

Hi Everyone! I hope you are all keeping well. Thank you to those who entered the story writing competition - it was lovely reading your writing again and for those who are emailing work into school for me to look at. It's lovely still being part of the things you are doing even though we are not together in the classroom. It has been very strange being back in school without some of you there - we have all been missing you. Here is this weeks cross-curricular work pack. Look after yourselves.

Mrs Ward :-)

Monday 22nd June: What to do today

1. Explore the front cover and first page of a book

- Look closely at the *Front Cover* of The Paradise Garden
- Make brief notes about five things that you notice and what you think might happen in the book.
- Read and look closely at *First Page*. Use a thesaurus (book or online www.thesaurus.com) and complete *First Page Noises*.
- Make predictions. How do you think this story will develop?

2. Listen to the story and answer questions

- Listen to the reading of the story: https://youtu.be/6pzhIQ_cupg
- Read *Questions* and think about your answers. Write them as full sentences. You can use *The Paradise Garden – Text* to help you.

3. Write about the illustrations

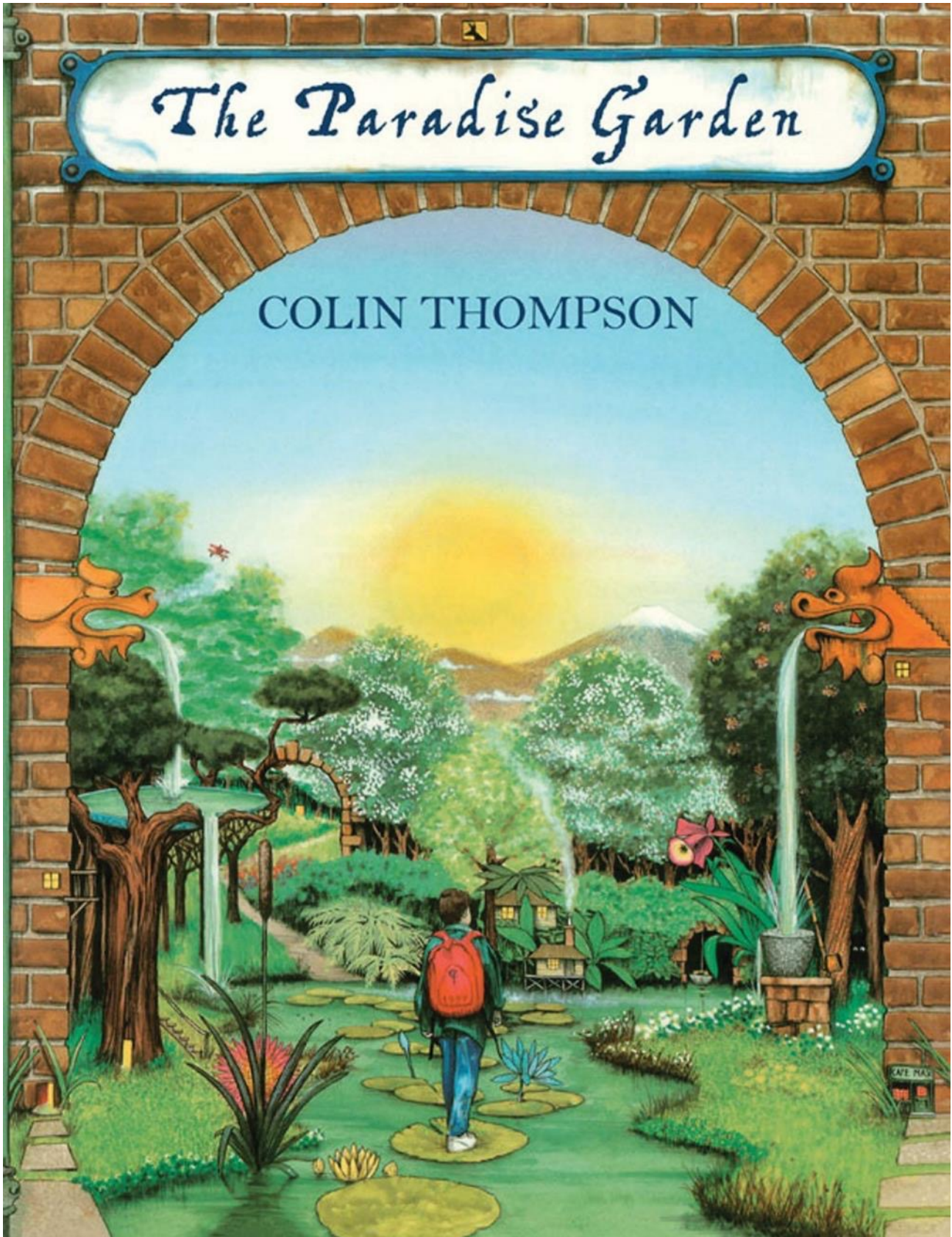
- Choose your favourite from *Illustrations 1-4*.
- Read the *Writing Brief* and write a paragraph about your chosen illustration.

Well done. Show the illustration that you picked to a grown-up. Ask them what they notice and then show them your writing.

