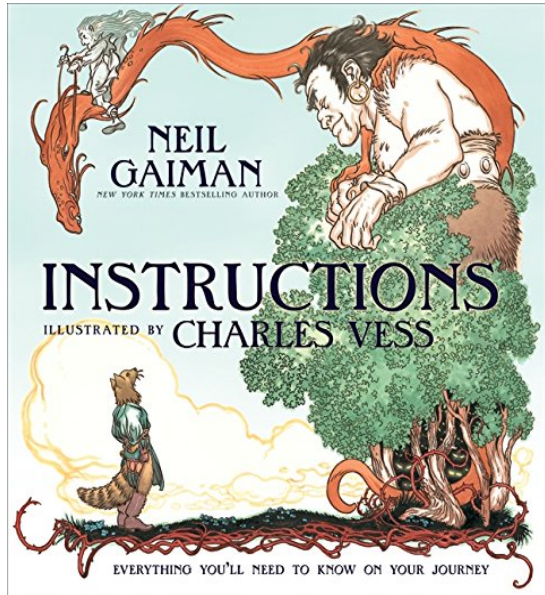
Read the learn screens to find out all about the features of command/ instruction sentences and bossy verbs. You will then identify bossy verbs in a text.

## 3. Let's Write

Write some command sentences and then improve them. .

# Learn Screen

## All about our Text



Our text today is a slightly unusual one. It's a poem that's filled magic and wonder. There are lots of links to fairy tales so look out for them as we read.

Neil Gaiman is an English writer who has written some fabulous stories and poems. He has written for Marvel comics and even wrote an episode of the T.V. series 'Dr. Who'.



# Let's Listen

## Activity 1: Listen to the poem

### Your Task

Listen to Mrs Riley reading the first part of the poem. There are some fabulous words in this poem and Mrs Riley explains some of them at the start of the video to help you. You can find the video by clicking on the link on our Remote Learning page.



As you listen, think about why this poem is called 'Instructions'. Talk to your grown up about your ideas.

# Story Time

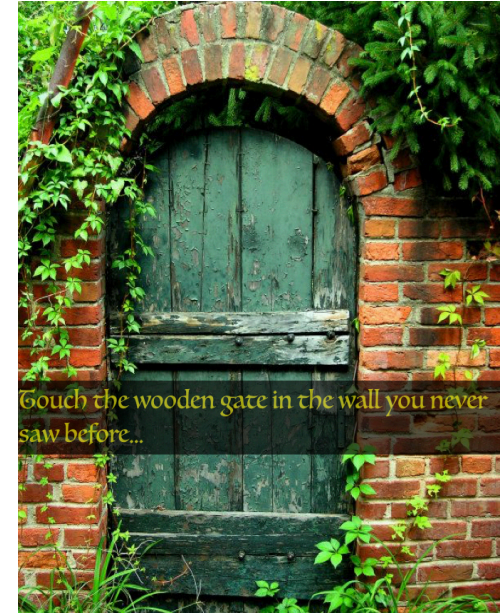
## Activity 1: Think about the poem

Did you spot that this poem is filled with lots of command sentences?

**We looked at them yesterday.**

Command sentences are found in instructions.

In this poem, Neil Gaiman gives us lots of instructions that guide a fairy tale cat (Puss) through an enchanted woo to help him find his way home again.



Did you like this poem? Talk to your grown up about your ideas.

# Learn Screen

## Features of instruction/ command sentences

Instructions are sentences that give a commands or orders. They are bossy and tell the reader what to do.

They are usually short, sharp sentences that do not contain much description or story language.

Open the gate. Go down the garden path.

They always contain bossy (imperative) verbs that tell someone what to do or not do. These verbs are always in the present tense.



Listen for the doorbell. Do not use the door knocker.

Let's look more closely at the features of command/ instruction sentences.

# Learn Screen

## Features of instruction sentences

They are addressed to the reader, as if the reader is being spoken to directly by someone.

Go into the wood. Watch out for the wolves

.

They often 'list' things to do or avoid doing.



Walk through the wood, jump over the wall  
and then climb into the tree

Often , although not in this poem, instruction sentences can be numbered or have bullet points.

1. Jump on board the ferry
2. Pay the ferryman
3. Stay sat down till you reach the far side of the river

.

