

What to do today: Monday 15/6 - English

1. Read a poem

- Read *Certainty*. Read the poem twice: once in your head and once out loud. What did you like about the poem? Was there anything that you disliked? What patterns can you find? What would you like to ask the poet?
- Watch the poem being performed:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IUlymdLjK4>
- Was it as you expected? What did you notice in the performance?

2. Remind yourself about adverbs of possibility

- Use the *PowerPoint on Adverbs of Possibility* or if this is not possible then remind yourself using the *Revision Cards*.
- Complete *Adverbs of Possibility Sentences*.

3. Now for some writing

- Think about your life in six months' time. What possibilities could be there? What can you be sure about? Record your ideas on the *Table of Certainty*.
- Try turning some of your ideas into a poem. You could use some of the patterns from Matt Abbott's poem.

Well done. Show your poem to a grown-up. Show them the patterns that you have included. Maybe you could ask your grown up to email it into school (our address is on the website). I would love to read them.

Try these Fun-Time Extras

- Make a recording of your poem and share it with someone else.
- Use the Table of Certainty to interview others about their ideas of the future. What will they possibly, maybe and certainly be doing?

Certainty

Amongst the chaos and confusion,
the only certainty I've got,
is that in six-month's time,
we'll be tying the knot.

Our honeymoon might be a beer garden.
Our wedding meal, a bag of crisps.
But we'll count our smiles as favours,
and high-fives as wedding gifts.

Our band might be karaoke.
Our cake, from corner shop.
Our first dance in our kitchen
with flutes of fizzy pop.

Decorations made out of pasta
and toilet rolls galore.
Whatever changes in the next few months,
of one thing I am sure.

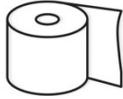
In six-month's time,
we'll be husband and wife,
And none of this will feel real.
In six-month's time: it's the rest of our lives,
and our love will be stronger than steel.

By Matt Abbott

Adverbs of Possibility – Revision Card

Adverbs of possibility

An **adverb** can tell you more about a **verb**.
Some **adverbs** tell us how *certain* we are about the **verb**.



We will *probably* eat crisps.

We will *possibly* make decorations from pasta.

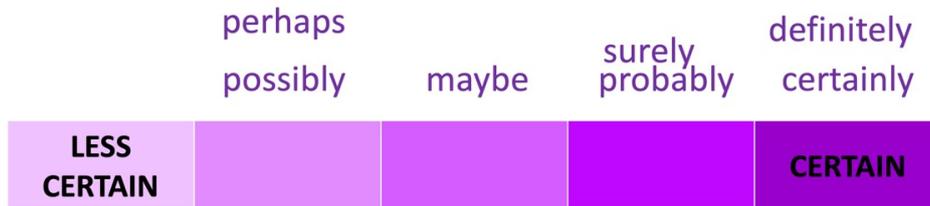
We will *definitely* have an amazing day.



These **adverbs** are useful for talking about the future.

Adverbs

You can order these **adverbs** by possibility/certainty.



What order would you put these in? Do you agree with this ordering?

Adverbs

Adverbs of possibility usually go before the **main verb**.

They *certainly* need to think creatively.

Matt and Maria *definitely* want to be married.

Some **adverbs** of possibility can go *at the beginning* of the sentence .

Maybe, they will be able to hold a party later.

Perhaps, they will celebrate with friends using video-calls.

When the adverb opens the sentence, punctuate with a **comma**.

These **adverbs** modify the **whole clause**.

Adverbs of Possibility Sentences

Read these sentences. Find and mark the verbs, then find and mark the adverbs of possibility.

Try changing the adverbs of certainty. Can you find one that will work just as well? Can you find any that change the meaning? Can you find any that sound awkward or unnatural?

Try changing the word order. Listen to the difference. How does it sound?