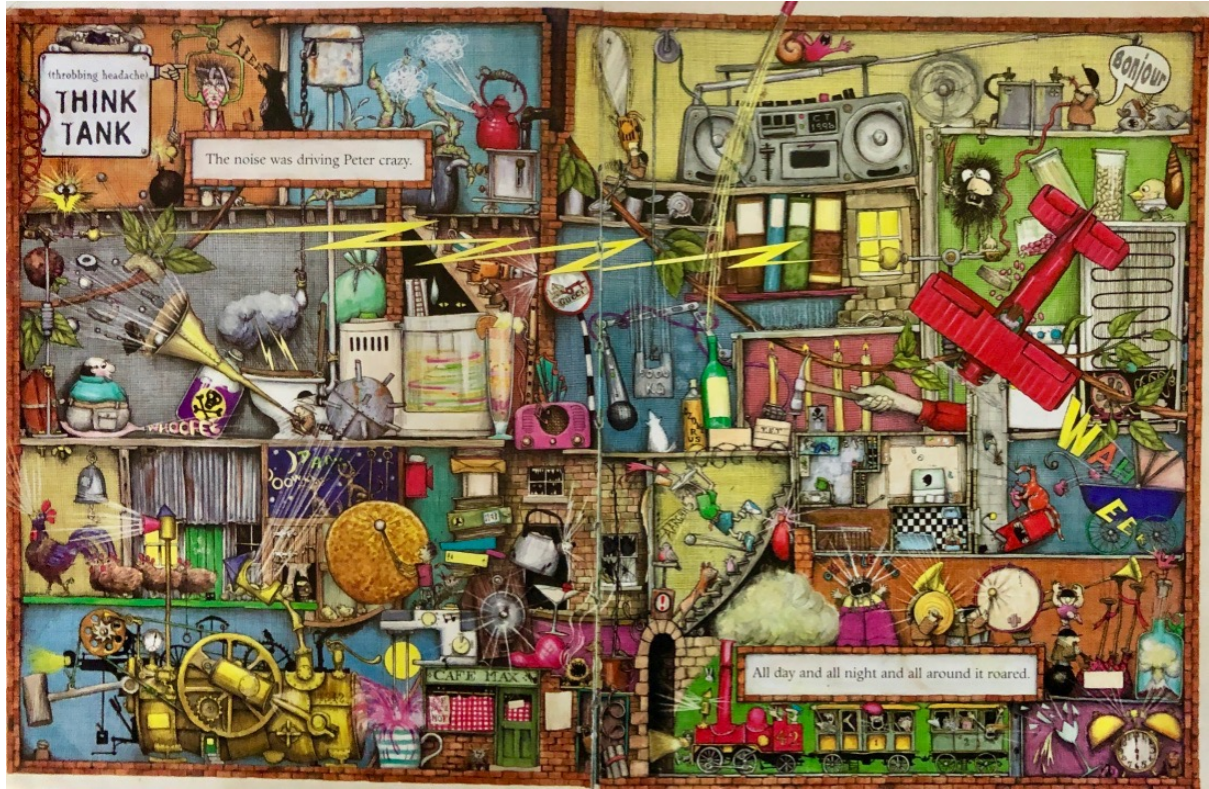
Try the Fun-Time Extra

Turn your answers to *First Page Noises* into a poem about all the noises that bothered Peter.

Front Cover



First Page



First Page Noises

Choose an object from the first page and write possible vocabulary for the sounds it makes. Find vocabulary with a book or online thesaurus.

<https://www.thesaurus.com/>

<u>Object</u>	<u>Possible vocabulary</u>
Kettle	<i>whistled, fluted, piped, shrieked, tootled, hissed, wheezed</i>
Gong	<i>reverberated</i>

Questions

1. Why do you think that Peter decided to run away?
2. What plan did he have to make sure no one would miss him?
3. What difference does it make to Peter when he is in the garden?
4. How did Peter manage to eat when he was in the garden?
5. What made Peter realise that he was lonely?
6. Why do you think that Peter decided to go home?
7. How was life the same and how was it different now?
8. Why do you think that the garden was the place that Peter decided to run away to?

The Paradise Garden – Text

The noise was driving Peter crazy.
All day and night and all around it roared.

Only in one place was there any peace. In the west of the city was a fabulous garden. There, behind its tall walls and thick trees it was possible to escape the noise. For Peter, who had lived all his life in narrow streets, it was the closest place to paradise he had ever seen.

Surrounded by trees from around the world, were quiet lawns and secret places that felt like the middle of the country, where the grass was long and squirrels buried acorns under the bushes. If you shut your eyes you could still hear the traffic but it felt far away and unimportant. The air smelt clean with a breath of trees. Hidden by thick bushes, Peter lay on the grass and floated away into the deep forest.



He'd planned his escape so no one would miss him. It was simple. He told his mother he was going on holiday with his father. She was annoyed, but not enough to stop him, not enough to phone his father.

That night Peter slept beneath the stars. The city had dropped to a faint murmur. Foxes hunted through the garden and owls called out in the dark. No monsters visited Peter's dreams that night. There were no nightmares of running through slowed down time, just peaceful empty sleep.

The first weeks were wonderful. He thought he might get fed up with the garden, that maybe its magic would wear off, but it didn't. He thought about his sister and his friends. He thought about his parents fighting and his father walking out. It all seemed so far away. It was as if the garden wall were a boundary to another world.

He bought food in the cafes and washed his clothes in a lotus pond among tall bamboos. And as he went through the garden, he collected things: a gold ring, a red balloon and a pocketful of seeds. And when it rained, there were other great glass houses. Beneath their crystal skies it was forever summer. At night Peter crept into the Palm House to pick bananas and exotic fruits from around the world.

He grew to know every part of the garden, from quiet forgotten pathways where lovers walked to white paths of bright flowers where old ladies sat and painted. He grew to know the animals too. At home he had never been allowed a cat or dog or even a fish but here he had dozens of friends.

Eventually his money and the bananas ran out and he had to live on other people's leftovers. But even then he was happy. No one shouted at him. No one told him he was stupid. No one tried to make him do things he couldn't. And no one made him face up to the fact that he would have to go home one day.

Life was so peaceful. At night he climbed the tallest tree and looked out at the distant city sparkling like fallen stars. He walked between tropical palms and swam with brilliant goldfish in a pool of giant waterlilies.

In a corner of the garden, behind tall brick walls, was the only house where people lived. Peter stood in the shadows



by the window and watched the family inside. A fire burned in a grate, turning the room into gold. Two children played cards on the floor while their parents watched television and, on the carpet, an old dog dreamed of its youth. Peter felt a terrible sadness in his heart, a deep loneliness that he realised had been there all his short life.

Summer grew weary. Everything slowed down and stopped growing. A fine dust covered the leaves. The flowers turned their heads onto the ground and Peter felt lonely. The leaves turned gold and began to fall and Peter knew it was time to go home.

In the yard behind his house Peter planted all the seeds he had collected. Nothing at home had changed. The noise still went on day and night. His mother shouted, the neighbours shouted and the city roared. But now he had his own paradise garden, and he knew that he would always have one wherever he went.

