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# Home Learning Pack Year 4

Autumn 2



# Monday – Expanding Sentences using Conjunctions

1. Circle the sentence that contains a conjunction.

The young boy found himself feeling really upset.

Tom would put on his red coat whenever he was cold.

Harry had just enough money to buy a large loaf of bread.

2. For each sentence, put an 'X' to show if the conjunction indicates time, place or cause.

Sentence	Time	Place	Cause
The old man walked to the shop after visiting his friend.			
She would carry on unless she was told to stop.			
I put the toy where my brother could see it.			

3. Using the clauses and conjunctions below, create four sentences which make sense.

Mrs Higgins walked to the park

after

she found her favourite jacket.

Sophie skipped to school

when

eating a delicious breakfast.

Jane was really happy

because

it was a sunny day.

## Tuesday – Present Tense

1. Insert the simple present verbs in the correct places in the sentence below.

I \_\_\_\_\_ my bike to school, but sometimes I \_\_\_\_\_ in and \_\_\_\_\_ the bus at 8 o'clock.

am riding

sleep

get

ride



2. Underline the verbs in the sentences below that show they are written in the present progressive tense.

A. She is gripping the dog's lead tightly so it can't escape.

B. The escaped tiger is running down the streets and the zookeepers are racing after him.

C. She is humming a tune and the children are dancing along.

3. Is Ruby correct? Explain your answer.



I have underlined the present progressive tense verbs in this sentence.

The ginger cat is hiding in the tree but the dog is circling on the ground below.

## Wednesday – Punctuating Direct Speech

1. Identify the sentence which has correctly punctuated Ellie’s speech.



honestly Chidi, it was an absolute nightmare

- A. “honestly Chidi, it was an absolute nightmare!” exclaimed Ellie.
- B. “Honestly Chidi, it was an absolute nightmare!” exclaimed Ellie.
- C. “Honestly Chidi, it was an absolute nightmare?” exclaimed Ellie.

2. Identify the odd one out in the sentences below by marking it with an ‘X’.

		X
A.	The policeman shouted loudly at the criminal, “Stop right there!”	
B.	The little girl whispered shyly, “How can I become an explorer like you?”	
C.	“When would you like to get together to do the project work?” asked Tahani.”	
D.	“Can you help me with my homework please, Simone?” asked Shawn pleadingly.	

3. Underline the errors in the sentence below.

one sunny day, Mindy rushed into the kitchen and cried “can we go to the park today Daddy? Pretty please?”

Explain your answer.

## Thursday – Using Fronted Adverbials

1. Circle the fronted adverbial that would improve the sentence below.

The tigers roared, the elephants stomped and the sound echoed through the trees.

- A. Deep in the jungle,
- B. Nervously,
- C. Sometime next week,

2. Underline the adverbial phrase in the sentence below.

The twinkling stars and the snow-covered peaks could be seen in the distance.

Now, rewrite the sentence with a fronted adverbial.

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3. Rewrite the sentence below using a different fronted adverbial to change the meaning.

Nervously, the boy crept onto the stage but no one noticed he was there.

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# Friday – Identifying Paragraphs - Fiction

## One Wintry Night

It was the middle of a particularly cold night in February and a white blanket camouflaged the trees and fields for as far as the eye could see. Tall evergreens hung their heads heavily as they struggled to support the weight of the powdery snow. Not a single sound could be heard.

Moonlight struck the trees casting eerie shadows and creating tall, dark figures on the ground. Houses in the distance looked like tiny matchboxes queued up on the hillside, their few remaining lights twinkling in the night sky. It would have been perfectly clear if it weren't for one dark cloud moving noiselessly overhead.

Without warning, the wind whipped up causing the perfect snow to blow up into circles of icing sugar clouds. The trees began to sway, knocking off their peaks of snow and bringing their dark shadows to life.

Twisting and turning, Jake flew on into the darkness. He had been travelling for hours and his stomach was starting to rumble. He knew he would have to wait a little longer. It wasn't safe to land yet.