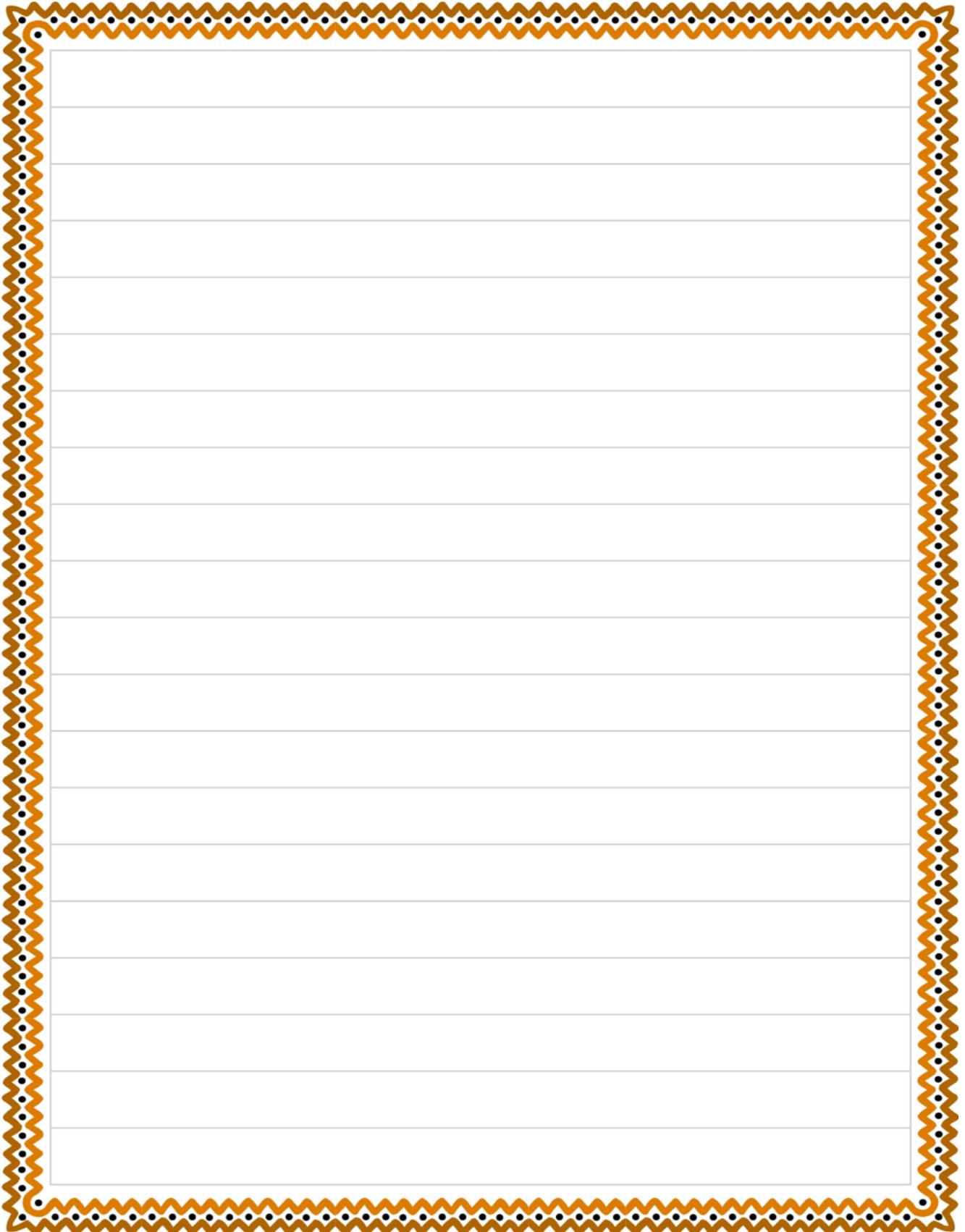
1. Probably, Maria and Matt are looking forward to their wedding.
2. A wedding party in lockdown would certainly be a challenge.
3. They are surely unlucky to have to plan a wedding in lockdown.
4. If you want to have a memorable time, you should definitely think creatively.
5. Perhaps, Matt thought that his poem would make people smile.
6. Maybe, people can identify with the situation that they are in.

Table of Certainty

Perhaps Possibly	Maybe Surely	Certainly Definitely

In Six-Month's Time

Try writing your ideas as a poem here.



A large rectangular writing area with a decorative orange and black zigzag border. The interior of the rectangle is filled with horizontal lines, providing a guide for writing a poem.

What to do today: Tuesday 16/6 - English/PSHE

1. Watch a newspaper article

- Read *First News – Frank Mills*. Which three facts do you think are most important in this story?
- Read *Frank Mills – Questions*. Think about your answers and then write them carefully as sentences.

2. Summarise other news stories

- Read *Inspired in Lockdown 1*.
- Complete *Summary Table*. The first row has been done for you.
- Challenge yourself to read and summarise *Inspired in Lockdown 2 and 3*.
- Which of these stories do you find most inspirational? Why?

3. Now for some writing

- Read *Lockdown Inspiration Ideas*.
- Write notes about your answers to the questions. Leave out questions that you cannot answer.
- Use your ideas to write a paragraph about Lockdown Inspiration – it could be about someone who has inspired you, something you have done or something that you would like to do.