Illustration 1

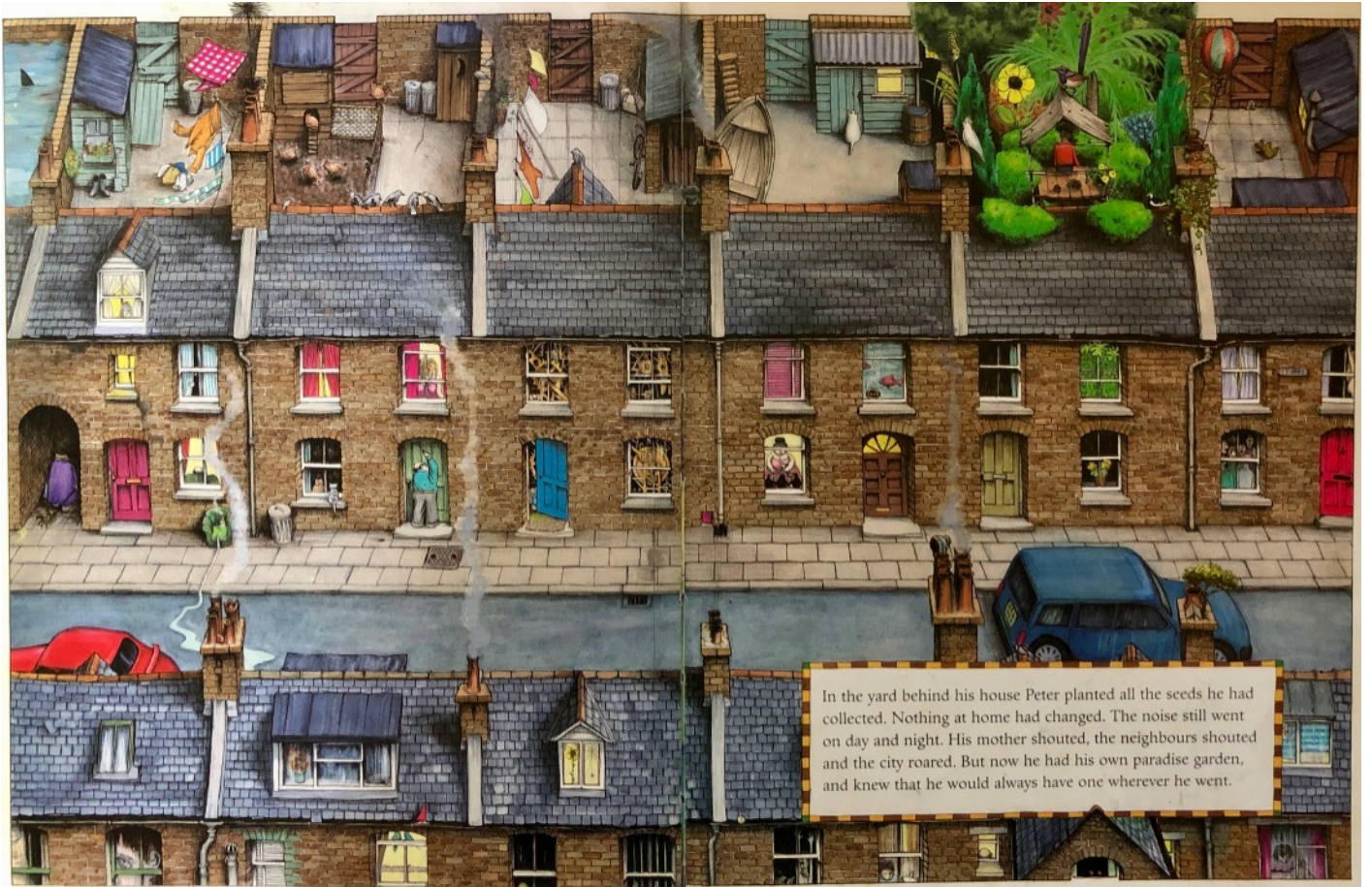


Illustration 2

Surrounded by trees from around the world, were quiet lawns and secret places that felt like the middle of the country, where the grass was long and squirrels buried acorns under the bushes. If you shut your eyes you could still hear the traffic but it felt far away and unimportant. The air smelled clean with the breath of trees.

Hidden by thick bushes, Peter lay back in the grass and floated away into deep forest.



Illustration 3



And when it rained, there were the great glass houses.
Beneath their crystal skies it was forever summer. At
night Peter crept into the Palm House to pick bananas
and exotic fruits from around the world.

Illustration 4



Writing Brief

Choose your favourite illustration

(You could choose one you have seen on the video).

Write a paragraph that includes these things:

1. Write a three-sentence overall description of the illustration.
2. Write where in the story the illustration comes.
3. Write about the strangest thing in the illustration.
4. Write about the funniest thing in the illustration.
5. Write about the mood of the illustration and explain why you say that.

Tuesday 23rd June: What to do today

1. Listen again to the story

- Listen again to the story of The Paradise Garden https://youtu.be/6pzhIQ_cupg.
- What do you notice when you hear the story a second time? Try to think of five things.

2. Make notes about a character

- Complete *Peter Character Notes*.
- You can use *The Paradise Garden Text* to help you.

3. Imagine your own special place

- What sort of place would you like to go for a break from noise and stress? It can be real or imaginary.
- Write phrases and words to describe your place on *My Place*.
- Use the *Tabernacle Card Instructions*. Put the phrases and words on the outside of your Tabernacle Card and draw and label your place on the inside of the card.

Try the Fun-Time Extra

Interview other people to find out about the place they would choose to escape to. You could make them a Tabernacle Card about their special place.

Peter Character Notes

What do we know and what can we infer about Peter?

What do we learn about what Peter does in the Garden?

What do we learn about Peter's family and life at home?

How would you describe Peter's character? Give reasons for your ideas.

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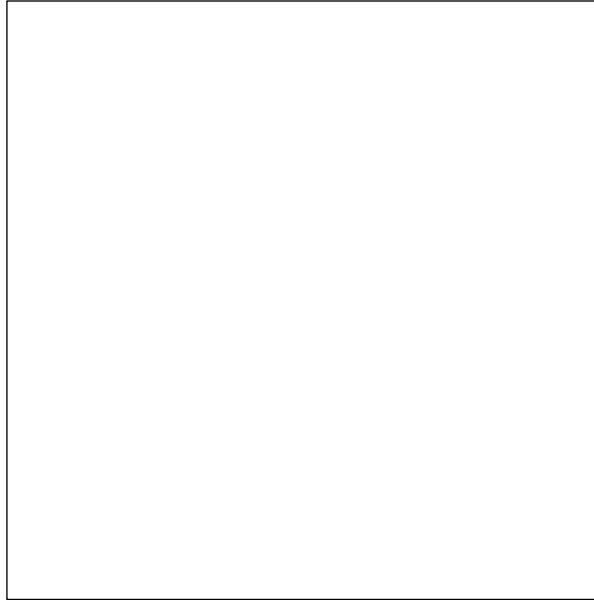
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My Place

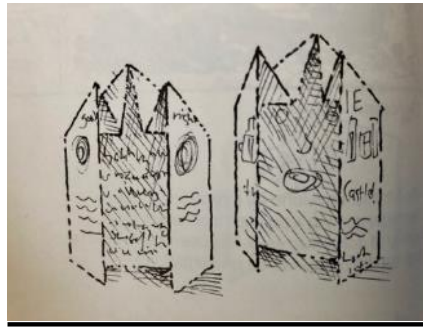
Jot down words and phrases to describe the place you would like to escape to. It can be real or imaginary.

You could use a thesaurus to help you. (www.thesaurus.com)

