



English Skills and Reading task pack

Welcome to your English Skills task pack for the week. In this pack you will find additional support and instructions for your daily English and Reading tasks that will be leading up to your next Big Write on Monday!

If you need any further help or support, please let Mr Spencer know. Lets create some impressive writing!



- This week you will be practising all the skills necessary to write your own newspaper report! This is accompanied by two reading inference tasks to explore the narrative that will be the stimulus for your Big Write on Monday.



Monday 8th June, 2020

Warhorse Chapter 7 Comprehension

Today you are going to be exploring the seventh chapter of our class text.

It will be important to remember to:

- Make sure you answer in full sentences
- Include the question in your answer
- Use the conjunction "because" at least once
- Use evidence from the text to support your answer
- If you can include all of this in each of your answers, your work will be fabulous!

Write the answers in full sentences to the questions on Chapter 7 of Warhorse. Make sure you use Point. Evidence. Explanation. Find it, prove it, show it!

1. How does Joey describe Trooper Warren's riding ability? Provide evidence from the chapter.
2. Describe how Trooper Warren treated Joey. What effect did this have on Joey?
3. How did Trooper Warren end up joining the war?
4. What development had occurred in the war? Describe in detail
5. Who was Sally?
6. What was happening to many of the horses?
7. How does Joey describe the battlefield?
8. What does going 'over the wire' mean?
9. Why were the men cheering when they went into 'no man's land'?
10. What do you think will happen next?
11. Imagine that you are Trooper Warren about to go into no man's land. Describe in detail how you are feeling and what you think will happen to you.

Tuesday 9th June, 2020

Maintaining Tense: Past Tense

Today you are going to be thinking about writing in the past tense.

This means that the writing you will be exploring needs to be written in a way that describes events and happenings as if they have already happened.

This is the most typical tense for a newspaper because a newspaper reports events that have already happened.

Earning their wings!



20 October 1917

CAUGHT up in the Battle of Passchendaele, British troops need to get an urgent signal back to their headquarters from the front line.

A messenger is sent but, shortly after setting off, he has come under fire.

Even though his leg is broken by a bullet, the messenger carries on and delivers the message. Sadly, he is dying the next day.

This heroic mission is carried out by a soldier but by a **brave** pigeon, known only as 2709, one of thousands training to fly back to base from the front line.

The birds are helping to save the lives of thousands of soldiers, with more than 95% getting their messages through. They are also shaping many key decisions in the war.

The king, George V, is even sending his own pigeons from the royal loft at Sandringham so that he can be updated on the progress of the war.

Anyone interfering with a homing pigeon during the war faces a £100 fine or six months in jail!

Tuesday 9th June, 2020

Maintaining Tense: Past Tense

Your task: Read through the newspaper that Mr. Spencer has written. Unfortunately Mr. Spencer has been a little bit dopey and has written his report in the present tense! Write out the report changing Mr Spencer's report to the Past tense.

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Wednesday 10th June, 2020

Warhorse Chapter 8 Comprehension

Today you are going to be exploring the eighth chapter of our class text.

It will be important to remember to:

- Make sure you answer in full sentences
- Include the question in your answer
- Use the conjunction "because" at least once
- Use evidence from the text to support your answer
- If you can include all of this in each of your answers, your work will be fabulous!

Write the answers in full sentences to the questions on Chapter 8 of Warhorse. Make sure you use Point. Evidence. Explanation. Find it, prove it, show it!

1. What could be heard through the 'eerie' silence of no man's land?
2. Why do you think Trooper Warren panicked that the barbed wire was still there?
3. Describe in your own words the battle.
4. Why do you think one of the troopers shot his horse that was trapped in the wire?
5. Do you think he was right in doing so? Justify
6. Why did Captain Stewart tell Trooper Warren to throw down his sword?
7. What were the last shots in the battle?
8. How did Captain Stewart describe the deaths of the horses? Quote from the chapter.
9. How did Captain Stewart describe the horses after they were captured?
10. Why did Captain Stewart have his arm round Trooper Warren at the end of the Chapter?
11. What do you think will happen to them both now that they have been captured?

Thursday 11th June, 2020

Organising information and using reported speech.

Task 1: The following article has once again been written by Mr Spencer and he thinks that it is a fantastic newspaper report! However Mr Spencer has not organised his information into paragraphs and has just written one mega piece of text. It is your job to re-write the report, organising the information into paragraphs. Remember, a paragraph should include information that is all based on one specific them, subject or idea.



