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# Home Learning Pack Year 6

Spring



# Monday – Using Commas in a List

1. The commas have been used correctly in each sentence below. Write true (T) or false (F) next to each sentence.

A. David bought a ham sandwich, a packet of salt and vinegar crisps, two chocolate bars and a pot of yoghurt for lunch.

B. It was clear that Henry didn't like him because he was extremely rude, obnoxious and completely inconsiderate of other people.

C. The stationary shop had a new delivery that consisted of packs of pens, sealed notepads, small boxes, of paper clips and coloured pencils.

2. Underline the word (s) in the sentences below which require a comma after them.

A. The shopping centre has recently opened a new supermarket two clothing stores a stationary shop and three new Italian restaurants.

B. Toni didn't like living in cities because she thought they were far too crowded too expensive to be able to live comfortably too dirty and that she would be at a higher risk of being burgled.

C. The bakery in town had a fine selection of tasty treats including creamy scones savoury pasties moist cakes and home-made pies.

3. Tommy has written a birthday wish list but wants to convert it into a full sentence.

He says,



I will need to use 4 commas when converting my list into a full sentence.

## My Birthday Wish List

a computer game  
new trainers  
two packs of football cards  
a set of dumbbells

Is Tommy correct? Explain how you know.

## Tuesday – Using Colons and Semi-colons in a List

1. Identify the colon or semi-colons, labelled below, which have been used incorrectly.

Before I go on the school trip, I still need to pack the following items a:

coat, preferably waterproof; shoes, two pairs; socks, the thick ones and;  
toothpaste, the stripy one.

A

B

C

D

2. Rewrite the sentences below and insert the missing colons or semi-colons to make them correct.

A. This year, I'm hoping to visit the following places St Ives, Cornwall; Weymouth, Dorset Blackpool, Lancashire; and Wells-next-to-the-Sea, Norfolk.

B. The winners of the competition are as follows: Nigella Doon, age 12 Pedro Kinsella, age 9; Lottie Munroe, age 11 and Freddie Goodman, age 10.

3. Tabitha thinks that the writing below will need to include 1 colon, 3 semi-colons and 4 commas.

The team will consist of the following members Polly Smith head coach Mal Williams assistant coach Hattie Neil captain and Simone Glover vice-captain.

Is she correct? Prove it.

## Wednesday – Using Bullet Points for a List

1. The sentences below are not punctuated correctly. Match the sentences with the correct number of bullet points needed for each one when converting it to a list.

A. The school has ordered new equipment a set of erasers ten boxes of glue sticks one hundred packets of pencils and two cardboard boxes for each class

3

B. You need a range of ingredients to make a lemon cake some self-raising flour three lemons three eggs butter and some caster sugar

5

C. You will need to bring a range of items for the residential trip a waterproof jacket a pair of waterproof boots and a sleeping bag

4

2. The sentences below are not punctuated correctly. Underline the part of each sentence that would be written before a colon when converted into a bullet-pointed list.

A. Before she went back to school in September, Lucy bought some new items a book bag, a P.E kit and a pencil case

B. Sally received a selection of thoughtful gifts for her birthday a laptop, six make-up brushes and some new dresses

C. Dogs enjoy a range of activities long walks on the beach, chewing tasty treats, rolling on freshly cut grass and sniffing for food

3. Mr Brown has created a list.

	The children ate a variety of things on the trip:
	• a cheese and onion pasty
	• a toy robot from the gift shop
	• a souvenir
	• a beef steak
	• a vegan sausage roll

Explain the mistake he has made.

## Thursday – Identifying Verbs in Sentences

1. Circle the correct verb tense to complete the sentences below.

A. Tasha and Sasha was/were tired after spent/spending the afternoon cleaning/cleaned the messy bedroom that they shared.

B. Running/Ran quickly to catch/caught the last bus home, Tom waving/waved at the driver to attract his attention.

C. She'd being/been poorly all week, so she had to worked/work extra hard to complete/completed the activities she'd missed whilst off school.