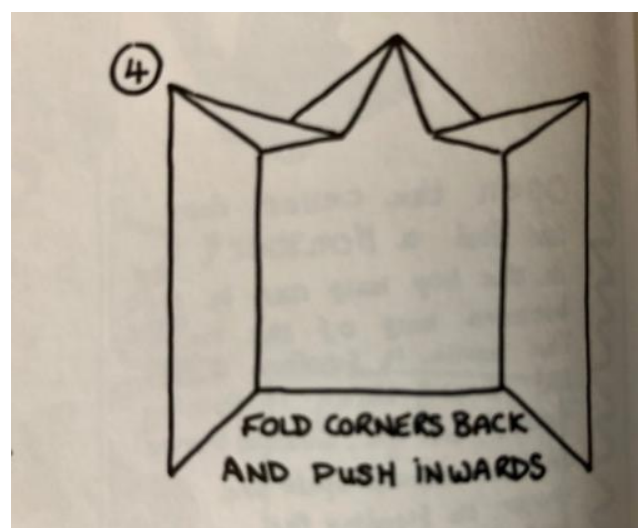
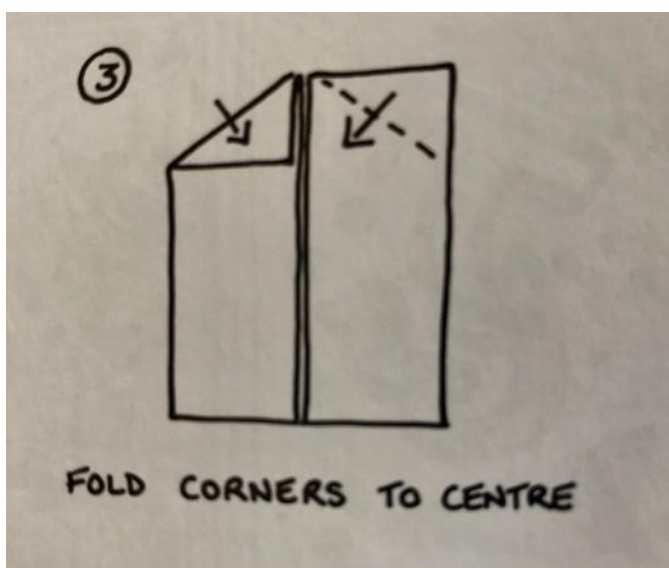
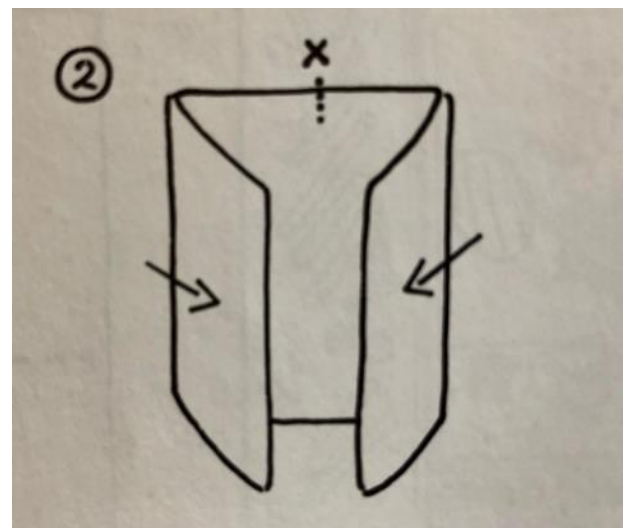
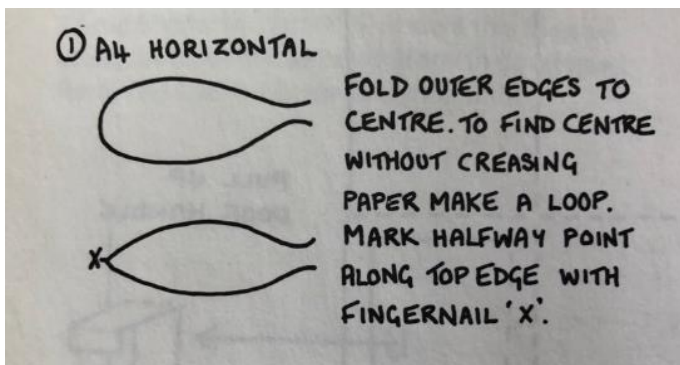


Use the *Tabernacle Card Instructions*. Put the phrases and words on the outside of your Tabernacle Card and draw and label your place on the inside of the card.

Tabernacle Card Instructions



Make a Tabernacle Card from A4 plain paper by following these steps.



From A Book of One's Own by Paul Johnson

Wednesday 24th June: What to do today

1. Find out about alchemy

- Read the non-fiction *History of Alchemy*. What are three new things that you have learnt from reading this article?
- Read *Alchemy Questions*. Think about your answers and then write them in clear sentences.

2. Listen to a story

Listen to the reading of *The Last Alchemist* <https://youtu.be/rIRh0qqKPyl>

- What did you like about the story? Was there anything that you disliked? What did it remind you of? Why do you think Colin Thompson decided to write this book?
- Write 2 or 3 sentences to describe what is happening in each of the three *Illustrations*.

3. Compare two stories

- Read the version of the Greek Myth, *King Midas*.
- Complete the *Comparison Table*.

Try the Fun-Time Extras

- How do you think Colin Thompson would illustrate the story of King Midas? Try making an illustration of one scene from the story in his style.
- Research these alchemists. Try to find out five facts about each. Albert Magnus, Geber, Isaac Newton.

History of Alchemy

Alchemy is an ancient area of study. Alchemists attempted to purify and change certain materials. It is believed to have begun in Egypt and was developed in Ancient Greece.

It was introduced to western Europe in the eighth century when Arab settlers brought it to Spain. From here it quickly spread to the rest of Europe.

Alchemists believed that all metals were made up of a mix of mercury and sulphur. Gold was seen as the perfect metal and all other metals were seen as less perfect. Some alchemists believed that other metals could be changed into gold by using a substance that they called the Philosopher's Stone.

They believed that the stone could make people live for ever. The Chinese name for the stone was the 'Pill of Immortality'.

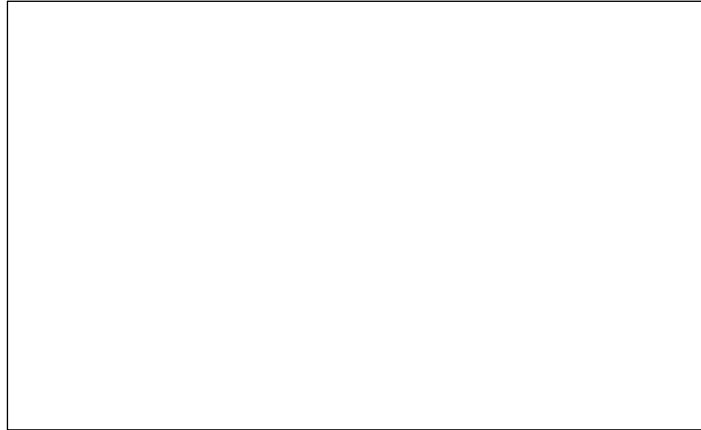
The study of alchemy continued for hundreds of years. By the sixteenth century there were two groups of alchemists.

The first group focussed on the discovery of and their reactions. Their work led to what is now the science of chemistry.

The second group continued to look at the more mysterious and strange side of alchemy. They searched for immortality and the change (transmutation) of lower metals into pure gold.

Famous alchemists include: Geber, Albertus Magnus and Isaac Newton.

Alchemy Questions



1. Where is alchemy believed to have begun?
2. What did alchemists believe about all metals?
3. What did alchemists believe about gold?
4. What did alchemists believe about the 'Philosopher's Stone'?
5. What word means living for ever/never dying?
6. Which of the sciences did alchemy develop into?
7. What word do alchemists use for changing lower metals into pure gold?
8. Which famous alchemist first stated the law of gravity?

(You may need to do some research to answer this question)

Illustrations

*Write 2/3 sentences about what is happening in each of these illustrations.
You could watch the video again to help you.*



King Midas and the Golden Touch

Once upon a time, a long time ago in ancient Greece, there lived a king named Midas. King Midas loved three things more than anything else in the world - his little daughter, his rose garden, and gold. Nothing gave him more pleasure than seeing his little daughter picking roses in the garden, roses she placed in a golden vase to decorate the castle.