Jake was a completely normal boy. He went to school, played football at the weekend and he argued with his little sister a lot. However, this journey wasn't normal at all. Jake had had the strangest weekend and he felt like he was having a very odd dream.

The events had all started when he got home from school on Friday afternoon. On a normal day, he would arrive home to his mum cooking dinner in the kitchen. On this day, however, he found that the door was locked. Luckily he had his key and unlocked it himself. As soon as he stepped through the door, he knew something was wrong. He noticed broken glass scattered under his feet and began to panic.

1. Identify the paragraphs in the text by writing the first two words of each.

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5. The sentence 'On a normal day...' should be the start of a new paragraph. Do you agree? Explain your answer.

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2. What is the subject of the first paragraph?

6. Write the next paragraph in the story. Use the word bank to help you.

alone changed messy missing strange empty

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3. Which paragraph describes the start of some action?

Paragraph 1

Paragraph 2

Paragraph 3

4. True or false? The sentence below could be added to the first paragraph. Circle your answer.

The hoot of an owl and a flap of wings echoed through the trees.

true

false

7. Why does the sentence "The events had all..." start a new paragraph? Explain how you know.

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# Monday – ‘Have’ not ‘Of’ and ‘These/Those’ not ‘Them’

1. Circle the correct word to complete the sentence below.

We should have/of used the books in the library to find the answers to the questions.

Them/Those/These are my history books on the bookshelf.

I could have/of sorted the shapes into different groups. The circles and squares can be separated.

Them/Those/These are my favourite kind of chocolate because they have a soft centre.

2. Put an ‘X’ in the correct column to show which sentences use Standard English.

A. Them potatoes could be used to make a potato salad.

B. We should of woken up earlier to catch the flight.

C. These shoes belong to the old woman over there.

D. Them guards are protecting the castle from an attack.

E. These pieces of fruit will be shared equally between you all.

Standard  
English

Non-  
standard  
English

3. Write a sentence using standard English which includes the pronoun ‘those’. Use the word bank to help you.

people

over

annoying

are

there

because

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## Tuesday – More Than One Paragraph

That morning, the town of Riverndon was enjoying the warm sunshine. It was a welcome relief from the blizzards they had faced last week. The small high street was alive with the hustle and bustle of locals who were enjoying the freedom of the weekend.

Down by the river, Jakob was also enjoying his weekend. He hated being stuck in school all day. He'd spend his time daydreaming about exploring the hillside or fishing in the river. Often, his teacher would have to remind him to focus on the dull work that he was supposed to be doing. Now, however, he had two whole days to spend in the great outdoors with Luna.

Luna was his best friend. She was just a cub when he first met her. She had been trapped in the river by some fallen branches. She would have drowned if he hadn't heard her barks for help. She had been a much-loved member of the family ever since.

Today, they were hoping to catch some fish. It was quite a difficult task with Luna around. Her love of splashing in the icy water would scare the fish away. Nevertheless, Jakob climbed onto his favourite tree stump and cast his line out into the middle of the river. He settled down for a long wait.

"You there... boy... does that wolf belong to you?" A man had appeared on the other side of the river and he seemed to be talking to Jakob. He wasn't a local, that was for sure, and there was something about him that Jakob didn't like.

1. What is the main focus of paragraph one? Circle the correct answer.

describes a  
character

describes a  
location

introduces a  
dilemma

2. Which paragraph could the sentence below be added to?

It looked like she had become separated from her mother and she was too young to survive on her own.

3. Which device has been used at the start of paragraph five? Colour one box.

Speech

Fronted adverbial

Pronoun

4. True or false? The fronted adverbial 'Down by the river' links paragraphs two and four. Explain your answer.

## Tuesday – More Than One Paragraph

As usual, Karl was sitting in his favourite chair in front of his favourite video game. It was the weekend and he had endless hours of game play ahead of him. He had stocked up on plenty of drinks and snacks, so he wouldn't need to move until his bladder told him otherwise. His headset was on so he could communicate with his friends. They would have to work as a team if they wanted to win today.