2. Place an 'x' in the boxes of the sentences which include a linking and an action verb.

A. The sky was grey and threatening, yet a beam of sunlight broke bravely through the clouds to cheer the people below.

B. Charlie, late for school as usual, rushed out of the door and along the busy road to school.

C. John remained calm as he blocked the path of the man who was walking speedily away from the shop with a bag full of stolen jewels.

3. Replace the verbs in the sentences below with an antonym to change the meaning of the sentence.

A. Lisa and Kelly are the best of friends, which is why they love spending time together.

B. We were happy about the changes made to our timetable as we really enjoyed spending Friday afternoon completing tests.

## Friday – Recognising the Passive Verb

1. True or false? The passive sentences below have been correctly labelled.

A. The heavy wooden door was opened slowly by the curious children.

↑  
object

B. Our brand new sofa was destroyed by our very naughty dog.

↑  
object

C. The old, dilapidated house was destroyed.

↑  
passive verb

2. Underline the passive sentence in the passages below.

A. Yesterday, a criminal broke into an expensive looking house. The owner had been quick to phone the police. The robbery was now being investigated by the local police.

B. We had won the lottery! That wonderful machine had selected our lucky numbers. A big cheque was presented to us by a celebrity. We have decided to buy a big house and a fast car.

3. Rearrange the words below to create a sentence written in the passive form.

flowers

woman

had

colourful

by

picked

the

been

the

old

# Monday – Recognising Formal and Informal Writing

1. Who do you think the extract below was written for? Circle the intended audience.

I regret to inform you that I must resign my position as Head Girl with immediate effect. I acknowledge that my recent behaviour has caused much controversy and is unacceptable for a person in my position. I feel a more suitable individual should be selected to represent our students.

school friend

grandparent

headteacher

police

2. List the differences between the two extracts below. Think about the genre, audience, purpose, structure and language used.

A. Dear Diary,  
What a day!!! I saw a mega smash on my way to school this morning. This numpty smashed straight into a taxi. The taxi driver was well angry and they started shoving each other about. It was so silly!!!

B. On the morning of Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, at approximately 8.30am, I was on my way to Barton Primary School.

I travelled on foot along Albert Road, and just as I approached the junction with Collie Close, I witnessed a green car driving past me at high speed.

3. James has written the sentence below.

According to my mate Steve, you've told everyone that it was me who bust the mirror in the school loo, even though I wasn't even there on Monday.

He says,



I have written this sentence in a formal tone.

Is James correct? Explain your answer.

# Tuesday – Formal and Informal Vocabulary

1. Place an 'x' in the appropriate box to show whether the sentences below use formal (F) or informal (I) vocabulary.

A. It is in your best interest to tell the truth, otherwise the consequences will be less favorable for you.

	F		I

B. You are advised to avoid Junction 20 due to a major incident; the surrounding roads have been closed and it is suggested that motorists seek alternative routes.

	F		I

C. If we're good, me and Lucy are allowed to go to the cinema with our mates to watch the new comedy film, which is supposed to be epic!

	F		I

2. Replace the underlined words or phrases in the sentences below using the alternative formal language provided.

A. There are enough  members of staff available to go with  the children on the school trip next week.

B. In order to keep  a healthy body, you need to eat a lot  of different foods including fruit and vegetables.

C. I will have to give up  one of my free evenings each week and attend additional training in preparation for the competition.

attend	accompany	maintain	range	sufficient	sacrifice
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3. Steph and Sean are writing sentences using formal vocabulary.



Steph

When she'd pulled the dangerous driver over, the cop asked him to get out of the car and put his hands on the front of the car.



Sean

Once the police officer had brought the suspect to a halt, she requested that the man exit the vehicle and place his hands on the bonnet.

Whose sentence is more formal? Give reasons for your choice.

