

English Monday – Friday

Monday

This week we are going to focus on creative writing. I want you to have lots of freedom with your ideas so the tasks are going to be quite open-ended. Use this opportunity to have fun with your writing and let your imagination go wild!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ovHYJUp3l6g>

This video introduces us to a man on a boat who crosses paths with an unlikely friend – an iguana treading water – 4 miles out from shore. His scaly companion leaps at the chance of a free ride and stares over the ocean like a grizzled old sea captain as they head on home.

Today you will write a short story on how the iguana found his way out to sea.

- Perhaps the iguana stowed away with some pirates?
- Maybe he was washed away in a flood?
- He might even have just fancied a swim. Who knows?

Once you've decided on your story you need to decide what perspective you write from. Is this going to be a first person, present tense story? For example:

I'm walking along the beach, looking for something to eat when suddenly something grabs me.

Or third person, past tense:

The iguana meandered along the shore, lazily looking for lunch. Suddenly, a wave crashed over him, sweeping him out to sea. He clung to a floating piece of wood but it wasn't long before a ship with black sails approached the little green creature...

You can write from the perspective of someone entirely different – a pirate, the man that found him etc. Off you go!



Tuesday

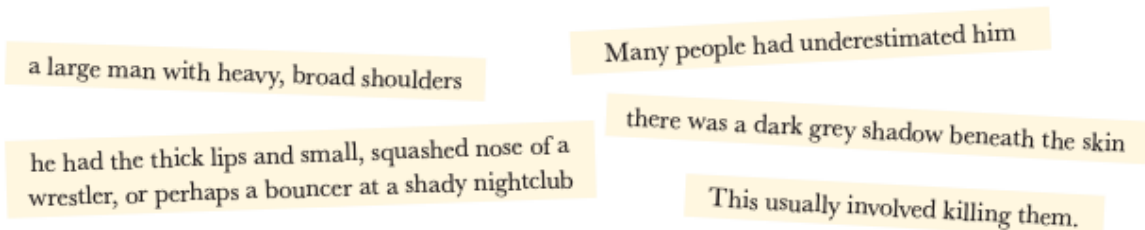
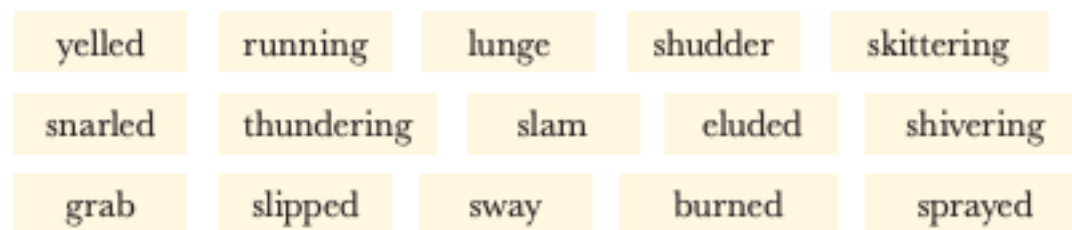
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9jQnvLdXbGA&feature=emb_logo

There are lots of questions in this video so you may want to pause it to bullet point some ideas as you watch it.

You are going to write a story but again, it's up to you how you tell it. You just need to decide on the details such as how do you receive this invitation? In the post? In a secret message? Re-watch the video if you need to and make notes to plan your story.

A few people have posted their stories under the video in the YouTube comments. Have a look for some inspiration if you need it.

Here's some words that might help you or inspire some ideas. Off you go!



Wednesday

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h4RomzeWtIA>

This intriguing video documents the discovery of the world's oldest message in a bottle by Perth resident Tonya Illman, who stumbled across the missive whilst litter picking on North Wedge Island in 2018. The 131-year-old note was written by a captain of a German sailing ship, and was thrown from the vessel whilst on a voyage from Cardiff to Indonesia.

What do you think happened to the Captain and his boat?

- Did they get to Indonesia safely?
- Or perhaps they were been stranded on a desert island?
- Worse still, could they have been attacked by a giant octopus?!

Write a short story about what could have happened in the moments leading up to the bottle being thrown. Or even what happens after! It's up to you.



