### **Year 5 - Independent Writing Activities**

### Introduction

This book of 'Independent Writing Activities' covers the genres for the 9 to 10 year old age group. It has been written to the UK National Strategy Primary Framework for Literacy.

It contains at least two independent writing activities for each genre type and is an ideal vehicle for assessing pupil progress in writing when used with the different Levels found in the Writing Assessment Guidelines, which accompany the Primary Framework for Literacy. (The appropriate levels for this age group have been reproduced under licence at the beginning of this book.)

The author has also used this approach successfully with children to embed the features of each genre. This was achieved by re-visiting a previously studied genre later in the term, so that the children practised it once again. This ensured that the features of that particular type of writing remained firmly embedded in the children's memory. Thus when the children were tested or came to write in that particular genre at a later date it was not just a distant memory.

There are six similar books in this series covering the work of pupils from Year 1 through to Year 6 (ages 5 to 11). PDF or Download versions are also available of these books for use on Interactive Whiteboards.

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The National Strategies | Primary | Primary Framework for literacy and mathematics Assessment guidelines for writing L2, L3

Writing assessment guidelines: levels 2 and 3

	AF5 – vary sentences for clarity, purpose and effect	AF6 – write with technical accuracy of syntax and punctuation in phrases, clauses and sentences	AF3 – organise and present whole texts effectively, sequencing and structuring information, ideas and events	AF4 – construct paragraphs and use cohesion within and between paragraphs	AF1 – write imaginative, interesting and thoughtful texts	AF2 – produce texts which are appropriate to task, reader and purpose	AF7 – select appropriate and effective vocabulary	AF8 – use correct spelling	Handwriting and presentation
Jevel 3	In most writing  reliance mainly on simply structured sentences, variation with support, e.g. some complex sentences  and, but, so are the most common connectives, subordination occasionally  some limited variation in use of tense and verb forms, not always secure	In most writing  straightforward sentences usually demarcated accurately with full stops, capital letters, question and exdamation marks some, limited, use of speech punctuation comma splicing evident, particularly in narrative	In most writing  • some attempt to organise ideas with related points placed next to each other  • openings and closings usually signalled  • some attempt to sequence ideas or material logically	In most writing  • some internal structure within sections of text e.g. one-sentence paragraphs or ideas loosely organised  • within paragraphs/sections, some links between sentences, e.g. use of pronouns or of adverbials  • movement between paragraphs/sections sometimes abvections sometimes abverbials	In most writing  • some appropriate ideas and content included  • some attempt to elaborate on basic information or events, e.g. nouns expanded by simple adjectives  • attempt to adopt viewpoint, though often not maintained or inconsistent, e.g. attitude expressed, but with little elaboration	In most writing  • purpose established at a general level • main features of selected form sometimes signalled to the reader • some attempts at appropriate style, with attention to reader	In most writing  • simple, generally appropriate vocabulary used, limited in range  • some words selected for effect or occasion	In most writing  • correct spelling of some common grammatical function words common content/lexical words with more than one morpheme, including compound words  • likely errors some inflected endings, comparatives, adverbs some phonetically plausible attempts at content/lexical words	In most writing  • legible style, shows accurate and consistent letter formation, sometimes joined
Level 2	In some forms of writing  • some variation in sentence openings, e.g. not always starting with name or pronoun  • mainly simple sentences with and used to connect clauses  • past and present tense generally consistent	In some forms of writing  clause structure mostly grammatically correct  sentence demarcation with capital letters and full stops usually accurate  some accurate use of question and exclamation marks, and commas in lists	In some forms of writing  • some basic sequencing of ideas or material, e.g. time-related words or phrases, line breaks, headings, numbers  • openings and/or closings sometimes signalled	In some forms of writing  • ideas in sections grouped by content, some linking by simple pronouns	In some forms of writing  • mostly relevant ideas and content, sometimes repetitive or sparse • some apt word choices create interest • brief comments, questions about events or actions suggest viewpoint	writing writing some basic purpose established, e.g. main features of story, report some appropriate features of the given form used some attempts to adopt appropriate style	In some forms of writing  • simple, often speech-like vocabulary conveys relevant meanings • some adventurous word choices, e.g. opportune use of new vocabulary	In some forms of writing  • usually correct spelling of high frequency grammatical function words common single morpheme content/lexcal words  • likely errors inflected endings, e.g. past tense, plurals, adverbs phonetic attempts at vowel digraphs	In some forms of writing  • letters generally correctly shaped but inconsistencies in orientation, size and use of upper/lower case letters  • clear letter formation, with ascenders and descenders distinguished, generally upper and lower case letters to mixed within words
B B									
Key:	BL Below level	IE Insufficient evidence one box only)	Low 2	Secure 2	High 2		Low 3	Secure 3	High 3