One night, while strolling through his rose garden, the king stumbled over a satyr. A satyr was half man, half goat. This satyr looked half-starved and very ill. King Midas brought the satyr into his castle. He made sure the satyr was washed and fed and tucked into bed for a good night's sleep. When the satyr woke up the next morning, his fever was gone. The king and the satyr had quite a nice chat over breakfast. King Midas was surprised to hear that the satyr belonged to the powerful god Dionysus, the god of wine and truth. That very day, the king personally took the satyr home in his very best chariot.

Dionysus told the king he would grant any one wish the king made to thank him for taking such good care of his friend. The king did not wish anything for his daughter because he had given her everything she wanted and a whole lot more besides. He did not wish anything for his rose garden because everyone knew he grew the finest roses in all the world. That left gold. King Midas wished that everything he touched would turn to gold.

When the king arrived back at his castle, he pulled out a chair to sit down at his table. The minute he touched it, the chair turned to gold. He touched the table. He touched a vase. As soon as he touched them, they turned to gold. King Midas raced through his castle. Everything he touched turned to gold! He was so happy. He shouted to his servants to cook him a feast in celebration!

His servants served him a feast. That's when the trouble started. Everything looked and smelled so good that King Midas did not wait for his daughter to show up for lunch. He reached out and grabbed a fistful of food. The food made quite a clatter when he dropped it back on the table in shock. It had turned to gold in his fist. He touched other food. Whatever he touched turned to gold. He tried leaning over and ripping a piece of meat with his teeth, but that did not help. The meat turned to gold in his mouth. The king's eyes filled with fear. He knew if he could not eat, he would starve. This was terrible. The king did not know what to do.

King Midas wandered sadly out to his rose garden. His little daughter was in the garden, picking roses. When she saw her father, she ran into his arms for a hug and turned to gold. King Midas hung his head and cried. As his tears fell on his precious roses they turned to gold, but the king did not care. He did not care about his roses or his gold or himself. Dionysus, hear my prayer, the king begged. Take my wish back! Please, take my wish back and save my daughter!

One last time, the king's wish was granted.

Adapted from: <https://greece.mrdonn.org/greekgods/kingmidas.html>

Comparison Table

How are the stories of King Midas and The Last Alchemist similar and how are they different?

Explain your answers

Similarities	Differences

Alchemy Possible Answers

1. Where is alchemy believed to have begun?

Alchemy is believed to have begun in Ancient Egypt.

2. What did alchemists believe about all metals?

Alchemists believed that all metals are a mixture of mercury and sulphur.

3. What did alchemists believe about gold?

Alchemists believed that gold was the purest metal.

4. What did alchemists believe about the 'Philosopher's Stone'?

Alchemists believed that the Philosopher's Stone would change lower metals into gold.

5. What word means living for ever/never dying?

Immortality means never dying and living forever.

6. Which of the sciences did alchemy develop into?

Alchemy developed into chemistry.

7. What word do alchemists use for changing lower metals into pure gold?

Alchemist describe the change from lower metals into gold as transmutation.

8. Which famous alchemist first stated the law of gravity?

Isaac Newton first stated the law of gravity.

Thursday 25th June: What to do today

1. Listen to the story again

- Listen to the reading of *The Last Alchemist* again.
<https://youtu.be/rlRh0qqKPyI>

2. Imagine the trial of Spinifex

- Imagine that Spinifex has been put on trial for what he did.
- What could be said against him? What might he say from his point of view? Write your ideas on *For/Against*.
- Look at both sets of ideas and write a *Summary Paragraph* that the judge could read, summing up and deciding whether Spinifex is innocent or guilty.

3. Read a poem

- Read *Alchemy by Sara Teasdale*. Read it twice, once in your head and once out loud.
- Read through *Some Reflections on Alchemy Poem*. Do you agree with these thoughts? How does the poem make you feel?
- Try learning the poem off by heart. Use the *Tips for Learning a Poem by Heart* to help you.

Try the Fun-Time Extras

Alchemists dreamt of turning lower metal into pure gold. What magical powers would you most like to have? Write to describe five of them and explain how you would use them. Interview others to find out what they would choose.