# Learn Screen

Where are the bossy verbs?

## What is an imperative verb?

- It is a bossy verb! It makes a sentence bossy! Use Miss Bossy to help you remember!
- It gives you an order or command.
- They are direct and sharp.
- E.g. Line up for assembly.
- Turn left at the traffic lights.
- Mix the flour and eggs together.





# Let's Be Bossy!

## Activity 3: Find the bossy verbs.

Have a look at the set of instructions on the next page.

**How many bossy verbs can you spot? Highlight them.**

Look out for the features of instruction sentences you have just learned about. Talk to your grown up about them. **There's no need to write anything down.**



*Touch the wooden gate in the wall you never saw before...*

**lull** means send  
**quest** means journey

# Your Task

## Where are the bossy verbs?

**Read these instruction sentences. Find and write down the bossy verb or verbs in each one.**

**WATCH OUT!** Two sentences are not instructions and don't contain bossy verbs

Ask an elf for a map that shows the magic cottage.

Read the map carefully.

When you breathe upon the map, the path you need will change colour.

Begin your great journey.

Listen to the birds; their song will be clear.

What ever you do, do not pick any mushrooms – they will lull you into a deep and dreamless sleep.

On arriving at the cottage, knock three times upon the oak door.

Take off your cap, bow and curtsy to the old woman within.

She is 109 years old but still dances through the trees in search of healing herbs.

Relax - your quest is at an end.

# Answers

## Where are the bossy verbs?

The sentences that are not instructions and don't contain bossy verbs are coloured in red. The bossy verbs are blue

**Ask** an elf for a map that shows the magic cottage.

**Read** the map carefully.

When you breathe upon the map, the path you need will change colour.

**Begin** your great journey.

**Listen** to the birds; their song will be clear.

What ever you do, **do** not pick any mushrooms – they will lull you into a deep and dreamless sleep.

On arriving at the cottage, **knock** three times upon the oak door.

**Take off** your cap, **bow** and **curtsey** to the old woman within.

She is 109 years old but still dances through the trees in search of healing herbs.

**Relax** - your quest is at an end.

# Your Task

## Change the sentence



Your task is to turn this sentence into a command:

When you breathe upon the map, the path you need will change colour.

Then:

**Write 2 or 3** more command sentences to add to the instructions you have just read.

### Example

Walk along the path by the river

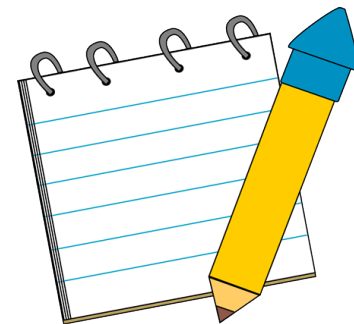
Stay out of the woods.

### Steps to success

Check each sentence is a command.

Use correct punctuation.

Use an exclamation mark for the strongest of your commands.



# Learn Screen

## Where are the bossy verbs?



Look at this set of instructions. Can you see that sometimes the bossy verb is at the start of the sentence.

Sometimes, there is a word or phrase before the bossy verb.

Sometimes you can have more than one bossy verb in a sentence. This one has three!

**Climb** down into the well.  
**Find** the tunnel at the bottom.  
**Crawl** along it for five minutes.

After a while, **stop** for a rest.  
What ever you do, **do** not shout.  
Very carefully, **listen** for the creaking of a trap door.

**Move** forward, **open** the trap door and **whisper** your name softly.  
A winter elf will open the door and wrap you up with scarves to keep you warm

# Let's write

## Activity 4:



Improve your sentences by adding a word of phrase before it.

### Example

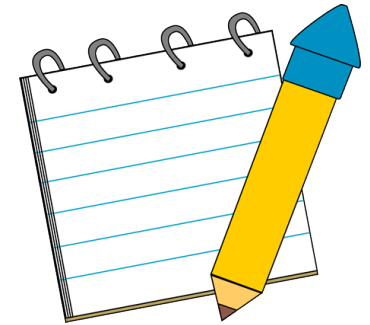
Walk along the path by the river.

Stay out of the woods.

**becomes**

**A little later on**, walk along the path by the river.

**Whatever you do**, stay out of the woods.



What fabulous work you are doing Year 2.  
You are amazing.

*you  
are  
amazing.*