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The National Strategies | Primary | Primary Framework for literacy and mathematics Assessment guidelines for writing L3, L4

Writing assessment guidelines: levels 3 and 4

J.	Pupil name			Class/Group		Date			
	AF5 – vary sentences for clarity, purpose and effect	AF6 – write with technical accuracy of syntax and punctuation in phrases, clauses and sentences	AF3 – organise and present whole texts effectively, sequencing and structuring information, ideas and events	AF4 – construct paragraphs and use cohesion within and between paragraphs	AF1 – write imaginative, interesting and thoughtful texts	AF2 – produce texts which are appropriate to task, reader and purpose	AF7 – select appropriate and effective vocabulary	AF8 – use correct spelling	Handwriting and presentation
Level 4	Across a range of writing  some variety in length, structure or subject of sentences  use of some subordinating connectives, e.g. if, when, because throughout the text some variation, generally accurate, in tense and verb forms	Across a range of writing     Sentences     demarcated accurately throughout the text, including question marks     speech marks to denote speech generally accurate, with some other speech punctuation     commas used in lists and occasionally to mark clauses, although not always accurately	writing     ideas organised by clustering related points or by time sequence ideas are organised simply with a fitting opening and closing, sometimes linked ideas or material generally in logical sequence but overall direction of writing not always clearly signalled	Across a range of writing     paragraphs/sections help     to organise content, e.g.     main idea usually     supported or elaborated     by following sentences     within     paragraphs/sections,     limited range of     connections between     sentences, e.g. over-use     of also' or pronouns     some attempts to     establish simple links     between     paragraphs/sections not     always maintained, e.g.     firstly, next	Across a range of writing  • relevant ideas and content chosen • some ideas and material developed in detail, e.g. descriptions elaborated by advertial and expanded noun phrases • straightforward viewpoint generally established and maintaining a consistent stance	writing  main purpose of writing is clear but not always consistently maintained  main features of selected form are clear appropriate to purpose  style generally appropriate to purpose  style generally appropriate to task, though awareness of reader not always sustained	writing  • some evidence of deliberate voeabulary choices • some expansion of general voeabulary to match topic	Correct spelling of most common grammatical function words, including adverbs with -ly formation regularly formed content/lexical words, including those with multiple morphemes most past and present tense inflections, plurals of some common grammatical homophones of some common grammatical function words occasional phonetically plausible spelling in content/lexical words	
Level 3	In most writing  reliance mainly on simply structured sentences, variation with support, e.g. some complex sentences  and, but, so are the most common comectives, subordination occasionally  some limited variation in use of tense and verb forms, not always secure	In most writing  • straightforward sentences usually demarcated accurately with full stops, capital letters, question and exclamation marks  • some, limited, use of speech purctuation  • comma splicing evident, particularly in narrative	In most writing  • some attempt to organise ideas with related points placed next to each other  • openings and closings usually signalled  • some attempt to sequence ideas or material logically	In most writing  • some internal structure within sections of text e.g. one-sentence paragraphs or ideas loosely organised within earliers some links between sentences, e.g. use of pronouns or of adverbials  • movement between paragraphs/sections sometimes abrupt or disjointed	In most writing  some appropriate ideas and content included some attempt to elaborate on basic information or events, e.g. nouns expanded by simple adjectives  attempt to adopt viewpoint, though often not maintained or inconsistent, e.g. attitude expressed, but with little	In most writing  • purpose established at a general level  • main features of selected form sometimes signalled to the reader  • some attempts at appropriate style, with attention to reader	In most writing  • simple, generally appropriate vocabulary used, limited in range e some words selected for effect or occasion	In most writing  correct spelling of some common grammatical function words common content/lexical words with more than one morpheme, including compound words  likely errors  some inflected endings, e.g. past tense, comparatives, adverbs some phonetically plausible attempts at content/lexical words	In most writing  • legible style, shows accurate and consistent letter formation, sometimes joined
BL									
Ш									
Key:	BL Below level IE	Insufficient evidence	-				-	_	
Over	Overall assessment (tick one box only)	ox only)	Low 3	Secure 3	High 3	Low 4	4	Secure 4	High 4
QCA	⋖					٦		© Crown copyright 2008	/right 2008