Well done.



The magazine cover features the title 'First News' in large red and blue letters. To the right, it says 'Issue 724 £1.99 1 – 7 May 2020' and a yellow badge reads 'TRUSTED NEWS FOR KIDS WITH MORE THAN 2 MILLION READERS*'. The main headline is 'FRANK HELPS NHS, LIKE HERO CAPTAIN TOM' in large yellow and white text. The image shows a young boy on the left with a red ball and a man on the right with a cane, both on a rainbow background with stars.

A DISABLED six-year-old boy from Bristol is walking ten metres a day for the NHS, inspired by the fundraising efforts of Captain Tom Moore.
by editor in chief Nicky Cox

Frank Mills, who was born with a condition called spina bifida, started off with the aim of raising £99 because that was the age of Captain Tom. But, as First News went to press, young Frank had already reached nearly £300,000.

The little boy, who only started walking with the help of a frame 18 months ago, walks the ten metres a day on the pavement outside his family's home.

Mum Janet said the family heard about Captain Tom's COVID-19 fundraising walk for the NHS, and Frank just said: "I want to do that!"

She said: "We grabbed hold of that magic moment... and we took his walker outside for him and chalked out 10m on the pavement, with a start and finish line, and 2m 'You can do it!' markers."

As he walked with the aid of his frame, Frank shouted at one of his neighbours to sponsor him. So the family quickly put something up on JustGiving. From that moment, it took off! "We cannot believe how people are responding," says Janet.

Frank needed lots of hospital care when he was born. Now, every time the family drives past Bristol Children's Hospital, Frank says: "That's my hospital!" so the family are delighted to be able to give something back.

Dad Tony said: "We have called this challenge Frank's Finish Line Fundraiser! At a time of great national anxiety, Captain Tom has given us a really good news story when we desperately needed one, especially inspiring our little lad Frank."

"The NHS has been very good to our family over the years. It is a privilege to be able to give something back to those who have given so much to us.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts."

Captain Tom Moore launched his walk for the NHS aiming to walk 100 lengths of his garden before his 100th birthday at the end of April. As First News went to press, he was at Number One in the charts, had raised nearly £30 million and had been honoured with a special postmark to celebrate his 100th birthday.

The Royal Mail postmark, which has been applied to all stamped post this week, reads: "Happy 100th Birthday Captain Thomas Moore NHS fundraising hero 30th April 2020."

You can sponsor Frank on his Finish Line Fundraiser at [justgiving.com/fundraising/frankfinishlinefundraiser](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/frankfinishlinefundraiser)

A disabled six-year old boy from Bristol is walking ten minutes a day for the NHS, inspired by the fundraising efforts of Captain Tom Moore.

Frank Mills, who was born with a condition called spina bifida, started off with the aim of raising £99 because that was the age of Captain Tom. But, as First News went to press, young Frank had already reached nearly £300,000.

The little boy, who only started walking with the help of a frame 18 months ago, walks the ten metres a day on the pavement outside his family's home.

Mum Janet said the family heard about Captain Tom's COVID-19 fundraising walk for the NHS, and Frank just said: "I want to do that!"

She said: "We grabbed hold of that magic moment... and we took his walker outside for him and chalked out 10m on the pavement, with a start and finish line, and 2m 'You can do it!' markers."

As he walked with the aid of his frame, Frank shouted at one of his neighbours to sponsor him. So the family quickly put something up on JustGiving. From that moment, it took off! "We cannot believe how people are responding," says Janet.

Frank needed lots of hospital care when he was born. Now, every time the family drives past Bristol Children's Hospital, Frank says: "That's my hospital!" so the family are delighted to be able to give something back.

Dad Tony said: "We have called this challenge Frank's Finish Line Fundraiser! At a time of great national anxiety, Captain Tom has given us a really good news story when we desperately needed one, especially inspiring our little lad Frank. "The NHS has been very good to our family over the years. It is a privilege to be able to give something back to those who have given so much to us. Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts."

Captain Tom Moore launched his walk for the NHS aiming to walk 100 lengths of his garden before his 100th birthday at the end of April. As First News went to press, he was at Number One in the charts, had raised nearly £30 million and had been honoured with a special postmark to celebrate his 100th birthday.

The Royal Mail postmark, which has been applied to all stamped post this week, reads: "Happy 100th Birthday Captain Thomas Moore NHS fundraising hero 30th April 2020."