Karl lived in a small house on the edge of town. His friends also lived in the same street, yet they chose to play separately in their own homes. Karl's mum worried about the amount of time he spent in front of the screen, but at least she knew that he was keeping out of trouble.

Virtual Karl and his team waited in the holding area. 3... 2... 1... Their avatars parachuted into the imaginary world. Quickly, they began to search around for health bonuses that would be helpful in the game. "Guys, let's head for Mysterious Mount. There's a portal at the top. We can use it to gain access to the underworld," ordered Karl. His character set off, and the rest of the team followed.

Once at the top of Mysterious Mount, the team found the gateway. "Right, everyone through at once!" commanded Karl. He watched his teammates disappear before jumping through himself. It was at that exact moment that something rather unexpected happened.

5. Write the next paragraph to tell the reader what happens after travelling through the portal.

6. Explain how paragraph two is different to paragraph one.

7. Matty has written the sentence below to add to paragraph three.

The house was just large enough for Karl and his mum, although it felt rather cramped when his gran came to visit.

Has he added it to the correct paragraph? Explain your answer.

# Wednesday – Present Perfect or Simple Past?

1. Circle the missing verb or verbs for each of the sentences.

A. Ellie \_\_\_\_\_ her leg.

breaked

has broked

broken

has broken

B. Sam \_\_\_\_\_ a new shed.

builded

has build

built

has builded

2. Put an 'X' to show the tense of each sentence.

Sentence	Present Perfect	Simple Past
A. Lisa has bought her brother's birthday present.		
B. Jason opened the door for his mum.		
C. The aeroplane flew over the Pacific Ocean.		
D. Miss Jones has misspelt the date on the board.		
E. The children have stolen the sweets.		

3. Rewrite the sentence below in the simple past tense.

A. We have lived in this house for five years and we have been very happy here.

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Rewrite the sentence below in the present perfect tense.

B. Kayleigh wore her old boots at the park and stepped in the mud.

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# Thursday – Expanding Sentences Using Adverbs

1. Circle the adverb in the sentences below.

A. Immediately, he called for an ambulance to help the injured man.

B. The neighbours became angry when my noisy dogs began to bark outside.

C. Shut the window, otherwise it will get cold and damp.

2. Put an 'X' in the correct columns to show whether the underlined word is an adverb of time, place or cause.

Sentence	Time	Place	Cause
A. As soon as the weather improved, many large flies appeared <u>everywhere</u> .			
B. We shall, <u>therefore</u> , rearrange another time to discuss these important issues and find a solution.			
C. Delilah <u>usually</u> attends an evening class on Mondays, but it was cancelled this week.			

3. Freya and Ron are discussing the sentence below.

The ferry service runs occasionally on a weekend, so you need to plan your journey.



Freya

The adverb in this sentence is an adverb of *place* because it tells you *where* the ferry service runs.

The adverb in this sentence is an adverb of *time* because it tells you *how often* the ferry service runs.



Ron

Who is correct? Explain your answer.

# Friday – 'I' or 'Me'

1. Put an 'X' next to the sentences which are written in Standard English.

A. Eric and I went to the library.

E. I suppose he wanted to help.

B. Me and Mum went for a lovely walk after finishing our breakfast.

F. Ishmael didn't mention anything to Molly and I.

C. Jack bought a calendar for me.

G. "It's none of your business," Chen said to me.

D. Can you describe it to I?

H. Lucas ran forward between Kyle and me.

2. Complete the sentences using the correct pronoun: 'I' or 'me'.

Please don't mention anything to anyone unless \_\_\_\_ tell you any different.

Sarah and \_\_\_\_ couldn't decide what to do at the weekend.

Katie and \_\_\_\_ occasionally arrive at the same time, so she asked if she could get a lift with \_\_\_\_ next week.