The National Strategies | Primary | Primary Framework for literacy and mathematics Assessment guidelines for writing L4, L5

Writing assessment guidelines: levels 4 and 5

ā								
	AF5 – vary sentences for clarity, purpose and effect	AF6 – write with technical accuracy of syntax and punctuation in phrases, clauses and sentences	AF3 – organise and present whole texts effectively, sequencing and structuring linformation, ideas and events	AF4 – construct paragraphs and use cohesion within and between paragraphs	AF1 – write imaginative, interesting and thoughtful texts	AF2 – produce texts which are appropriate to task, reader and purpose	AF7 – select appropriate and effective vocabulary	AF8 – use correct spelling
writing eavalued available avai	writing  • a variety of sentence lengths, structures and subjects provides clarity and emphasis  • wider range of connectives used to clarify relationship between ideas, e.g. although, on the other hand, meanwhile  • some features of sentence structure used to build up detail or convey shades of meaning, e.g. variation in word order, expansions in verb phrases	Across a range of writing  I tail range of punctuation used accurately to demarcate sentences, including speech punctuation  Syntax and punctuation within the sentence generally accurate including commas to mark clauses, though some errors occur where ambitious structures are attempted	material is structured clearly, with sentences organised into appropriate paragraphs     development of material is effectively managed across tax, e.g. closings refer back to openings     overall direction of the text supported by clear links between paragraphs	Across a range of writing     paragraphs clearly structure main ideas across text to support purpose, e.g. clear chronological or logical links between paragraphs     within paragraphs/sections, a range of devices support cohesion, e.g. secure use of pronouns, connectives, references back to text     inks between     paragraphs/sections generally maintained across whole text	Across a range of writing	writing  • main purpose of writing is clear and consistently maintained of features of selected form clearly established with some adaptation to purpose  • appropriate style clearly established to maintain readers interest throughout	writing  • vocabulary chosen for effect chosen for effect vocabulary used, though not always appropriately	Correct spelling of grammatical function words almost all inflected words most derivational suffixes and prefixes most content/lexical words occasional phonetically plausible spelling of unstressed syllables in content words double consonants in prefixes
Level Across 4 writing e some sent sent sent when when through through the some sent sent sent sent sent sent sent sen	Across a range of writing  • some variety in length, structure or subject of sentences • use of some subordinating connectives, e.g. if, when, because throughout the text of some variation, generally accurate, in tense and verb forms	Across a range of writing  • sentences demarcated accurately throughout the text, including question marks  • speech marks to denote speech arks to denote speech generally accurate, with some other speech punctuation  • commas used in lists and occasionally to mark clauses, although not always accurately	Across a range of writing  ideas organised by clustering related points or by time sequence ideas are organised simply with a fitting opening and closing, sometimes linked closing, sometimes linked in logical sequence but overall direction of writing not always clearly signalled	Across a range of writing  • paragraphs/sections help to organise content, e.g. main idea usually supported or elaborated by following sentences  • within paragraphs/sections, limited range of connections between sentences, e.g. overuse of 'also' or pronouns  • some attempts to establish simple links between paragraphs/sections ot always maintained, e.g. firstly, next	Across a range of writing  • relevant ideas and content chosen • some ideas and material developed in detail, e.g. descriptions elaborated by adverbial and expanded noun phrases • straightforward viewpoint generally established and maintained, e.g. writing in role or maintaining a consistent stance.	Across a range of writing  • main purpose of writing is clear but not always consistently maintained • main features of selected form are clear and appropriate to purpose • style generally appropriate to task, though awareness of reader not always sustained	Across a range of writing  • some evidence of deliberate vocabulary choices  • some expansion of general vocabulary to match topic	Across a range of writing
BL								
ш								
Key: BL	Key: BL Below level IE Insuffici Overall assessment (tick one box only)	ent evidence	Low 4 Sec	Secure 4 Hig	High 4	Low 5	Secure 5	High 5

# Time Travel

One evening you go to your computer and accidentally press one of the keys you have never pressed before. Suddenly you are transported into a different time!