## Wednesday – Identifying Clauses

1. Circle the subordinating conjunction in the sentences below, and then underline the subordinate clause.

A. Although it was late, Daniella decided she wanted to watch a film.

B. If I find my keys, we can go for a walk in the park.

C. My little sister gets scared whenever there is a thunderstorm.

2. Tick the sentence that contains a subordinate clause and two main clauses.

A. Before I get dressed for school, I always eat my breakfast and I brush my teeth.

B. I cannot go outside to play until I have finished all my homework.

C. Because I left my bedroom in a mess, my mum is angry.

3. Use the word bank below to help you write a sentence including a main and subordinate clause, where the subordinate clause is embedded. Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

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Joseph

was

his

nervous

he

about

even though

excited

feeling

interview

was

# Thursday – Using Punctuation to Mark Boundaries

1. Put an 'x' in the box to mark the sentence that has used a colon or a semi-colon correctly.

A. I went to my local supermarket today and bought a huge amount of fruit; there were special offers on apples, pears and grapes.

B. Life is like a very complicated puzzle half the fun: is in trying to work it all out.

2. Fill in each box with a colon or semi-colon to complete the sentence.

I need to take the following things  a long, warm coat  a large, waterproof rucksack  and a torch.

3. True or false? A semi-colon should be inserted into the box below.

My friend gave me the thing I needed most  companionship and quiet, which made me feel so much better.

4. Draw a line to match each sentence to its missing punctuation.

A. I enjoy all subjects French, Spanish, English and maths.

B. The door swung open young Mrs Hussain strode in purposefully.

5. Stefan has written a sentence using a semi-colon.

After a hard day at school, he could only think of one thing; chocolate!

Has he used the correct punctuation? Explain how you know.

6. Create a sentence that uses a colon or a semi-colon and has up to three clauses. Use the word bank to help you.

football	final
sprinted	spectators
wildly	triumphant

7. Rewrite the sentences below using the correct punctuation to join the clauses together.

Even though it was midnight, they could see the outline of the ruined house. They were going to have to move quickly if they were to get there on time.

# Friday – Using Hyphens to Avoid Ambiguity

1. Select the sentence below that has correctly used a hyphen to avoid ambiguity.

- A. Will was very excited by the fast moving-cars.
- B. Matilda re-dressed after getting soaked in the downpour.

2. Put an 'X' in the box to show where the hyphen should be added to the sentence below.



I returned to the pool to take the in depth swimming course.

3. True or false? The hyphen has been used correctly in the sentence below.

Mr Davies has re-marked the tests, due to rumours of cheating.

4. Choose the correct words from the word bank to complete the sentences below.

recoiled	re-coiled
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Nigel \_\_\_\_\_ the ropes when he had finished on the boat.

Beth \_\_\_\_\_ in terror at the sight of the monster.

5. Rewrite the sentence below. Remember to put a hyphen in the correct place.

The fast paced game was over in a matter of minutes.

6. Patrick has written a sentence below. Has he used a hyphen correctly? Explain how you know.

	My mum re-served a table
	at my favourite restaurant
	for my birthday treat.

7. Replace the comma with a hyphen in the sentence below.

My favourite luggage is my deep, green duffle bag.

Explain how it changes the meaning of the sentence.

## Reading Task – Howard Carter’s Diaries

Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup>, 1922

We started work early this morning: avoiding the hottest hours of the day when toiling hard under the African heat is essential. Around mid-morning we uncovered the first traces of the entrance to a tomb. Having searched most of the Valley of the Kings, it was surprising to make this find beneath the huts. It did not take us too long to reveal that what we were looking at was the start of a steep excavation. Like an impatient child, I set to work removing the rubble and earth that covered the way to what I believe would lead to the tomb.

Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup>, 1922

It was our sheer determination and belief that this was the site that kept us going today, and after hours of labour we managed to excavate the higher level of a staircase. I had originally conjectured that it was an opening to a labyrinth leading to a tomb, and it certainly proved to be so.

As the day drew closer to an end, we had cleared all the way down to a large, sealed doorway. Unlike most other tombs that had been unearthed, this one was – from an initial inspection – fully intact. With closer scrutiny, I noticed that the only decipherable impressions of the seals were those symbolising a king, but as to whom it belonged to, I had not yet been able to establish.