The boxes they delivered to \_\_\_\_ had completely taken over the garage, so dad and \_\_\_\_ eventually moved them.

3. Which sentence(s) below has used Standard English? Explain your choice.

A. Lucy, Charlie and I went shopping to buy a special outfit for the occasion.

B. Strange things often happen to Lucy, Charlie and I.

C. Harriet and me couldn't decide what time to arrive at the party.

D. The teacher saw Harriet and me on her way to the library.

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# Reading Task – The UFO

Tuesday 7th January 2020

Truro, Cornwall

Today has been a day that I will remember for the rest of my life. I still can't actually believe what has happened to me today (even though nobody considers I am telling the truth!) Today, I saw... a spaceship. Right there, up in the sky. Mum thinks I've had too much sugar (which is probably true) BUT I did indeed spot a UFO. Mum has been saying to get outside more instead of playing on my games console, so over the last few weeks I thought I best at least try to get some fresh air because I don't want to be grounded. That's when I saw it! I was walking over to Ben's house around about 4pm after school and to be honest it was starting to get dark. The street lights came on all of a sudden which made me jump out of my skin. Ben only lives around the corner and Mum only lets me go by myself because I take my mobile with me in case I get into trouble.

Anyway, just before I got to Church Street, I heard a weird buzzing sound. I stopped and checked my phone because it's been playing up lately, making strange sounds, but it wasn't my phone. And besides, the buzzing got louder and louder. That's when I looked up. There above number 53, was an oval shaped, disc-type thing, actually hovering above the house. I know the girl in number 53 from school, and yes she's a bit strange, but not on this sort of level! Out of the dark came a ray of blue light. It shone down on the house in a triangular shape, lighting up everything in its path. In fact, it illuminated the house like a Christmas tree!

At that moment, I legged it! I was closer to Ben's than mine so I ran like a galloping horse. I didn't even look back until I got to his front door. I dragged him outside in order to see the UFO but when I pointed up to the sky, nothing was there. It was gone. Not only that but Ben just laughed. He thought it was a prank of some sort. Ben's mum, Mrs Mitchell, came out into the front garden to see what all the fuss was about but she didn't believe me either. I even drew them both a picture of what I had seen too but that didn't help.

Wednesday 8th January 2020

Truro, Cornwall

I thought yesterday was an exciting day but today was even better! When I got to school there was a commotion at the gates. There were lots of vans with big aerials on the top of them. Surrounding the gates were lots of people, all looking in the same direction. In the middle of the group, facing the people, was the girl from number 53. I think her name is Ellen. I've seen her on the playground at lunchtime before. She was standing there with someone who looked like her mum and people were holding up microphones towards her. She looked nervous but her mum was holding her hand. When we listened to what they were saying, I realised that Ellen was talking about a UFO. She also said that she saw an alien! An alien! I must have had a lucky escape. Ellen explained how she was panic-stricken, face-to-face with a sea-green alien in her backyard.

## Reading Task – The UFO

The TV crews stayed around the school gates for the rest of the morning while we carried on with our day. Maths and English as usual. At playtime everyone wanted to hear what Ellen had to say. Crowds of peers surrounded her, trying to gain any morsel of information. She must have described the alien hundreds of times to different people. I wonder if people will believe me now? I did go and tell my part of the story but people just thought I was making it up because of Ellen's story.

Thursday 9th January 2020

Truro, Cornwall

Today was a normal day at school. There were no TV cameras, no people at the gates and lessons went ahead as normal. We had science this morning and we were learning about the cycle of the Moon. We ended up talking about aliens and if they exist. Lots of people had different ideas on this. I walked home with Ben from school at around 3:30pm. It's only a short walk but always seems to take ages. I think that's because there is such a big hill to climb along Magden Road. We walked up the road towards Ben's house and along the street. There were houses on each side of the road with small front gardens. Many of the houses have hedges or low fences that line the street.