### Task

Your task is to write about where you travel to, what the place is like, who you meet and how you manage to get home again.

### Time Travel

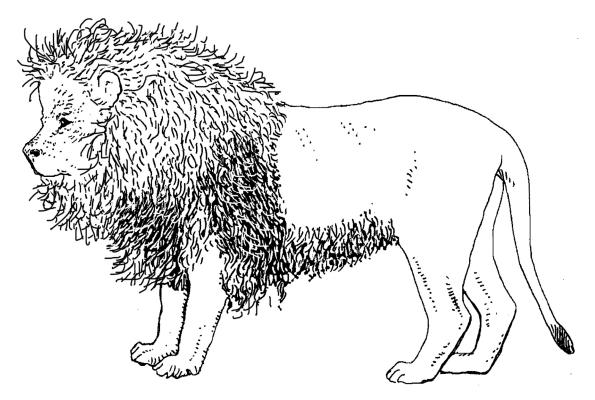
Where did you travel to and what form did your transport/journey take? (Remember: You can travel back or forwards in time.)

What is the place you visit like?

Who do you meet? What are they like?

How do you manage to get back home?





### How the Lion Got His Mane

There were once two lion cubs, Tika (a girl) and Bruno (a boy). Their mother warned them not to go near the fuzzy wuzzy bush. If you did, the sticky fuzzy wuzzies would stick all over you and never come off.

Tika obeyed her mother. Bruno was more adventurous. He didn't believe his mother's story, and went to see for himself. Well you can guess what happened - the fuzzy wuzzies stuck to his head! No matter how much he rolled around they would not come off. That is how the lion got his mane!

#### Tack

Your task is to think of an animal that you are familiar with e.g. a pet, a zoo animal, an animal you have seen in the wild etc. Make up a story to explain how your chosen animal obtained a particular feature that helps to identify them.

### How a Creature Came to Be

Where is the story set?

Which creature is involved and what is its main distinguishing feature?

In the opening paragraph you will introduce the creature - think about what it looks like and how it feels about itself.

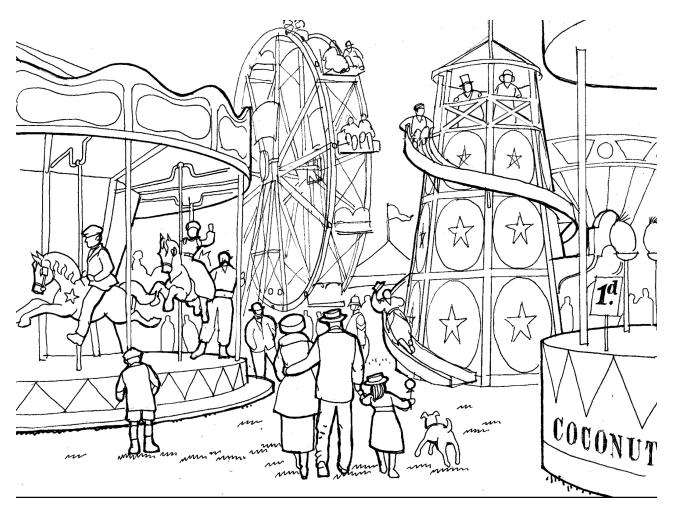
What happens to the creature so that it gains its own distinguishing feature?

How is the story resolved? Does he/she live happily now? Do other creatures accept or reject the changes?

Name	Date
	How a Creature Came to Be

page 10

## 



This story is set in Victorian times. John and Mary have wealthy but very strict parents who believe children should spend their time reading and learning and certainly not playing! A fairground visits their town and John and Mary are longing to go along. Their parents are strongly set against it. Here is the conversation that takes place between the children and their parents:

John and Mary run excitedly into the parlour.

- "Mother, Father, the fairground has arrived!" exclaimed John.
- "Might we be permitted to attend?" Mary pleaded. "All the other children in the town will be going."
- "Silence!" commanded their father, his stern face showing his great displeasure.
- "You will not attend and that is final! My children do not have time to waste on such frivolities. You have your books and so much to learn!"