Frank Mills – Questions

1. Who inspired Frank Mills?
2. What condition was Frank born with?
3. How long has Frank been walking with a frame?
4. Find two examples of support that his family gave him
5. What does Frank's dad mean when he says 'it is a privilege'?
6. What was Captain Tom's original aim?
7. Find two examples of Captain Tom's achievements.
8. Find one example of how Captain Tom has been honoured.
9. How would you describe the tone of this article?
10. If you were interviewing Frank, what three questions would you ask?

Inspired in Lockdown 1

Dartmoor Zoo, in Devon, England, launched an appeal to raise money after it had to close last month because of coronavirus. When animal lover Josh White heard, he pledged to climb his stairs 3,400 times, which he says is the equivalent of scaling Mount Everest. The 11-year-old has raised nearly £20,000.



Eight-year-old Elise Parkes and her father spent two days building a Lego model of King's Mill Hospital, in Nottinghamshire, England. They added figures of doctors, nurses and patients. Parkes was asked by a teacher at her school, Dalestorth Primary School, in Skegby, to make a model of a local building she most admires.

A man living in Eastbourne, England, has spent lockdown completing a fully functioning railway in his back garden. It took Adrian Backshall hundreds of hours to construct the system, which allows a train wagon to be moved up and down. Inside the train, Backshall has a kettle, a seat and a stove, and he says he designed it to host parties for friends. The railway line is just nine metres long, but Backshall hopes to extend it to 15 metres in the future.

A teacher from London is helping people to learn more about wildlife by writing on the pavement rather than on her blackboard. Rachel Summer usually teaches people about the natural world but this is not possible for now because of the coronavirus outbreak. Instead, she decided to write the names of trees and facts about them on the pavement using chalk, to make people's walks more interesting. "I wanted to help people make a connection with the wild spaces where they live," Summer told the BBC. Images of her chalk writings have been posted on social media and have become popular. One user was happy to see them, writing that it made their "heart sing today".

Inspired in Lockdown 2

Many TV presenters have had to stop filming their shows because of the coronavirus outbreak. One of these presenters is Martin Roberts, who hosts BBC One's *Homes Under the Hammer*.

Instead, he has started making a brand-new series at home for his YouTube channel called *DIY for Kids*. DIY stands for "do it yourself", and means making something for your home yourself, rather than paying someone else to do it for you.

Speaking to *The Week Junior*, Roberts says that he learnt a lot of DIY skills from his father. "If a job needed doing, he would do it," remembers Roberts. Now he wants to teach his own children, Scott and Megan, some DIY skills and share those lessons with others online.

So far, Roberts and his children have made a bike jump, a cloud light, a musical instrument and a swing ball. All of the projects on the show were made from objects lying around the house. Making the videos, Roberts realised how much you can learn from DIY. "The first rule is safety," he explains, and all videos start with a safety briefing. Following that, there are lessons about design and how different objects interact with one another. "It's not just a case of screwing a screw into a piece of wood," he says.

Roberts says that once people have learnt some basic DIY skills, they can let their imaginations run wild and build whatever they want. Of all the things that Roberts has made, his favourite is his treehouse. He says, "I built it for the kids as a spaceship. It's got a launch panel and rocket motors, but I end up playing in there more than they do now."

You can watch *DIY for Kids* on Martin Roberts's YouTube channel at [tinyurl.com/TWJ-DIYforkids](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvYUjYf0k0k0k0k0k0k0k0k)

The Islamic holy month of Ramadan began on 23 April. Ramadan marks when the words of the Quran (the Islamic holy book) were first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad, the founder of Islam. This year, Muslims have had to adjust their plans because of the coronavirus outbreak.

During Ramadan, all Muslims who are able to do so take part in a fast (don't eat) during daylight hours. They do this to bring themselves closer to Allah (God) and to remember those who are less fortunate. They have a meal before dawn called suhoor and another after sunset called iftar. It is normal for family and friends to come together for iftar and go to mosques together for prayer. However, because of coronavirus, mosques around the world are holding worship services and ceremonies online instead.

In the UK, an eight-year-old from Bradford called Yahya Murad Hussain decided to build his own mosque at home using cardboard and sweet wrappers. Yahya says, "I wanted it to be a special area and a peaceful place in the house. It is magical and it makes me feel happy when I go in there."



Inspired in Lockdown 3

How can a choir sing together when they cannot even be in the same room as each other? This was the question that music teacher Jessie Reeves faced when the coronavirus lockdown was announced. Thankfully, Reeves found a way to connect with her pupils, and she has produced an uplifting video of them all singing.