First News WORLD WAR I

Christmas truces spread!

30 December 1914

HUNDREDS of thousands of British and German soldiers in the trenches of the Western Front have spontaneously dropped their weapons and called a series of truces over Christmas. The shock move took British and German generals by surprise. Permission didn't come from the Secretary of War, Lord Kitchener. The Western Front stretches for 400 miles, from the Swiss border with France through to the North Sea coast in northern France. Fortified trenches have been built along the front by both the Central Powers (Germany, Austria- Hungary, and the Ottoman Empire) and Allied forces. Soldiers dropped their weapons and exchanged gifts, with several even venturing into the 'no-man's-land' between trenches to shake hands with their enemies. The spontaneous ceasefires have been taking place regularly since Christmas Eve, with up to 100,000 troops thought to have taken part. The extraordinary show of affection between soldiers was started by German soldiers who held up Christmas trees from one of their trenches. After seeing the trees, some of which were lit up by

Thursday 11th June, 2020

Organising information and using reported speech.

Task 2: Once you have done this, identify the parts of the text that are passages of reported speech. This means the sentences that you know have been said by someone and then written down for the newspaper report. Once you have identified these sentences, punctuate with speech marks and appropriate punctuation.



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Friday 12th June, 2020

The lead paragraph and the content of an article

You explored last week what the basic features of a newspaper report were. This week, you are going to explore the content of a newspaper and its structure including the lead paragraph. A lead paragraph is a body of text that summarizes the key ideas of the entire article giving the reader an overview of what the article will be about.

Your first task is to read through these two articles based upon World War 1, once you have done this, answer the questions that are included on your task sheet.

It will be really important to think about these questions when you write your own article on Monday!

Circus animals to the rescue

24 February 1916

AN elephant called Lizzie has become a regular sight on the streets of Sheffield.

With the war raging, the military has bought most of England's horses and sent them to the Western Front. So farmers and other workers are having to find other animals to help them.

Lizzie's job is to cart equipment, machines and scrap metal around Sheffield, a job that used to be done by three horses taken off to war.



Elephants from Sengar's Circus are being used to plough fields in Horley, Surrey

Before the war began, Lizzie used to perform tricks as part of a travelling circus. She is said to be quite a character, with a story going round about her putting her trunk into somebody's window and stealing their dinner.

Elephants from another circus are also filling in for missing horses by ploughing fields and transporting hay in Surrey.

Hundreds of thousands of horses and mules are being used by Britain in the war. Most of our heavy horses have already gone to the front, with many being killed or injured. The Blue Cross charity is raising funds for their treatment.



A horse is landed from a British military transport ship at Boulogne, France

The soldier dog

3 August 1918

A STRAY dog has become a soldier and looks set to be remembered as one of the heroes of the war when it is over.

The bull terrier cross wandered through an American army training session at Yale Field in Connecticut. One soldier, Corporal Robert Conroy, took a shine to the dog and named him Stubby, because of his short and stubby tail.

Conroy smuggled the dog onto his ship bound for France. Stubby was allowed to stay, even though animals are forbidden, because he learned a kind of dog salute, putting his right paw on his right eyebrow.

On 5 February 1918, Stubby reached the front line as part of the 102nd Infantry. He was an official mascot because he helped to keep up the spirits of the troops.

Stubby has already survived a number of injuries from shrapnel and gas attacks. He has become so well-known and admired that he has been treated in Red Cross hospitals alongside human soldiers.

Having survived gas attacks, Stubby has become very

sensitive to the smell of gas and, with his sensitive dog nose, is able to detect gas much earlier than his human comrades and can alert them to danger in time. His sensitive hearing also means he is often the first to hear the advancing enemy and can alert his comrades.

A report has reached First News that, two nights ago, Stubby heard a German spy who tried to sneak into Conroy's camp during the dead of night. Stubby grabbed the intruder's leg and held him until Conroy and other troops came to capture the German.

Stubby has also been useful as a 'mercy' dog, scanning the battlefields for injured soldiers and bringing doctors to the wounded.

When Stubby returns home at the end of the war, he will probably get more medals than any other soldier dog and may even outrank his owner!



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Pic from Alan Reid, from the Horley II Library Society



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