#### Task

Your task is to write the story of how John and Mary manage to sneak out and visit the fairground without their parents knowing.

Name Date \_\_\_\_\_

### The Fairground

Story Setting: Think about what a wealthy Victorian house would look like. Think about the different rides, sounds and smells of the fairground.

Characters:
Mother:

Father:

John:

Mary:

How do the children manage to leave the house secretly? How does the story begin?

What happens at the fairground? What do they see? Who do they meet?

On their return, do their parents catch them? How is the story resolved?

# The Argument

A group of friends, who are slightly older than you, have asked if you can come to town on Saturday. Your parents are not keen for you to go. Continue the play script following on from the box below.



### (Emma and Mum are in the kitchen.)

Emma: Mum! Anna and Henna are going to town on Saturday. They asked if I could go too. Is that O.K.?

### (Mum has a concerned look on her face.)

*Mum:* I don't think so dear, you're much too young.

### (Emma pleads.)

Emma: But Mum, I'll be fine.

### (Dad enters the room.)

Dad: What are you two talking about?

#### Task

Your task is to continue the argument between Emma and her parents.

Year 5	Play Script	Planni	ng Notes	<u> </u>
Name		Date		
T	he Argun	nent		
Think about the characters in th	ne play. What are t	hey like?		
Mum:				
Dad:				
Emma:				
Arguments for Emma going to to	wn:			
Arguments against Emma going t	o town:			

Name	Da	te

### The Argument

(Emma and Mum are in the kitchen.)  Emma: Mum! Anna and Henna are going to town on Saturday. They asked if I could go too. Is that O.K.?
(Mum has a concerned look on her face.)  Mum: I don't think so dear, you're much too young.
(Emma pleads.) Emma: But Mum, I'll be fine.
(Dad enters the room.)  Dad: What are you two talking about?

# The Birthday Party

Three friends are planning a party to celebrate one of their birthdays. The beginning of the conversation is in the box below:



(Sophie, Sam and Sejal are having a conversation in the playground at school.)

Sophie: (Excitedly) It's only two weeks until my birthday! I can't wait!

Sam: What are you going to do to celebrate?

Sophie: Mum says I can have a party. Sejal: Fantastic. Who is coming?

Sam: What will we do at the party?

### Task

Your task is to write a play script continuing the conversation between the friends, explaining what will take place at the birthday party.

Name	Date	

### The Birthday Party

Think about the characters in the play. What are they like? Sophie:

Sam:

Sejal:

Who else will be there? What will they wear? Will they bring presents?

What will the children do at the party?

Year 5 Play Script **Final Written Work** 

Name	Date	

## The Birthday Party

Sophie: Sam: Sophie: Sejal:	Sam and Sejal are having a conversation in the playground at school.)  (Excitedly) It's only two weeks until my birthday! I can't wait!  What are you going to do to celebrate?  Mum says I can have a party.  Fantastic. Who is coming?  What will we do at the party?

# Directions From the School Gate to Your Table

As part of your Geography mapping topic your teacher has asked you to write a set of detailed instructions telling exactly how to get from the school gate to your table.



#### Task

Your task is to write a set of exact instructions that a stranger could follow to end up at your seat at your classroom table. Remember, the stranger does not know anything about your school.

Name		 Date		
Directions				

# How to Play a Favourite Game

Your school has been asked to make a book of instructions for children's favourite games. These might be games you play at home or school. It could be a game you enjoy playing with your friends. It must not be a game you play on the computer.



Your task is to write a set of exact instructions to explain how to play your favourite game. Remember, the person who will be reading your instructions will never have played this game before.

Name	Date	

### How to Play a Favourite Game

Title/Heading of a game that is very familiar to you:

Equipment needed:

What is the aim of the game?

Step by step details:

Name _	Date					
					Favourite	Game

# The Inter-School Sports Competition

Your school has taken part in an Inter-Schools Sports Competition. Your teacher has asked you to write a report about the day for the school magazine.