Without further hesitation, but with vigilant delicacy, I made a hole in the uppermost part of the sealed door so as to see what was hidden on the other side. With the aid of a torch I was able to shine a revealing light inside. You would think that seeing a passage-way filled to the top with rubble would fill my heart with weariness, knowing how much effort would have to go in to removing it, but in fact it lifted my spirits as it confirmed for me the notion that this was an undisturbed tomb, and potentially the tomb I have been searching for, for years; the tomb of Tutankhamun.

Before I could go ahead any further, I had to make sure that details of this find had reached Lord Carnarvon. So, as if wrapping up a gift for one’s birthday, I refilled the excavation and returned home and cabled to Lord Carnarvon, in England, the following message:-

“Amazing discovery in Valley a tomb with seals intact covered up for your arrival”

Friday November 24<sup>th</sup>, 1922

After an agonising wait, like a child waiting for Christmas, I was finally able to continue with the excavation. With the sealed door now revealed in its entirety, I was able to discern various seal impressions bearing the cartouche of Tutankhamun.

## Reading Task – Howard Carter’s Diaries

Sadly though, the discovery of two distinct re-openings and successive re-closings, along with the masses of broken potsherds and boxes bearing the names of Akhenaten, Smenkh-Ka-Ra and Tutankhamun, and a scarab of Tehutimes III, as well as a fragment bearing the cartouche of Amenhetep III, led us to believe that we were about to open a royal cache, but not one necessarily belonging to the Pharaoh we sought.

Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup>, 1922

The first doorway was opened today. After a back-breaking, stamina-testing excavation we managed to clear the passageway and reveal a further passage that travelled below the level that we were currently on.

During the clearance though, we found a myriad of artefacts that pointed towards the possibility that this was a disturbed burial. This was not a comforting find, as in my mind I was under no illusions, this was looking desperately more and more like plundering.

Sunday November 26<sup>th</sup>, 1922

When, after much clearance, we came upon a second sealed doorway, I recognised that its location and features mirrored almost exactly the doorway to the tomb where the cache of Akhenaten was discovered. So without further delay, we cleared the passage of any remnants of our disturbance so that the sealed door could be seen clearly. My mind could not process what was happening. Could there be another passage on the other side? Or indeed a chamber? After procuring some candles in order to test for the foul gases that are common in these excavations, I widened the gap and looked in.

My eyes had to adjust and so I was unable to comment straight away, which of course added to the suspense and to Lord Carnarvon’s anxiety. But as the flame flickered, so did my heart as there before me was revealed an incredible medley of extraordinary and beautiful objects.

Unable to bear it any longer, Lord Carnarvon called out to see if I could see anything. Replying that I could, I started to open the hole so that he too could see inside. We were dumb-struck; astonished as we looked on the most marvellous collection of treasures, amongst which were: effigies of a king, gilded couches, ornamental caskets, flowers, alabaster vases and a golden throne. We were unclear as to whether we had found a tomb or merely a cache. However, the two sentinel statues, stood respectfully either side of a sealed doorway, reignited our suspicions. The numerous cartouches with the name of Tutankhamun on them left little doubt that we were at the resting place of the Pharaoh.

## Reading Task – Howard Carter’s Diaries

Monday November 27<sup>th</sup>, 1922

As we searched through the chamber, carefully sifting through ancient artefacts, it became clear that there was no indication of a mummy or mummies. Considering they were the only reason for making such a cache, it became evident to us that beyond the door, between the sentinel statues, was the actual tomb of Tutankhamun. To think that he was most likely lying there, magnificently, was too much to comprehend. But comprehend it we had to and so we continued beyond the door.

It soon became startlingly clear to us that this place was Pharaoh's tomb. It was a sight that surpassed all dreams. We have found Tutankhamun!

## Reading Task – Howard Carter’s Diaries

Read the text on pages 12, 13 and 14 then answer the questions below.