Suddenly, a figure appeared in front of us like a pear. It had three legs underneath and it was a green-blue colour. It stared right at us, unmoving. Ben and I froze, not knowing what to do next. There it remained with piercing eyes, for what felt like ten minutes. It was almost like a staring competition with us and the alien. Ben took a step forward with his hand out to wave. In response to this the alien copied him, also reaching forward with two of its many hands. Ben even said hello to it but in reply the alien made a grunting sound like a chinchilla. I only know that because my cousin Amy has two chinchillas as pets and sometimes when we go around to her house we play with them. So anyway, while we were communicating with the alien there was a noise from behind us. It sounded like a crowd of girls walking home too. They were talking loudly about Justin Bieber and his new album. When the alien heard the noise, his whole body flickered, just like a hologram. After flickering for several seconds, he vanished into thin air, leaving Ben and me startled and to be honest quite annoyed with the girls who were walking towards us from behind.

We talked about it the rest of the way home and agreed that we would keep it a secret between ourselves. We didn't want everyone to know what we had experienced today. It was definitely the best day of my life though! And I wonder what tomorrow will bring?

# Reading Task – The UFO – Comprehension

These questions are based upon the text The UFO on pages 13 to 14. Read the text and use this to help you answer the questions below.

1. What type of text is this? Circle the correct answer.

a newspaper  
article

a biography

a story

a diary

2. Which of the features below tell you this?

first person

second person

date

present tense

future tense

past tense

3. Complete the sentences below filling in the date and place the events of the first section of text happen.

The text was written on \_\_\_\_\_.

The events took place in \_\_\_\_\_ which is in \_\_\_\_\_.

4. True or false? The text is written in a formal tone.

true

false

Explain how you know.

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5. Why has the author used brackets in the sentence below?

Mum thinks I've had too much sugar (which is probably true).

To help the sentence to make sense.

To give more information to the reader.

To explain what a word means.

## Reading Task – The UFO – Comprehension

6. Who was being interviewed when the writer got to school on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January?

the teachers

the girl from number 53

Ellen's mum

Ben

7. Which part of the school day on 8<sup>th</sup> January was different to normal?

maths

The start of the school day

English

lunch time

8. Which sentence do you think best explains why people didn't believe the author's part of the story?

They didn't believe the author because they didn't see it.

People thought they were making it up because the author was jealous of all of the attention Ellen was getting.

People didn't believe the author because they didn't like them.

9. Which words taken from the text match the definitions below?

A. an antenna used to transmit radio or TV broadcasts

morsel

B. all around one particular thing

panic-stricken

C. affected by fear, frightened

commotion

D. a small amount or piece

aerial

E. a noisy and confused disturbance

surrounding

10. How do you think the author was feeling at the end of their entry on 8<sup>th</sup> January? Choose a word from the word bank below and explain your choice.

confused

distraught

angry

jealous

## Reading Task – The UFO – Comprehension

11. What happened to Ben and the author on their way home from school the next day?

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12. When the alien first appeared, what did it do? Find and copy two sentences from the text. Each line represents one word.

A. \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ .

B. \_\_\_\_\_ , \_\_\_\_\_ .

13. How do you think the characters were feeling at this point in the text? Explain your choice.

Ben and I froze, not knowing what to do next.

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14. What does the author of the text want you to believe? Choose two options from the list below.

A. They want us to believe that aliens exist.

B. They want us to believe Ellen's story.

C. They want us to believe that UFOs don't exist.

D. They want us to believe that they had an encounter with an alien and saw a UFO.

## Reading Task – Vibrant Summer Comprehension



# Reading Task – Vibrant Summer Comprehension

These questions are based upon the picture Vibrant Summer on page 18. Look carefully at the image and use your inference skills to answer the questions below.

1. Identify ONE question you would like to ask about this scene.

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2. How does this photo make you feel? Why?

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3. How do you think the woman is feeling? Why do you think that?

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4. Write two facts and two opinions about this image.