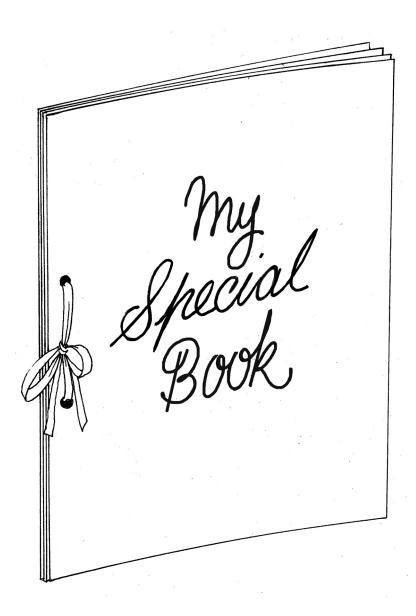
#### Task

Your task is to write a report to include information about the different schools taking part, what happened at each event and the outcome of the competition.

Name		Date	
The Ir	nter-School	Sports	Competition

# School Book Day

Your school recently took part in a school book day in which the pupils dressed up as characters from fiction, had a visit from an author and made some special books of their own.



### Task

Your task is to write a report for the school governors explaining what had taken place during the day and how the children reacted to the event.

Year 5 Reports **Final Written Work** Name \_ School Book Day

## School Rules

A new child has joined your class and you have been given the job of helping them settle in. It would be useful for them to know the school rules and the reasons for them.



### Task

Your task is to write an explanation of the school rules and the reasons for them. When you are writing think about:

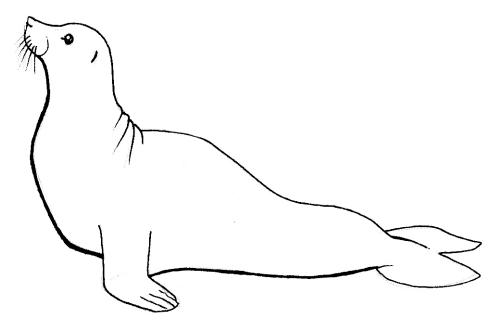
- classsroom rules
- playground rules
- lunchtime rules

Remember to give clear reasons for these rules.

	Year 5	E	xplanation		Planning Notes				
Name _				Date					
	School Rules								
Introducti	on welcoming t	he new pupi	l to school:						
Classroom	rules and reaso	ons for ther	m:						
Playground	l rules and reas	ons for the	em:						
Lumphtime									
Lunchtime	rules and reaso	ons for the	m:						
			<u> </u>						
Concluding	paragraph:		<b>V</b>						

Name	Date
	School Rules

# A Day in the Life of a Zoo Keeper



Here is the timetable for a Zoo Keeper in charge of the seals:

	7.00 - 8.00	Food preparation in the Zoo kitchen.	
	8.00 - 9.00	Feeding the seals and checking they are healthy.	
	9.00 - 10.00	Cleaning the area surrounding the pool.	
	10.00 - 10.30 Break		
	10.30 - 12.00	Accompanying the vet on his rounds.	
12.00 - 1.00 Lunch		Lunch	
	1.00 - 2.00	Preparation of food and equipment for display to visitors.	
2.00 - 3.00 Display for visitors		Display for visitors	
3.00 - 4.00 Clearing up after visitors and making final checks on the ani			

### Task

Your task is to use the information above to write a clear explanation of a zookeeper's day looking after an animal of your choice.

	Year 5	Exp	lanation	Plan	ning Notes	
Name _				Date		
A	Day in	the L	ife of	a Zoo	Keepei	r
Title:						
			1			
Introduction	on:		<b>V</b>			
- ·	6 1:					
Food prepa	ration, feeding	and cleaning	;			
			T			
Helping the	e vet to check t	the animals:				
			<b>V</b>			
Preparation	n for display an	d meeting vis	ritors:			
Conclusion:						

Nam	ie						Dat	te	
	A	Day	in	the	Life	of	a	Zoo	Keeper

You have decided to set up a new Youth Club for children aged 7 to 11. Activities could include sport, craft, competitions and visits.