1. Why did Howard Carter have to wait 19 days before being able to fully excavate the area?

2. Why did the author use the description: ‘as if wrapping a gift for one’s birthday,’ to describe covering up the excavation? Justify your answer with evidence from the text.

3. What is different about the sentence structure and grammar in the last line of the diary entry dated Sunday 5th November, compared to the rest of the text? And why do you think this is?

4. Find and copy 3 examples of words or groups of words that indicate the hard work needed to excavate an area.

5. What was it that Howard Carter discovered on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November that was unsettling? Justify your answer with evidence from the text.

## Reading Task – Howard Carter’s Diaries

6. What did the author mean by the line: ‘My mind could not process what was happening’ in the diary entry from Sunday 26th November?

7. Why did they use candles when they had electric torchlights?

8. What did the author mean by the description: ‘as the flame flickered so did my heart’?

9. How was Lord Carnarvon feeling during the excavation?

10. Look at the diary entry dated Sunday November 26<sup>th</sup>. What evidence was there for Howard Carter that they had found a tomb?

11. What does this mean: ‘Without further hesitation, but with vigilant delicacy’.

12. There is a wide range of language used in this text. Find a phrase which particularly interests you and explain why you chose it.

## Reading Task – Healthy Eating Workshop

How nutritious are the meals you're eating?  
Do you know how to maintain a healthy and balanced diet?  
Are you interested in learning more about the food you eat?  
Then it's time to head to our new and exciting workshop!

Join us at our

# Healthy Eating Workshop

and the best part is – it's FREE!

Join the inspirational staff and children of  
**St. Chads Primary School, on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, at 5pm.**  
Prepare to be food-wise and body-wise!

- ❖ Our workshop is designed to teach you about the food your body actually needs. If you're feeling sluggish after eating, why continue filling up on sugar-laden food with no nutritional value when you can fill up on the good stuff instead?
- ❖ We'll teach you all about the essential nutrients your body craves. We'll also demonstrate how to plan and prepare a whole week of healthy and hearty delights!
- ❖ Think of your body as a gleaming, flame-red Ferrari; only the right type of fuel will result in a top-notch performance. When you nourish your body with wholesome, appetising food, it provides you with the energy to grow, play and keep illness at bay. Only the best will do for your body!
- ❖ Ever tried an avocado, apricot or almond? Participate in our fun, blindfolded taste test and you might just discover a delightfully delicious new food.
- ❖ Test your knowledge of food groups (if you dare) and see if you can correctly guess how much of the different food types you should eat, in our fabulous food fact challenge.
- ❖ Do you eat five portions of fruit and veg a day? If not, then discover our taste-tingling tips on how to squeeze some extra portions of loveliness into your daily diet.
- ❖ Did you know that honey contains incredible natural healing qualities and just a smidgen of it can be used to sweeten your food? It can also double as a soothing, homemade moisturiser to quench your neglected, dehydrated skin.

## Reading Task – Healthy Eating Workshop

- ❖ Did you also know that garlic has antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral and antiseptic properties? Now you can amaze your auntie with these awesome facts!
- ❖ Prepare to be flabbergasted by these and many, many more fantastic food facts!

**Obesity levels are rising – fact! Don't be a negative statistic. Fad diets belong in the dark ages! With our help, you can soon be making informed food choices instead.**

**Don't eat less – just eat right!**

**Limited spaces are available, so register your interest now by phoning: 01766 933487**

# Reading Task – Healthy Eating Workshop

Read the text on pages 17 and 18 then answer the questions below.

1. What type of text is this? What is its purpose?

2. What features would you expect to find in this text type?

3. Why has the author used lots of questions at the beginning?

4. Identify some examples of exaggerated language.

5. Identify an example of flattering the reader.

6. What does the word 'nourish' mean?

7. Identify TWO examples of alliteration.

8. What is the intended purpose of the brackets?

## Reading Task – Healthy Eating Workshop

9. What type of word is 'delightfully'?

10. What is the word 'loveliness' referring to in the context of this text?

11. What does the prefix 'anti-' mean? Think of TWO more words that include this prefix.

12. Why has the author stated that 'limited spaces are available'?

# Reading Task – The Signing

## Characters

**SANDRA** Murphy: A hard-working mum in her early forties who dreams of well-behaved children and a clean kitchen.

**TOMMY** Murphy: A football and YouTube obsessed teenage boy, who dreams of leaving home and being signed to Manchester United.