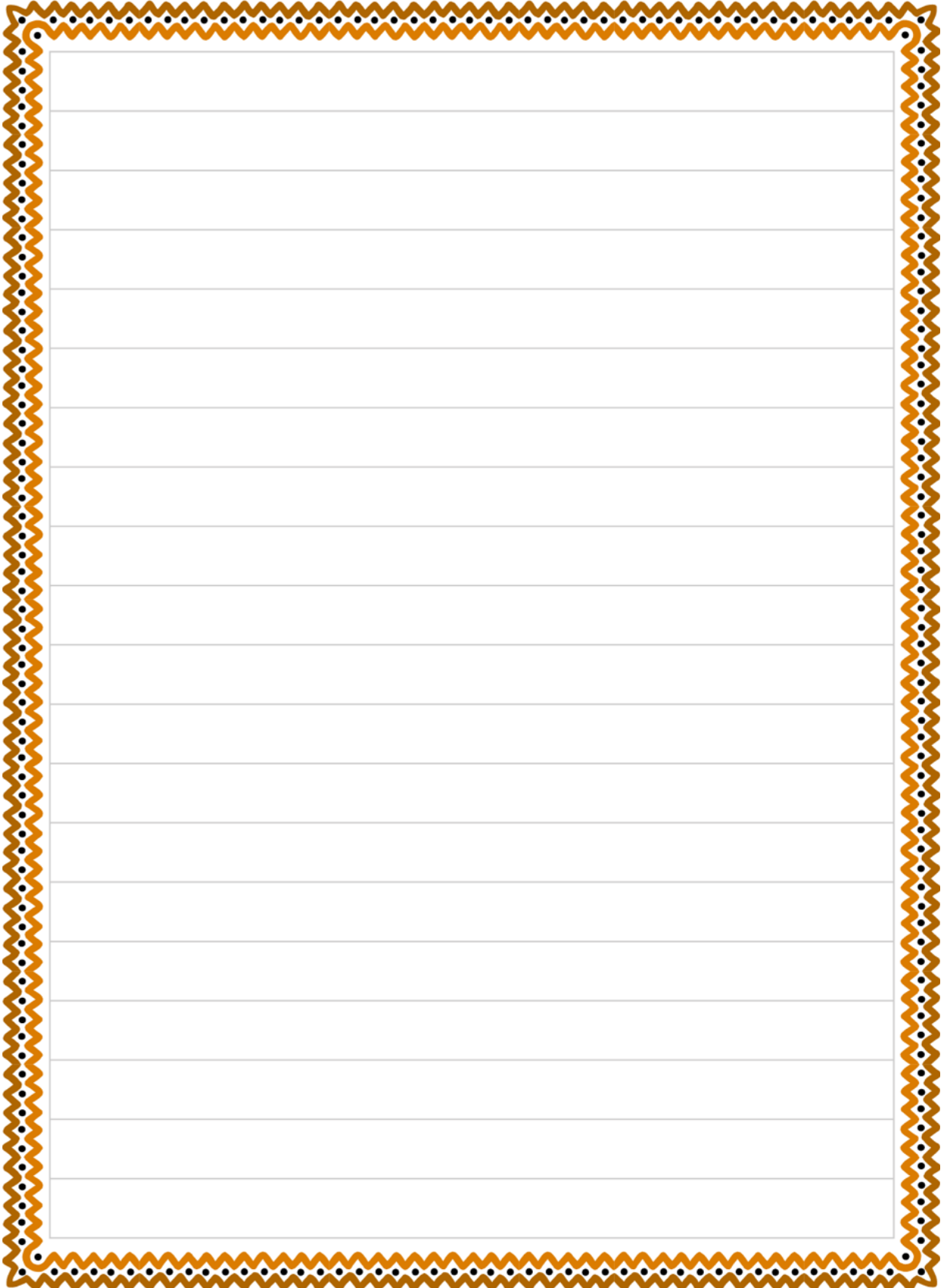
For/Against

Why might someone argue that Spinifex was wrong? What might he say in his defence? Write your ideas here.

For Spinifex	Against Spinifex

Summary Paragraph

What might a judge say at the end of Spinifex's trial?



A large rectangular writing area with a decorative orange and black border. The interior is white with horizontal lines for text, suitable for writing a summary paragraph.

Alchemy



Sarah Teasdale noticed how a flower colours clear rain-drops. This is her poem:

I lift my heart as spring lifts up
A yellow daisy to the rain;
My heart will be a lovely cup
Altho' it holds but pain.

For I shall learn from flower and leaf
That colour every drop they hold,
To change the lifeless wine of grief
To living gold.

by Sara Teasdale

Some reflections on Alchemy – Poem

Some reflections – yours will be different of course!

I lift my heart as spring lifts up
A yellow daisy to the rain;
My heart will be a lovely cup
Altho' it holds but pain.

For I shall learn from flower and leaf
That colour every drop they hold,
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by Sara Teasdale

Sarah is saying that her heart is full of pain – she is sad –

But Spring, the yellow daisy lifting its face to the rain, makes her heart lift up.

The poet says that she will learn from the flowers and the leaves that produce colour and beauty.

What she calls 'the lifeless wine of grief' – that is the pain that goes with grieving – is made more bearable by learning how nature colours the world with gold.

Top tips for learning a poem by heart

- Read the poem aloud several times slowly.
- Copy the poem out a couple of times.
- Be strategic. Pick a poem with a pattern, metre and rhyme are much easier to learn by heart than free verse.
- Learn and internalise the “story” in the poem
- Understand the poem by knowing every word’s meaning
- With a card, cover everything but the first line of the poem. Read it. Look away, see the line in the air, and say it. Look back. Repeat until you’ve “got it.”
- Uncover the second line. Learn it as you did the first line, but also add second line to first, until you’ve got the two.
- Then it’s on to three. Always repeat the first line on down, till the whole poem sings.



Friday 26th June: What to do today

1. Learn about Colin Thompson

- Read *Colin Thompson Autobiography*.
- Answer the *Autobiography Questions*.
- Is there anything in Colin Thompson's life that reminds you of The Paradise Garden or The Last Alchemist?

2. Compare the two books

- Listen again to both Colin Thompson books being read:
The Last Alchemist: <https://youtu.be/rlRh0qqKPyI>
The Paradise Garden: https://youtu.be/6pzhlQ_cupg
- Read the *Six Comparison Tasks*. Write your answers in clear sentences.

3. Now for some writing.

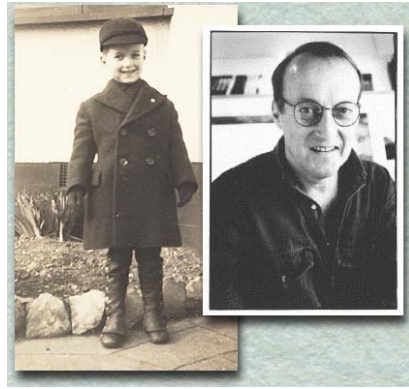
- Look at *New Illustration*. This is for a new book Colin Thompson is writing.
- Imagine a story that would fit this illustration. Note your ideas on *Story Planner* and then write all or some of your story.

Well done. Share your story with a grown-up. Show them the illustration and explain how you have used it in your story.

Time for some cross-curricular Artwork:

- Can you make some more illustrations for your new story?
- Find more examples of Colin Thompson's illustrations online (including his designs for jigsaws). Can you find your own Colin Thompson top three? Share it with someone else and explain to them what you like about these illustrations.

Colin Thompson Autobiography



I was born in Ealing, London on October 18th 1942. Until I was eleven my name wasn't Colin Thompson it was Colin Willment. Willment was my father's name and my mother changed it to Thompson when she married my stepfather. Looking back I wish she hadn't. She cut my father off completely and I only met him once when I was nineteen. Now he's dead so it's too late, though I recently made contact with his family through searching on the internet and found a first cousin, Robert Willment, who lives in America. So now I have a whole new family.

I went to boarding school in Yorkshire, grammar school in West London and spent two years at art school in Ealing and Hammersmith where, to my dismay, I met people who could draw much better than I could. I met my first wife at art school and not long after, met my first daughter, Charlotte.

I have worked as a silk-screen printer, a graphic designer, a stage manager in the theatre but never as a lumberjack in Canada or a sailor on a tramp-steamer in the South Seas. I studied film-making for a year, got married for the second time and worked for a while making documentaries at the BBC.

In my early twenties I suffered with terrible depression and, on three different occasions, spent three months in three different hospitals. For no reason I have ever been able to explain, my depression went when I was 25 and has never returned.

If you suffer with depression ALWAYS REMEMBER it is NOT something you should ever be ashamed of and try to hide. I CAN'T EMPHASISE THIS ENOUGH.

IT IS NOT YOUR FAULT. It is a genuine illness just the same as breaking your arm or having a cold.

In 1968 I went to live in Majorca but less than a year later moved with, my second wife, to a tiny island in the Outer Hebrides off the north-west coast of Scotland where we spent seven years trying to stand upright in the wind and began twenty years working in ceramics. I also tried living off the land but all I got was an acre of weeds, backache, a pet chicken and two more daughters, Hannah and Alice, though not necessarily in that order.

In 1975 I moved to Cumbria where I lived and worked in an old farmhouse on the edge of a forest for twenty years. During this time I planted hundreds of trees and made a lake that is now home to a family of mediaeval carp. At one time my house was home for five rescued dogs and three cats.

In 1990 I started writing and illustrating children's books and had my first book published in March 1991. Since then I've had over 65 books published.

In March 1995 I visited a school in Sydney, Australia and fell so much in love with the place that two weeks later I came back to live here. And on April 9th 1999 I married Anne, the teacher librarian who organised my visit to the school. In February 1999 we moved to Bellingen, inland from Coff's Harbour and about seven hours north of Sydney. It is probably the most beautiful place on earth.