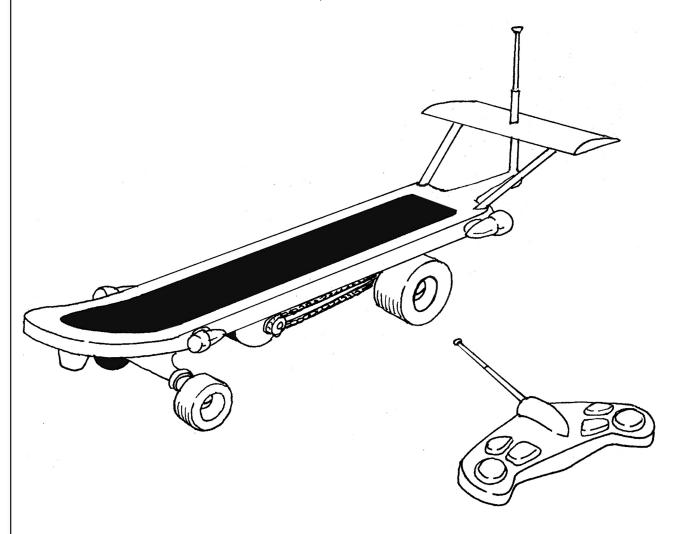
### Task

Your task is to write a leaflet to parents to persuade them to allow their children to join your club. Remember, parents will want to make sure their children are safe and the activities are of educational value as well as being fun. Make your leaflet as persuasive as possible.

Name	Date
	Join Our Club

# The Electric Skateboard

You have been asked to promote a new type of skateboard. It is powered by an electric motor and has rechargeable batteries. It is operated from a wireless hand controller.

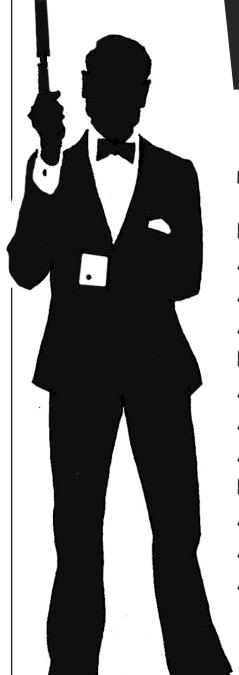


### Task

Your task is to write a persuasive article for a parent's magazine explaining the functions and advantages of the electric skateboard.

You need to make it sound like the best Christmas present any child could ever want!

Name	Date
	The Electric Skateboard



## Who Am I?

Here is a poem using metaphors about James Bond.

He is a bar of dark chocolate,

A smooth black cat's coat.

An exotic fruit cocktail.

A silver Porsche disappearing into the distance.

He is a plate of caviar,

A blade on a knife.

A frothy cappuccino,

A piece of black silk.

He is a midnight alarm,

A tiger disguised as a pussycat,

A jet plane,

A perfect day.

### Task

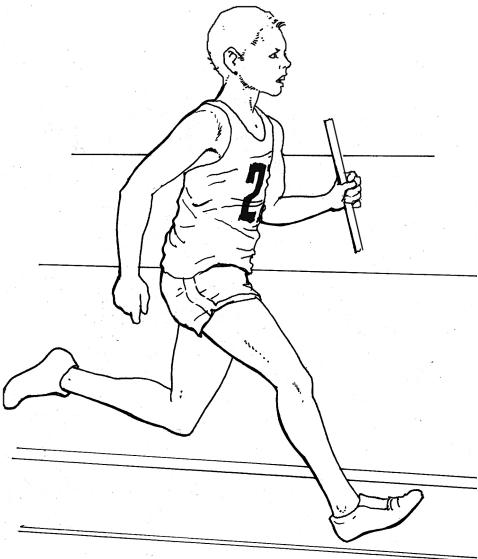
Your task is to write a poem in the same style about either a fictional character or a celebrity. It could be about a character from a book or film. It could be a celebrity from sport, the music industry, the film industry or even the Royal family.

Name	Date
	Who Am I?

### Sports Day

Here is a poem about running a race on sports day.

Heart beats, Body still, Legs stretched, Muscles tense. Gun fires, Race begins, Heart races, Body pounds. Someone passes, Throat is dry, Legs are moving, Onward on! Out in front. Must keep going, Finish in sight, Chest aches. Throat dry, One more push, Almost there, Opposition closer. End looms. Final burst, Without warning, It is over!



By Sam (aged 10)

### Task

Your task is to write a poem in the same style about a sporting activity e.g. a swimming race, a cross-country run, a relay race or another sport of your choice.