Example:

I threw the bottle as hard as I could and watched as it bobbed out of sight. The rain continued to pour from the heavy black clouds above. It was so heavy that it felt like tiny knives slashing at our skin. The waves were so big they were crashing over the side of the boat. Water swirled round our ankles and the mast creaked under the pressure of the wind. We had to survive this storm. We had to. Suddenly, out of the darkness loomed another ship. It was a ship we had only seen in our dreams. In our nightmares. A ship with black sails. A ship that filled any man's heart with terror...

Thursday

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aUcfMf3SJVs>

This pulse-pounding clip follows wingsuit pilot Sam Laming as he becomes the first person to perform a close proximity wingsuit flight down Mount Snowdon in Wales. Sam spent five years training for this extreme stunt.

Place yourself in Sam's position and describe your experience with this momentous endeavour. Below are some ideas to help get you started:

- What's the weather like? Though it might start off safe and sunny, what would happen if a storm approached?
- How far can you see? Can you spot towns or villages or are you surrounded by hills and fields?
- Is there any wildlife – rabbits hopping below you, or birds flying in formation?

You might want to start with being in the plane and getting ready to jump. You've spent 5 years training for this moment. How are you feeling?

For example:

I was trembling with a mix of nerves and excitement. This was the moment I had been waiting for. For five years I'd trained and this was finally my moment. The weather was on my side; a beautiful clear day over Mount Snowdon. I ran through all the important training over and over. I knew what to do. I could do this!

I edged towards to open door and prepared to jump...

Here's some images of Snowdon which might help you:



Friday



Today you will describe a place on planet Earth from the perspective of a visiting alien from outer space. Imagine you are an alien who arrives and writes a report to your commander on your home planet about the place you observe.

Think about the kind of alien you are — are you friendly or are you planning an invasion? It's up to you. This will make a difference in the way you will describe what you observe.

Choose one of the following specific places for your alien to describe. You obviously can't describe the whole planet, so limit yourself to one location.

- **A busy city street**
- **A shopping centre**
- **A school football game**
- **A school dinner hall**
- **A rush hour traffic jam**
- **A wedding or a church service**
- **A bowling alley**
- **A playground**
- **A farm**
- **Your own idea e.g. Wilmslow Town Centre**

Whichever place you choose, think about what it would be like to see and experience it for the first time, where everything is completely strange and new. What would be most interesting? What would be most difficult to understand?

Be sure to describe not only what you see but also what you hear. If you'd like, you can include tastes, smells and textures too.

Here's an example I've written for an invasion of Ashdene (I really enjoyed writing this one and getting to call you all smelly!).

Dear Commander Zog,

I hope all is well on Planet X and Fluffy (your pet fire-eater) is feeling better and not turning multicoloured anymore.

Earth is a strange place indeed. Its inhabitants are odd people. Selfish, disgusting creatures who ravage the land they are given. Our intelligence and tests show the temperature of Earth is rising, the ice caps are melting and the rainforests are disappearing. The worst part is that these creatures are aware of what they are doing. They are causing the destruction of their own home! Fools! This has convinced me further that we must do everything in our power to take control. We would not treat such a precious gift in this way. We would respect our planet and the resources it provides.

I completed my mission to investigate Ashdene Primary School. The offspring of these creatures are even more disgusting than the grown-up versions. Smelly, repugnant 'children' they call them. I hid in their 'Forest School' and watched them scuttle into the building one by one. The smell of them kept wafting over and I had to try so hard not to be sick. I couldn't leave any evidence of myself behind and I think bright glittery purple vomit would arouse suspicion. What's the point in a 'Forest School'? Is it to teach them how to chop down all the trees so they can continue to destroy the planet when they are fully grown?

They were in the building 'Ashdene Primary School' for a short time. They then came outside again, spreading all over the outside space like a disease. Stuffing food into their mouths and making the most horrendous sounds. The strangest thing I saw was on a space called 'MUGA'. Do you know what these creepy earthlings do for fun? They kick a round shape around. They race as fast as they can (very slow in my opinion), piling on top of each other to get to this strange round object. All they want to do is kick it. They get so excited when they finally kick it. This is a clear sign of their stupidity and lack of intelligence. To be amused by something so trivial, so silly? How about spending some time plotting universal domination? Do something useful.

I continued to observe 'children' come in and out of the building until mid-afternoon, when their ugly, absurd-looking guardians came to take them back to their nests. I think this might be the perfect time to strike when we start our take over. Mid - afternoon brings a huge gathering outside 'Ashdene Primary School'. We should plan our attack from there.

I await your instructions.

Your most humble 7-legged servant,

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