I have always believed in the magic of childhood and think that if you get your life right that magic should never end. I feel that if a children's book cannot be enjoyed properly by adults there is something wrong with either the book or the adult reading it.

My favourite fruit is cherries and my favourite music is The Ramones and old Blues records and I am now an Australian citizen. I am left-handed and colour-blind.

Adapted from <http://www.colinthompson.com/page7b.htm>

Autobiography Questions

1. When was Colin Thompson born?
2. What regret does he have about his childhood?
3. Which of his jobs do you think is most unusual?
4. What message does he give about depression?
5. When did he begin writing and illustrating children's books?
6. How did he meet his wife, Anne?
7. What does he say about adults and children's books?
8. What is his favourite fruit?

Can you spot anything from Colin Thompson's life that has gone into his books?

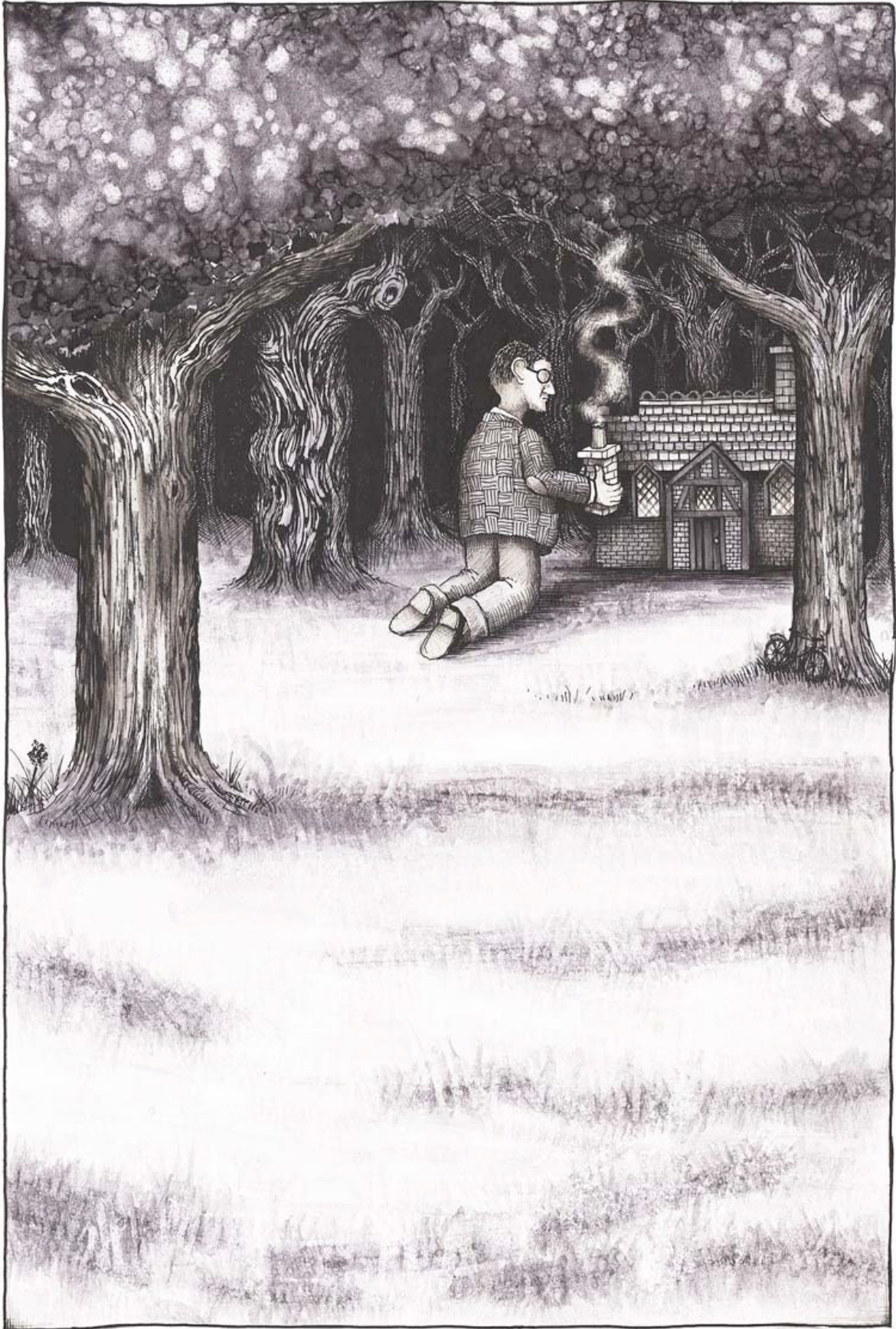
Six Comparison Tasks

<p>1. Describe in detail something that is <u>the same</u> in both books.</p>	<p>2. Describe in detail something that is <u>different</u> from one book to the other.</p>	<p>3. Which main character, Arthur or Peter, do you identify with most? Which do you feel <u>most sympathetic</u> towards? Give reasons for your choice.</p>
<p>4. Look at the Example Illustrations. Say which book has the best <u>illustrations</u> and explain why you think that.</p>	<p>5. Say which book has the best <u>plot</u> and explain why you think that.</p>	<p>6. Think of a particular friend or relative. Which of the two books would you <u>suggest they read</u>? Why do you think that would be the better book for them?</p>

