

HIAS HOME LEARNING RESOURCE

A bank of writing ideas for home learning

Year 5/6

HIAS English team
Spring 2020
Final version

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Overview

Home learning is challenging in so many ways and particularly teaching writing. The HIAS English team agree, that aiming to deliver an effective learning journey using our usual three stage approach is just not going to be possible for parents. To support this, we have devised some short writing tasks that we believe will be accessible to parents and children.

Feel free to adopt and adapt as you wish or evolve our ideas in whatever way works for your children. For example, you could allow children choice from a 'pick and mix' approach once a week or just set one task at a time. There are task ideas for key stage 1, lower key stage 2 and upper key stage 2 – this will give you the differentiation options within the class.

In addition to these stand-alone writing tasks, we have created some five day writing units based on a rich text. Please see examples on the 'Home Learning' tab of the HIAS Moodle.

We welcome any feedback or requests!

List the arguments for and against home schooling. Write to your Head Teacher explaining your views. Justify your viewpoint with reasons.



Write a monologue in role as an abstract noun (laughter, hope, fear, anger, love, freedom). What does it do? Where does it reside? What does it think and feel? How does it affect people and the world around it?



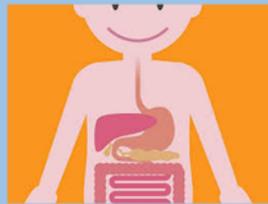
Invent several new 'minute to win it' or 'five-minute-craft' games, using readily available household items in order to help parents with entertaining their young children at home. Write procedural, step-by-step instructions on how to play each game and possible ways to vary or adapt it for children of different ages.



Choose two characters from a well-known story of your choice. Select a moment from the book where there is some sort of interaction between them: an argument, a conversation. Write your own version of the conversation at any chosen moment from the text. Don't forget the rules of speech punctuation. Can you embed the conversation in written narrative? Make sure the dialogue tells the reader something about the character and moves the action in the story/plot forward.



Research the digestive system. Write in role as an item of food that has just been eaten – what happens from the moment it's been picked up? How does it travel through the body? Describe it from the viewpoint of the item of food that has been swallowed. This could be humorous and revolting all at the same time!



Watch an age-appropriate film of your choice, play a board game/card game with your family, or play a new game on your gaming device. What were the positives and the negatives? Would you recommend it? Why?

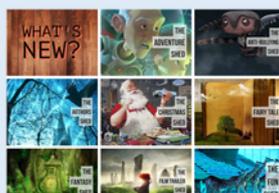
Imagine you are a critic and write your professional view of the game/film to help others make a decision as to whether to watch it or play it.



Produce a newspaper report, magazine article or blog with a biased viewpoint, recounting a topical event of your choice. Use <http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround> to explore how other online articles have been written. Could you interview the key people involved?



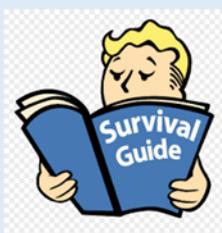
Use a picture or short animation as a stimulus to write an atmospheric setting description or to write an aspect of the film as a narrative – create a vivid image for your reader through the vocabulary and language choices you make. Use any of the 'sheds' from www.literacyshed.com as stimulus. You don't have to retell the whole film clip/animation, you could just select a moment from it.



Select a well-known fairy tale or nursery rhyme of your choice. Read it and rewrite your own modern, alternative version – with a twist. Can you play with viewpoint? Retell the moment the clock strikes midnight in Cinderella through the eyes of the Prince, The Fairy Godmother, The ugly sisters... Rewrite the nursery rhyme of Humpty Dumpty, perhaps he didn't fall – maybe he was pushed?



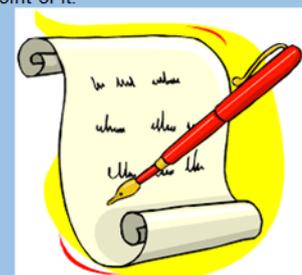
Produce a survival guide for children and/or parents in lockdown, presenting your top tips and advice for following government guidelines, staying safe, combatting the virus and what you can do at home to keep everyone entertained!



Write a short biography for a chosen person of interest. What do you already know about them? Why are you interested in them? Research them to find out more. Write a factual and informative information page giving details about their life, achievements, interests and personality.



Look outside a window in your house. Use your senses to note everything you can see, hear, touch and how it makes you feel. Use rich vocabulary and similes to write a list poem describing the environment in an effective and engaging way, giving your reader a clear image of this place and your viewpoint of it.



HIAS English Team

The HIAS English team offer a wide range of high-quality services to support schools in improving outcomes for learners, including courses, bespoke consultancy and in-house training.

During the current school closures, we are still offering school support in a variety of ways such as video conferencing, phone calls and bespoke creation of resources remotely. Coming soon will be teacher training via virtual classrooms. We would be happy to discuss your needs.

For further details referring to English, please contact:

Emma Tarrant : emma.tarrant@hants.gov.uk

For further details on the full range of services available please contact us using the following details:

Tel: 01962 874820 or email: hias.enquiries@hants.gov.uk