“We love singing together at school,” Reeves told *The Week Junior*. “But this is obviously something which is very difficult to do from isolation.” Reeves wanted to make sure her pupils could carry on enjoying music, so she came up with the idea of a virtual choir. She sent a message to other teachers about the idea and the project grew to include 60 young people aged five to 15 years old.

Reeves chose a song by Emeli Sandé called *You Are Not Alone* and adapted the lyrics for the current situation. Reeves had tried to get groups to sing at the same time through a video-call app, but people’s different internet speeds made it very difficult to keep time with the music. However, Reeves was determined to make it work because she says music can make people feel better. “Sometimes things are hard to talk about, but the music can make it easier to express,” she said. So Reeves recorded herself singing the song and then she sent it to all the young people. They sang along to Reeves’s track while recording themselves, and sent it back to her. The next part was the hardest for Reeves, who had to learn how to edit all the individual singers together to make one song. She managed it, though, and the video has been viewed more than 3,000 times on YouTube.

“It would be amazing if Emeli Sandé saw the video,” Reeves said. “We think she’d like it.” Reeves hopes the choir can meet up in person in the future. You can watch the video here at tinyurl.com/TWJ-Choir-Youtube

As a result of the coronavirus, it has been many weeks since the world’s top athletes have competed against each other. However, at the start of this month, three famous pole vaulters took part in a fun competition in their own gardens, instead of in an athletics stadium.

Called the Ultimate Garden Clash, the action was shown live on YouTube. Sweden’s Mondo Duplantis, France’s Renaud Lavillenie and the US’s Sam Kendricks used pole-vaulting equipment that they use to practise at home. The target was to make as many successful vaults as possible over a five-metre-high bar in 30 minutes. In a normal pole-vault event, athletes have three attempts to vault a bar set at a height that they choose.

Lavillenie and Duplantis achieved 36 jumps each, and Kendricks made 26. “I was really missing the feeling I get competing,” Lavillenie said. “Doing this in my garden, I get the same feeling I’d get at a major championships.” World Athletics, the group that organises major athletics events and helped set up the competition, wants to do more Ultimate Garden Clash events in other sports to help athletes compete, and keep fans entertained.

Lockdown Inspiration Ideas

Who?

Who has inspired you in lockdown?

What did they do? Why did it inspire you?

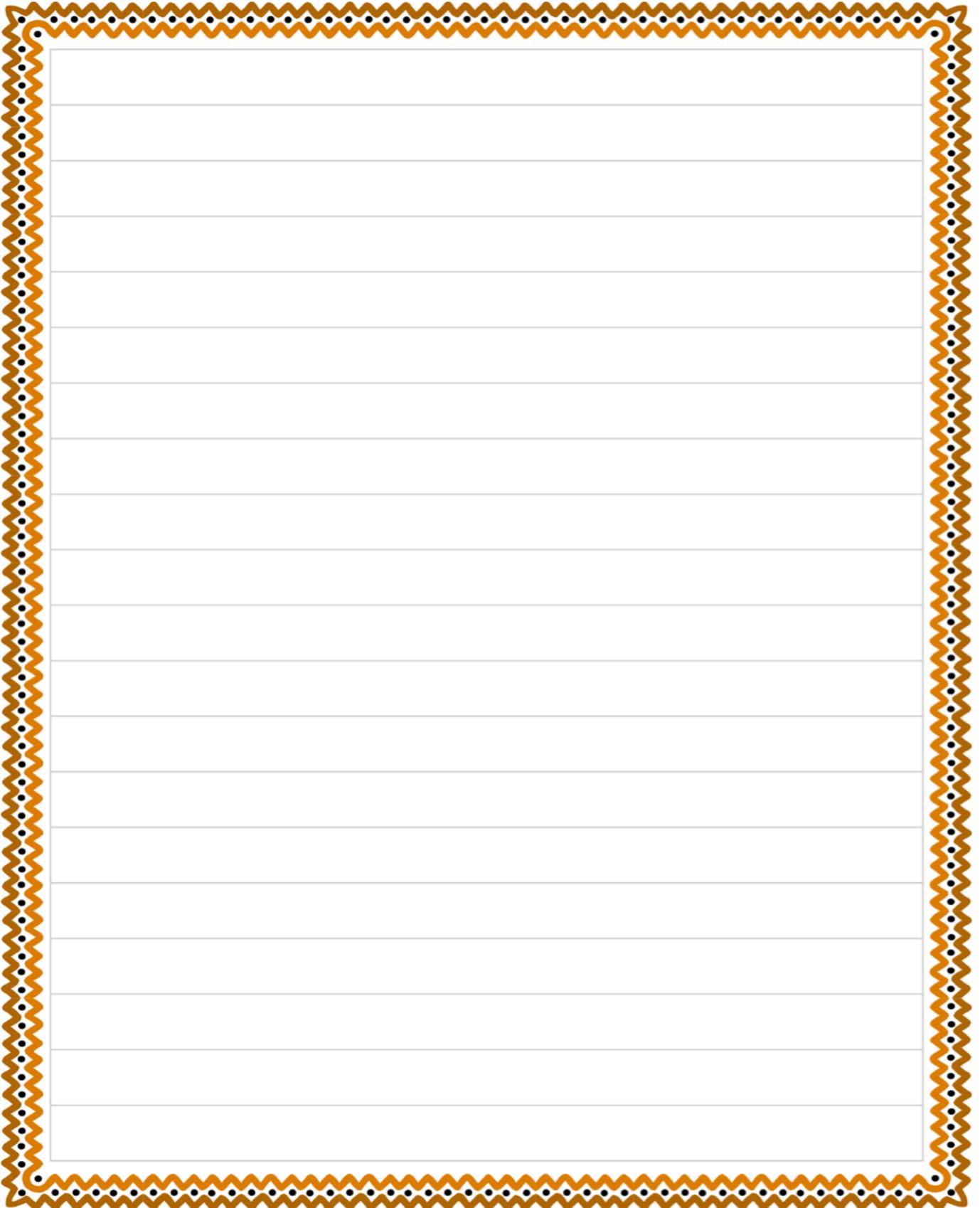
What?

