

Year 4 English Task – week 5: Reading for pleasure and information

The focus in your SPAG pack this week is to be able to write fronted adverbials. We have spent quite a bit of time on this in class in Year 4 so hopefully you will remember what they are and how they belong at the front of a sentence to tell your reader where, when or how something happened. You will also know that they need to be followed by a comma to separate your fronted adverbial from the main clause in your sentence.

As one of the tasks is to re-write a story including some fronted adverbials and your science task is to write up the information that you have found out about a habitat and make it into a poster, I don't think that you really need an extra writing task this week.

This week the English task is going to be about Reading. I am sure that many of you have kept on reading and have enjoyed getting lost in fictional worlds, having adventures that you can see vividly in your own imagination or researching and finding out mind-blowing facts- learning something new!

This week's English task is to read a book- any book that appeals to you! It could be a fact book, a story book an autobiography, what it is about doesn't matter. It might be a paper copy, new or old, or it could be on a kindle or online- the format doesn't matter too much.

I want you to learn something about writing from the book by thinking about these questions:

Fiction Books:

- 1) How does the author make you feel about the different characters? Do the words they chose to describe a character or their actions have an impact on you?
- 2) How does the author describe the setting of the story? Does the setting change? Do the different settings influence the actions of the character? Eg- Do they behave differently in different places?
- 3) What techniques did the author use to move the action on in the story? Time lapse, fast forwards, fronted adverbials, dialogue, flashbacks etc
- 4) Do any of the characters remind you of other characters in different books or from TV or films? What is similar about them? What is different?
- 5) Would you recommend this book to anyone to read? Why? Why not? What was your favourite bit? What did you dislike? What would you change if you were the author?

Non-fiction Books:

- 1) What organisational features has the author used to allow you to access the information easily and quickly?
- 2) What new vocabulary have you read? Do you know what these words mean? How could you find out?
- 3) What sentence structures does the author use to keep the writing short and to the point? Have they used conjunctions such as because, in order to, so, when...?
- 4) Have diagrams or other illustrations been used to help the reader understand the written information? How have labels, bullet points or annotations been used by the author?
- 5) Would you recommend this book to anyone to read? Why? Why not? What was your favourite part? What did you dislike? What would you change if you were the author?

"You can't be a **good writer** without being a devoted **reader**." —J.K. Rowling
Enjoy your reading!