## Facts

1. 

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2. 

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## Opinions

1. 

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2. 

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# Reading Task – Vibrant Summer Comprehension

5. What is happening in the picture?

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6. List 5 different things you can see in this photo – be descriptive!

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Which word do you think best describes this scene and why?

vibrant

calm

busy

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8. Would you show this image to someone else? Why/why not?

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# Reading Task – Vibrant Summer Comprehension

9. Where might this picture have been taken?

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10. Why might this woman be taking photos? Think of as many different plausible reasons as possible.

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# Reading Task – The Discovery

## The Discovery

As it had done ever since their arrival three days ago, the sun blazed down relentlessly, making the midday heat almost unbearable. Ben and Rachel were struggling with the Egyptian heat and were trying to think of something to do that would not make them even hotter. On the orders of his boss at the Daily Herald, the children's father had been sent to the Valley of the Kings to cover the exciting discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb. He thought it would be an educational trip for the children and brought them along. However, the children were bored as their father had to attend so many meetings. Playing outside in this dry, dusty heat was just not an option.

"Did you see Dad's photographs of Tutankhamen's treasure?" Rachel asked her brother. "There were wonderful jewels and an amazing death mask!"

"I wonder if we will get a chance to see them in real life – I certainly hope so!" Ben responded.

"What shall we do now?" Rachel wondered, "It's too hot to go out far!"

Ben answered her excitedly, "I saw some little tunnels down near where Howard Carter found Tutankhamen's tomb. Shall we go and explore?"

Ten minutes later, Rachel and Ben were crawling along the narrowest of tunnels with sandy dust falling into their faces. They could only see about a metre ahead of themselves with the aid of their torches.

"I don't like this!" Rachel squealed anxiously, "Let's go back!"

"Hold on!" Ben whispered suddenly, "I've found something!"

He pulled out an object wrapped in a linen parcel and they both scurried back out into the daylight to get a better view.

"Wow!" they both exclaimed together on seeing the exquisite scarab pendant studded with jewels that was before them.

"I think it may be from Tutankhamen's tomb. Remember Dad told us about tomb raiders who stole valuables from the tombs of important people? It may be part of their haul! Let's take it to show Dad. There may be an ice cream in this for us!"

The children were indeed lucky and got their ice creams. The pendant had been stolen from Tutankhamen's tomb. It turned out to be really valuable and of great historical significance. Ben and Rachel's father said that maybe they should come on all of his assignments.

By Jane Harvey

# Reading Task – The Discovery – Comprehension

These questions are based upon the text *The Discovery* on page 22. Read the text and use this to help you answer the questions below.

1. Where is the story set?

The story is set in \_\_\_\_\_ .

2. Which four words are used to replace 'said' in the text?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Match each word to the correct definition.

option

valuable for learning

educational

carrying on without stopping

attend

too hard to cope with

unbearable

to be present at

relentlessly

having happened not long ago

recent

choice

4. Underline three adjectives in the sentences below that describe the heat in Egypt.

As it has done ever since their arrival three days ago, the sun blazed down relentlessly, making the midday heat almost unbearable.

Playing outside in this dry, dusty heat was just not an option.

# Reading Task – The Discovery – Comprehension

5. Why did the children's father think the trip would be educational?

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6. Who found the entrance to the tomb of Tutankhamen?

\_\_\_\_\_ found the tomb of Tutankhamen.

7. Where do you think the children are going to explore? What do you think they want to find?

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8. Which two words best describe what it was like to be in the tunnels?

constricted

melancholy

gloomy

substantial

cheerful

effortless

9. If you wanted to see the pendant today, where would you be likely to find it? Circle the correct answer.

in a museum

in Ben and Rachel's house

in the tunnels in Egypt

in a box in the children's loft

10. True or false? Rachel and Ben's father was angry at them for finding the pendant.

true

false

# Reading Task – The Discovery – Comprehension

11. How do you know? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.

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12. Find and copy the six word phrase from the text that describes the pendant when the children opened the parcel to see it more clearly.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

13. Find and copy the words in the text that can be used as a synonym for the words below.

beautiful	-	_____
scuttled	-	_____
treasures	-	_____
locket	-	_____
importance	-	_____

14. Who is the author of this story?

The author's name is \_\_\_\_\_.