What have you done that you are proud about?

What would you still like to do?

Being Inspired

Use your ideas to write a paragraph about Lockdown Inspiration.



A writing template featuring a decorative border with a repeating orange and black zigzag pattern. Inside the border, there are 20 horizontal lines for writing, providing a structured space for a paragraph.

What to do today: Wednesday 17/6 - English/Art

1. Look closely at a picture

- Look closely at *Game Changer* by Banksy. This artwork was revealed in Southampton Hospital.
- Read *Picture Prompts* and think about your answers. Write them as clear sentences.

2. Remind yourself about relative clauses

- Use the *PowerPoint on Relative Clauses* or, if this is not possible, remind yourself using the *Revision Card*.
- Complete *Relative Clause Activities*.

3. Now for some writing

- Look at *Street Art Examples 1 and 2*.
- Write sentences that include relative clauses about these pictures. Try to make some of your relative clauses embedded with some following the main clause.

Well done. Show you sentences to a grown-up. Can they work out which piece of street art each sentence is about? Show them the relative clauses that you written.

Try these Fun-Time Extras

- Look at Slogan Examples. Invent a slogan for your family and friends. Make a design that shows your slogan clearly.

Game Changer



@banksy/Instagram/PA Wire

Picture Prompts

1. What was your first reaction to this artwork? Why do you think you had the reaction?
2. Describe the lines in this artwork
3. Describe the colours in the artwork
4. Which area of the artwork is most important? Why?
5. What adjectives would you use to describe this artwork?
6. What verbs would you use to describe this artwork?
7. If you could ask the artist a question, what would you ask him/her?
8. What emotions do you notice in the artwork?
9. Who do you know that would really like this artwork?
Why would they like it?
10. Who do you know that would really dislike this artwork?
Why would they dislike it?
11. If this artwork were music, what would it sound like?

from <https://artclasscurator.com/82-questions-to-ask-about-a-work-of-art/>

Revision Card - Relative Clauses

Relative clauses can give more information about a **noun** or **pronoun**.
They usually begin with a relative pronoun.

Tell me more about the **box**.

The **design** covers the **box**.

*The design covers the **box** which had been rather dull-looking.*

*The design covers the **box** that no-one had noticed before.*

*The design covers the **box** whose exact purpose no-one knew.*



Relative Pronouns (& Relative Adverbs)
who, which, whom, whose, that, (where, when)

Relative clauses can give more information about a **noun** or **pronoun**.
They usually begin with a relative pronoun.

Tell me more about the **design**.

The **design** covers the box.

*The **design**, which appeared overnight, covers the box.*

*The **design**, which is brightly coloured, covers the box.*

*The **design**, which expresses gratitude, covers the box.*



Relative Pronouns (& Relative Adverbs)
who, which, whom, whose, that, (where, when)

Relative Clause Activities

1) Add a relative clause to each of these sentences.