**MR EMMET**: An ageing football talent scout who dreams of signing the next Cristiano Ronaldo.

*Lights come up to reveal an old-fashioned, run-down looking kitchen. There is a sink filled with dishes, broken kitchen cabinets and a work top covered in packets and food. To the left of the stage there is a fridge, with an open bottle of fizzy drink on top. There is a small wooden table centre stage. There are two chairs behind the table, facing the audience. Both the table and chairs look rather old and tired. There are a few dirty glasses on the table. A crashing noise is heard off stage.*

**SANDRA**: (Off stage) Tommy! I told you to keep that thing out of here, how many times? I've enough to do without you making extra work for me.

*From the direction of the noise, Tommy – a fifteen-year-old boy, wearing muddy football shorts and a Manchester United T-Shirt comes running in. He is dribbling a ball. He runs over to the fridge, puts his phone on top of it and begins dribbling the ball around the kitchen.*

**TOMMY**: He's closing in, he's getting there, past the last defender, he shoots... (Tommy kicks the ball against the fridge hard, so that the open bottle of fizzy drink that was balanced on top falls over and begins running onto the floor.) He scores!

*Tommy rips off his shirt, flings it on to the table, toppling glasses, and runs around the stage. He dives on to his knees in front of the fridge. All the time still talking.*

**TOMMY**: What a goal from the young Murphy, on his debut for this club. Nothing more could have been asked for. He came here to prove himself and he did just that – what a welcome to Old Traff...

*At this moment he notices Sandra, his mother, has entered stage left. She is wearing jeans and an oversized polo shirt. She is also wearing a cleaning apron and carrying a plastic container full of cleaning products and rubber gloves. She is balancing three brooms of differing sizes under her arms and staring in horror at the mess in the kitchen.*

**SANDRA**: (Interrupting) Thomas Murphy! Look at the mess you've made. I spend my whole day cleaning other people's houses, and then I have to come home and clean my own. Look at this place.

## Reading Task – The Signing

*Tommy has been mouthing along with his mother, letting the audience know he has heard her speech more than once. She catches him at the end, and the two stare at each other until Tommy drops his face to the floor.*

**SANDRA:** And if you know what I'm saying so well Mr Know-it-all, then why wait for me to say it?!

**TOMMY:** *(Picking his shirt off the table and the ball off the floor, whining.)* It's not only me mum. Kerry and Lisa also live here you know. *(He motions to the mess in the kitchen, but accidentally throws the ball through the kitchen window.)*

**SANDRA:** ARGH! Tommy!

*Lights down.*

*Lights come up on the same kitchen only this time it is much tidier. The window at the back has been taped up. There is a pot of tea and three cups on the table in the centre. Sandra is furiously cleaning invisible spots off the work tops and Tommy is pacing across the stage. He is wearing a pair of trousers that are too short for him and an unironed shirt. Sandra comes over, licks the back of her hand and starts to flatten his hair.*

**TOMMY:** *(Moving his head out of the way.)* Muuum! Get off!

**SANDRA:** Keep still Tommy – you look a mess.

**TOMMY:** Mum! He wants to meet us to talk about my football career, not my hair. *(Pause)* My FOOTBALL career! *(He looks at the audience in a trance-like state, smiling longingly.)*

*The doorbell rings and Tommy snaps out of his trance, drops his cup and spills tea all over the floor.*

**SANDRA:** *(Squealing and grabbing a tea towel)* Go and let him in, I'll clean all this up.

*She begins wiping the floor and kicks the broken cup under the table as Tommy enters with a man in a suit. She straightens up and holds out her hand.*