# Reading Task – Inspiring Dahl – Comprehension

## Inspiring Dahl

18<sup>th</sup> July 1982

Dear Roald Dahl,

I am writing to thank you from the bottom of my heart for writing such entertaining and remarkable stories. You certainly deserve this fan letter. As a matter of fact, this is the first letter to an author that I have ever written. Ever since reading your first book *The Gremlins*, I have become addicted to reading. I think it's just terrific – certainly my favourite so far! Since then, I have read more of your books and have loved them all.

My name is Mark and I am 12 years old. I found school difficult when I was younger and couldn't understand why my teachers and parents made me read every night. I think now, that if I had been introduced to your stories earlier, reading each night would have been a joy. However, I am now known as the 'Book Worm' (which I love) and I read at every chance that I can. My teacher is always telling me to put my book away in my bag and read it again during the next break. Sometimes they don't notice me and I read all lesson. It's great! Please don't tell my mum though!

The main reason for me writing to you is that I would love to become a children's author, just like you, and I would love some tips on what makes a great story that people want to read. Where do you get your inspiration from? How do you plan each story? How do you create the plot? How do your characters evolve?

I absolutely love *James and the Giant Peach*. How amazing that so many book lovers call this their all time favourite (well, they do in my school). It gripped me from start to finish. What a magical and fascinating journey that James goes on. No wonder it was your first classic novel.

My mum wanted me to tell you that her favourite is *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. She tries to read it to my little sister every night. I think that she can even retell it without looking at the words. The Oompa-Loompas make her giggle every time she reads about them. My mum has successfully added another follower to your fan club. My sister loves *Fantastic Mr Fox* best of all. She thinks that Boggis, Bunce and Bean are hilarious and believes that one of the characters is based on the grumpy old man who lives at the end of our road. She won't tell me which one though!

I have a few ideas for my first book and I have begun to make a plan just like my teacher has taught me. There are three main characters (one young boy, based on a boy I used to know and two animals that he meets on his magical journey). I have attached my notes to this letter for you to have a look at (if you get chance).

Please write back to me, I would really appreciate your insightful advice in the start of my journey to becoming an exciting and mesmerising author just like you.

Yours sincerely,

Mark

## Reading Task – Inspiring Dahl – Comprehension

These questions are based upon the text *Inspiring Dahl* on page 26. Read the text and use this to help you answer the questions below.

1. Find and copy the 3 adjectives used in the first paragraph.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Why has the author chosen to use these words?

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3. True or false? Mark found school easy when he was younger.

true

false

4. Give one reason why Mark did not find school easy when he was younger.

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5. Underline the 2 phrases or sentences in the text that show why the nickname 'Book Worm' is a suitable name for Mark.

However, I am now known as the 'Book Worm' (which I love) and I read every chance that I can. My teacher is always telling me to put my book away in my bag and read it again during the next break. Sometimes they don't notice me and I read all lesson.

## Reading Task – Inspiring Dahl – Comprehension

6. What tells you that Mark enjoyed reading James and the Giant Peach?

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7. What does Mark not want Roald Dahl to tell his mum?

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8. What are the names of Mark's sister's favourite characters?

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9. What three things has Mark done so far with his first book?

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10. Number the pieces of information below to put them in the correct order.

Mark doesn't want his mum to discover he reads in lessons without his teachers seeing.

Mark has become addicted to reading.

Mark asks Roald Dahl how he plans and writes stories.

The letter is the first Mark has written to an author.

Mark's sister thinks a character from Fantastic Mr Fox is based on their neighbour.

Mark couldn't understand why he had to read.