Look at the pronouns in the box and try to use a different one each time.

E.g. At his house, he has a bat cave **which** is very well equipped.

He is holding a toy nurse

He is, most likely, a boy...

He wears a pair of dungarees...

He has left his other toys....

2. Embed a relative clause in the following sentences. You could use one of the clauses from the box at the bottom.

Relative pronouns

which

who

where

when

whose

that

This picture, ..., was left in Southampton Hospital.

Banksy's artwork,, commands a high price at auction.

Nurses, ..., have been praised for being heroes.

The title of the picture, , is a play on words.

The only colour in the picture, ..., shows her importance.

Banksy,, gave his picture for free.

whose identity is a mystery

which is 'Game Changer'

whose working conditions are often hard

which is well-known worldwide

which celebrates the NHS

which is the red cross on the nurse's uniform

Street Art Examples 1



Street Art Sentences

who
which
whom
whose
that

Write sentences with relative clauses about the Street Art examples.

Show your sentences to someone else. Can they guess which piece of art each sentence is about?

Slogan Examples



What to do today: Thursday 18/6 - English

1. Write about pictures

- Look closely at the set of *Images*.
- Write on *Sentences 1* and *2*, to say what could be happening in each of these pictures.
- Can you think of a story that could connect all these images? Try making it up and telling it to someone else.

2. Read and listen to a poem

- Read the first page of *The Great Realisation*. Challenge yourself to read the next two pages as well.
- Highlight the poem to show your favourite lines and phrases.
- Watch the performance of the poem:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nw5KQMXDiM4&t=5s>
- Was it as you expected it to be?

3. Write about the poem

- Read *Poetry Questions* and think about your answers.
- Write some of your answers in clear sentences.

Well done. Show the film of the poem to an adult. Ask them about it using Poetry Questions. How are their answers similar/different to yours?

Try this extra challenge

- Read 'Lockdown' by the poet laureate: Simon Armitage.

Images



Sentences 1

What is happening? What could the story be behind this image?



Sentences 2



The Great Realisation

*Tell me the one about the virus again
Then, I'll go to bed*

But my boy you're growing weary,
sleepy thoughts about your head

*Please that one's my favourite
I promise just once more*

Okay, snuggle down my boy
though I know you know full well
the story starts before then
in a world I once would dwell.

It was a world of waste and wonder
of poverty and plenty
back before we understood
why hindsight's 2020.

You see the people came up with
companies
to trade across all lands
but they swelled and got much bigger
than we ever could have planned.

We'd always had our wants
but now it got so quick
you could have anything you dreamed of
in a day and with a click.

We noticed families that stopped talking
that's not to say they never spoke
but the meaning must have melted
and the work-life balance broke.

And the children's eyes grew square
and every toddler had a phone,
they filtered out the imperfections
but amidst the noise; they felt alone.

and every day the skies grew thicker
till we couldn't see the stars
so we flew in planes to find them
while down below we filled our cars.

we'd drive around all day in circles
we'd forgotten how to run
we swapped the grass for tarmac
Shrunk the parks till there were none.

we filled the sea with plastic
because our waste was never capped
until each day when you went fishing
you'd pull them out already wrapped

and while we drank, smoked and gambled
our leaders taught us why
it's best to not upset the lobbies
or convenient to die.

but then in 2020
a new virus came our way
the governments reacted
and told us all to hide away.

But while we all were hidden
amidst the fear and all the while
people dusted off their instincts
they remembered how to smile.

they started clapping to say thank you
and calling up their mums
and while the car keys gathered dust
they would look forward to their runs.

and with the skies less full of voyagers
the earth began to breathe
and the beaches bore new wildlife
that scuttled off into the seas.

some people started dancing
some were singing some were baking
we'd grown so used to bad news
but some good news was in the making.

and so when we found the cure
and were allowed to go outside
we all preferred the world we found
to the one we'd left behind

old habits became extinct
and they made way for the new
and every simple act of kindness
was now given its due .

*but why did it take a virus
to bring the people back together?*
sometimes you've got to get sick my boy
before you start feeling better

now lie down and dream of tomorrow
and all the things that we can do
and who knows if you dream hard enough
maybe some of them will come true

we now call it the great realization
and yes since then there have been many
but that's the story of how it started
and why hindsight's 2020.

The Great Realisation
By Tom Roberts

Poetry Questions

What do you like about the poem? Is there anything that you dislike?