**MR EMMET:** I'm Mr. Emmet, you must be Mrs. Murphy – lovely to meet you.

**SANDRA:** Hello. Please take a seat. *(She gestures at the chairs behind the table.)* Would you like a cup of tea?

**MR EMMET:** Tea would be lovely.

## Reading Task – The Signing

*Mr. Emmet sits down and pulls a briefcase onto the table. He pulls out some paperwork as Sandra pours the tea and Tommy fidgets nervously.*

**MR EMMET:** I must say, I think your son is an innovative thinker, and that's what made me travel all the way up here.

**SANDRA:** (*Confused*) Innovative thinker?

**MR EMMET:** Yes, it's not every young man that personally emails every youth division in the country asking for a trial. Normally it doesn't work of course, but sending the YouTube videos with it... Well I could see talent then. (*He turns to the window that has been taped up and begins laughing.*) All fixed then, eh?!

**SANDRA:** (*Smiling, partly with confusion and partly to be polite.*) Videos?

**TOMMY:** (*Quickly and nervously interrupting.*) Mr... Emmet. I've been playing football since I could walk and I'm... so pleased...

**SANDRA:** (*Interrupting*) Sorry, I don't understand. Did Tommy tell you about the window, Mr. Emmet?

**MR EMMET:** Tell me?! He didn't have to. It's on his YouTube channel, along with everything else! I think you're a great sport – making regular appearances. That was all part of the humour! We all remember being told off by our mothers, but watching you, stood there in your apron – hilarious. That's what made me realise. Tommy is an innovative thinker and, combined with his talent, we think he deserves a go at the youth clubs, and there are a few interested. It's not everyday you get to sign a viral sensation...

*Sandra has not been listening, instead she has been staring intently at Tommy in horror and shock. Mr. Emmet realises that something is amiss and stares between the two. He looks highly uncomfortable. Tommy has his head down and is staring silently at his lap.*

**SANDRA:** (*Without breaking her stare*) Oh yes. He is an... innovative boy alright, and after you leave Mr. Emmet, Tommy and I will be talking about just how innovative he is!

*Lights down.*

# Reading Task – The Signing

Read the text on pages 21, 22 and 23 then answer the questions below.

1. What type of the text is this?

2. Find two features of the text that indicate this.

3. Why did Tommy put his phone on top of the fridge in the first scene?

4. How many characters are mentioned in this script? List them from start to finish.

5. What do you notice about the text that is in italics and what is its purpose in the text?

6. Compare reading this with reading a story. Is a script harder or easier to read? Does it paint a more or less vivid picture of the scene in your head?

7. 'How many times have I told you?' is an example of what language device?

## Reading Task – The Signing

8. Do you think Tommy deserved to be signed to a youth club?

9. Who could Kerry and Lisa be?

10. How do we know when a scene has finished?

11. Imagine the conversation that happened between Tommy and Sandra after Mr. Emmet has left. Write it here in script format.

## Reading Task – Two Sides to a Coin

Ella unpacked her bag for the second time. Pencil case. Notepad. Forms and documents. Everything was there, just as it had been the first time. No harm in checking, right?

She could not believe everything finally started tomorrow. Was she nervous, or excited? Really, her insides were in turmoil, flitting back and forth between the two. Ever since she had found out she was going to join Wood Lane Primary School all those weeks ago, her mind had raced from hopes to fears and back again. She could remember meeting the head teacher, Mrs. Watson, and being told that she could move right into Year Six the following September. Well, that following September was now, and tomorrow was her first day at her new school.

Not too far away geographically, but in a whole other world of experience, Grace was getting ready for bed. She too had mixed feelings about what was to come in the morning. She always got a strange, almost hollow feeling on the evenings before going back to school. It was never an all-consuming emotion, but rather just a sense that something different was approaching. It was odd to have a mildly negative feeling about school because she really enjoyed it, and in fact, there was so much for her to look forward to.