Example Illustrations



New Illustration

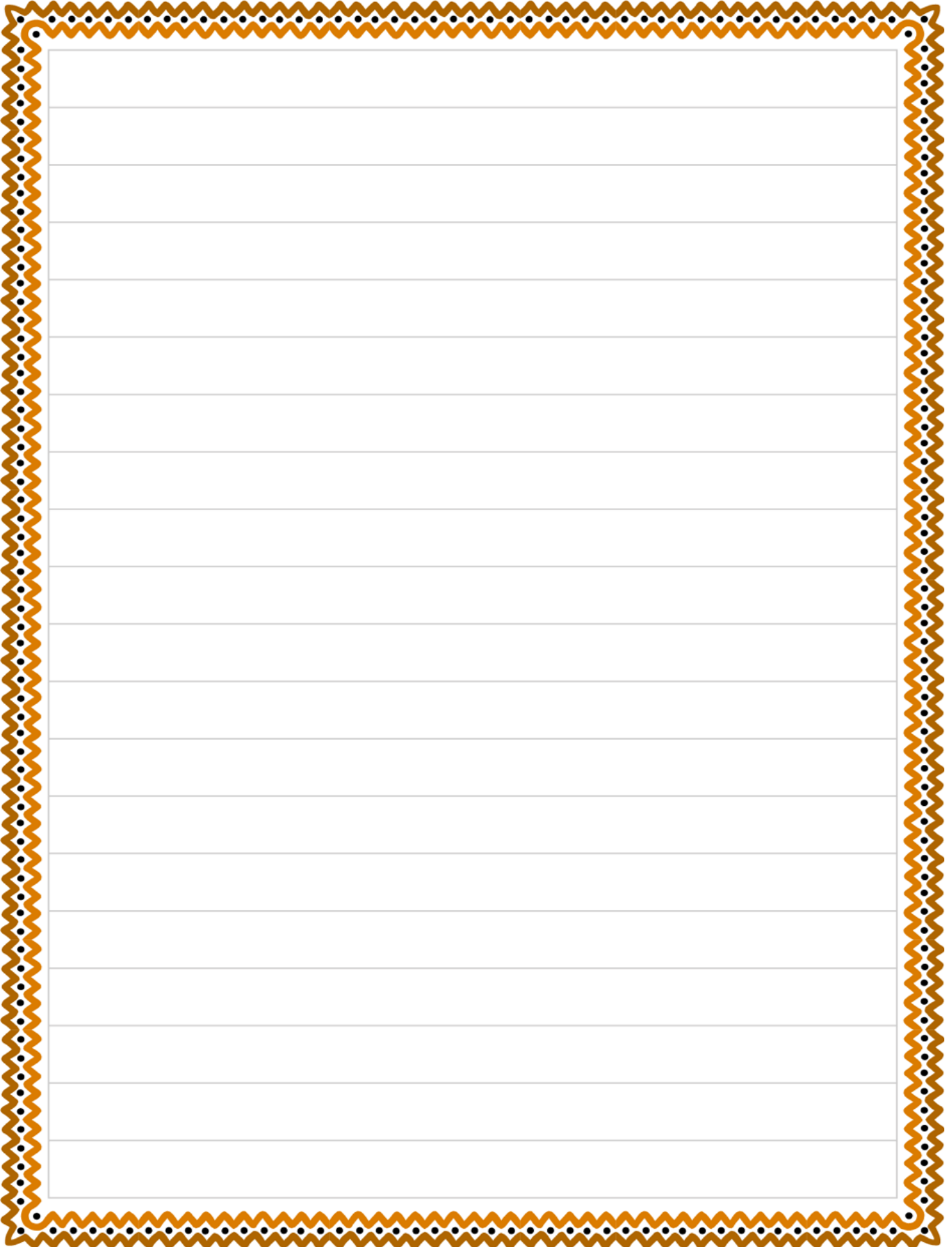


from: <http://www.colinthompson.com/page14.htm>

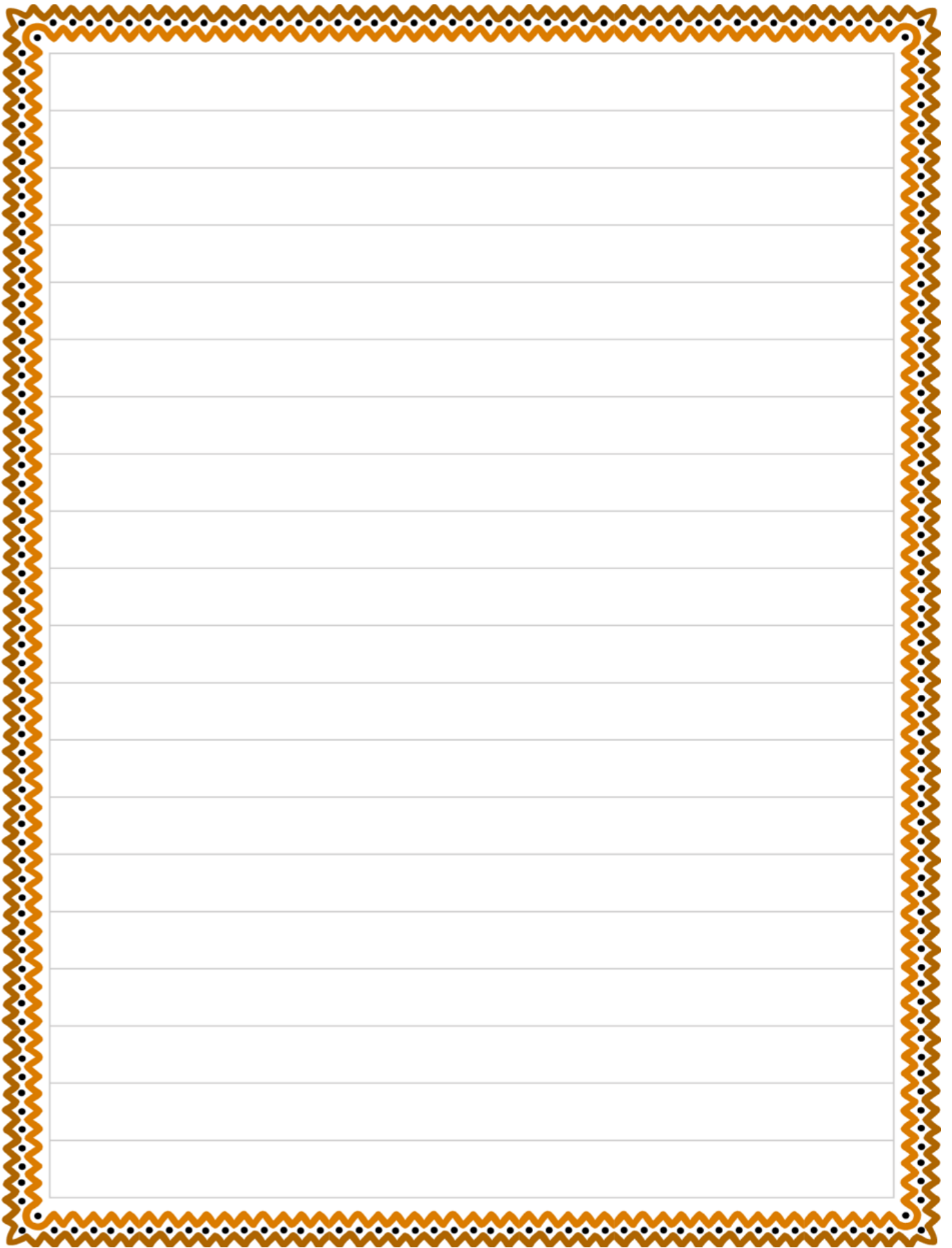
Story Planner

Your Story

Write part or all of your new story here.



A large rectangular writing area with a decorative orange and black border. The border features a repeating pattern of small black dots and a wavy orange line. The interior of the rectangle is ruled with horizontal lines, providing a guide for writing. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the writing area.



Autobiography Questions – Possible Answers

1. When was Colin Thompson born?

Colin Thompson was born in 1942.

2. What regret does he have about his childhood?

He regrets that his mother cut off contact with his father.

3. Which of his jobs do you think is most unusual?

You decide!

4. What message does he give about depression?

He explains that it is an actual illness and not something to hide or be ashamed or embarrassed about.

5. When did he begin writing and illustrating children's books?

He began writing and illustrating children's books in 1991.

6. How did he meet his wife, Anne?

He met Anne when she organised a visit to her school.

7. What does he say about adults and children's books?

He says that adults should enjoy children's books.

8. What is his favourite fruit?

His favourite fruit is cherries.