What does the poem make you think about? Does it remind you of anyone? Does it remind you of anything you have ever read or seen?

What patterns can you find in the poem?

What puzzles and questions does the poem leave?

Lockdown

And I couldn't escape the waking dream
of infected fleas

in the warp and weft of soggy cloth
by the tailor's hearth

in ye olde Eyam.
Then couldn't un-see

the Boundary Stone,
that cock-eyed dice with its six dark holes,

thimbles brimming with vinegar wine
purging the plagued coins.

Which brought to mind the sorry story
of Emmott Syddall and Rowland Torre,

star-crossed lovers on either side
of the quarantine line

whose wordless courtship spanned the river
till she came no longer.

But slept again,
and dreamt this time

of the exiled yaksha sending word
to his lost wife on a passing cloud,

a cloud that followed an earthly map
of camel trails and cattle tracks,

streams like necklaces,
fan-tailed peacocks, painted elephants,

embroidered bedspreads
of meadows and hedges,

bamboo forests and snow-hatted peaks,
waterfalls, creeks,

the hieroglyphs of wide-winged cranes
and the glistening lotus flower after rain,

the air
hypnotically see-through, rare,

the journey a ponderous one at times, long and slow
but necessarily so.

Simon Armitage

What to do today: Friday 19/6 - English

1. Watch a poetry performance again

- Watch the performance of The Great Realisation, following the words as you do.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nw5KQMXDiM4&t=5s>

- Use the *Sorting Table* to note down all the positive and negative images and ideas that you can find in this poem. Can you find some ideas that are a mix of positive and negative?

2. Think about a possible future

- Think about how you would like the future for the world to be.
- Try to think of six hopes. Record them with words and pictures on *What kind of future?*

Try the Fun-Time Extra

Interview other people about their six hopes for the future of the world. Are there any you share? What could you do to help them to happen?

The Great Realisation

*Tell me the one about the virus again
Then, I'll go to bed*

But my boy you're growing weary,
sleepy thoughts about your head

*Please that one's my favourite
I promise just once more*

Okay, snuggle down my boy
though I know you know full well
the story starts before then
in a world I once would dwell.

It was a world of waste and wonder
of poverty and plenty
back before we understood
why hindsight's 2020.

You see the people came up with
companies
to trade across all lands
but they swelled and got much
bigger
than we ever could have planned.

We'd always had our wants
but now it got so quick
you could have anything you
dreamed of
in a day and with a click.

We noticed families that stopped
talking
that's not to say they never spoke
but the meaning must have melted
and the work-life balance broke.

And the children's eyes grew square
and every toddler had a phone,
they filtered out the imperfections
but amidst the noise; they felt alone.

and every day the skies grew thicker
till we couldn't see the stars
so we flew in planes to find them
while down below we filled our cars.

we'd drive around all day in circles
we'd forgotten how to run
we swapped the grass for tarmac
Shrunk the parks till there were none.

we filled the sea with plastic
because our waste was never capped
until each day when you went fishing
you'd pull them out already wrapped

and while we drank, smoked and
gambled
our leaders taught us why
it's best to not upset the lobbies
or convenient to die.

but then in 2020
a new virus came our way
the governments reacted
and told us all to hide away.

But while we all were hidden
amidst the fear and all the while
people dusted off their instincts
they remembered how to smile.

they started clapping to say thank
you
and calling up their mums
and while the car keys gathered dust
they would look forward to their
runs.

and with the skies less full of
voyagers
the earth began to breathe
and the beaches bore new wildlife
that scuttled off into the seas.

some people started dancing
some were singing some were
baking
we'd grown so used to bad news
but some good news was in the
making.

and so when we found the cure
and were allowed to go outside
we all preferred the world we found
to the one we'd left behind

old habits became extinct
and they made way for the new
and every simple act of kindness
was now given its due.

*but why did it take a virus
to bring the people back together?*
sometimes you've got to get sick my
boy
before you start feeling better

now lie down and dream of tomorrow
and all the things that we can do
and who knows if you dream hard
enough
maybe some of them will come true

we now call it the great realization
and yes since then there have been
many
but that's the story of how it started
and why hindsight's 2020.

The Great Realisation
By Tom Roberts

Sorting Table

Negatives	Uncertain	Positives
<p data-bbox="145 353 480 450"><i>Filled the seas with plastic</i></p>	<p data-bbox="592 353 967 450"><i>A world of waste and wonder</i></p>	<p data-bbox="1082 353 1422 450"><i>The earth began to breathe</i></p>

What kind of future?