This year, at Wood Lane, she would be going into Year Six. Year Six! Top of the school! Her final year at the place where she had been for her whole education so far. How could it be that in exactly one year's time she would have a different uniform laid out on her chest of drawers ready for the morning? How would that feel?

She did not need to think too much about that now. It was time to sleep. Time to drift off into dreams of ruling the school with Sammi and Farah and teasing Caleb Howder at playtime. Time to avoid thinking too much about getting up early and trying not to talk too much during lessons with Miss Collins, her new teacher this year. Time to... forget... about... the things which...

Ella wanted to make sure she got an early night too. There would be so many new people to meet tomorrow; so many faces and names to remember! Her mother always said that an early night made your brain sharper, so she was going to follow that advice. A long, relaxing night's sleep would also make sure she did not look like a grumpy mess the next morning!

Her brain, however, had other plans. She just lay there, wide awake, for what seemed like hours. Thoughts and concerns and high-definition, anxiety-ridden scenarios whined their way into her mind like mental mosquitoes, and it was all she could do to try and swat a few of them away.

Would the children in her class like her? She knew she should not worry too much about that, but everybody wants to be liked when they join a new school.

## Reading Task – Two Sides to a Coin

Would the teachers and dinner ladies and teaching assistants help her out? She was painfully aware that there would be a lot of faces and places she would not know.

Would she forget something or make a fool of herself? Anything would be preferable to dying of embarrassment on her first day!

As the thoughts whirred and buzzed and her eyes stayed obstinately alert, Ella breathed in deeply and tried to calm down. Just relaaaaaax. Just breeeeaathe.

Grace woke bright and early. Whether it was her mind worrying that she would be late on the first day back, or her heart pumping excitement around her body, she did not know. All she knew was that it was time to get ready!

Uniform: on. Hair: brushed. Breakfast: inhaled. Once her teeth were cleaned (or at least, shown a toothbrush), she managed a final check of her bag before she was out of the door in record time! Year Six! Ruling the school!

She met Sammi at the end of the road. As a special treat, they had been allowed to walk without their parents. The first sign that they were all grown up! When they walked over the railway bridge, heads held high, they caught sight of Farah waiting by the traffic lights.

Three queens of the playground, they strode through the school gates, smiling at the Year Threes, Fours and Fives who were running around like wild things. So immature.

Ella had arrived early. She had eventually fallen asleep, but she might as well not have for all the good it felt like it had done. She was so very tired. This was not how she had planned this morning to start at all. However, she was in now, and had made it to her new classroom with plenty of time to spare. Everything was ready. Was she? The children in her class began to filter in from the playground to join her.

Grace looked around for new faces as she and her entourage swept into the classroom. They took their seats at the middle table. Not too close (too geeky) or too far back (too obviously the place for troublemakers). It was time for the register. Grace settled in and waited for her name.

It was time for the register. Ella's new life at a new school was about to officially begin. She took a deep breath.

'Good morning everyone. I'm Miss Collins, your new teacher. This is my very first day at Wood Lane Primary School. Welcome to Class 6C. Welcome to Year Six!'

## Reading Task – The Signing

Read the text on pages 26 and 27 then answer the questions below.

1. Explain the word 'flitting'.

2. What does it mean to be 'Not too far away geographically'? How else might someone be 'far away'?

3. Do you think the two characters will meet? Why?

4. Find the sentence where Grace falls asleep and identify one way the author conveys that that is what is happening.

5. What does the use of the phrase 'high-definition' tell you about Ella's thoughts and how sleepy/awake she is?

6. What is the effect of stretching out the words 'relaaaaax' and 'breeeeeathe'?

7. What does it tell you when the author writes that Grace 'inhaled' her breakfast?

## Reading Task – The Signing

8. What does the fact that the girls walk 'heads held high' tell you about how they are feeling?

9. What do the italics in the sentence '*So immature*' tell you about the image the girls are trying to portray to the world?

10. Find two words used instead of 'walked' which show that Grace and her friends are confident.

11. Now that you have read the whole story, explain why the title is a good choice.