

YEAR 7- Week beginning 6th July 2020

Independent learning to be completed during school closure

ENGLISH During a two-week period you would ordinarily have 7 English lessons.

During the next two weeks you are going to be producing a Crime Report based on the poem Flannan Island by W.W. Gibson which you read during the previous lessons. The aim of the report is to present a solution to the mystery.

Lesson 1

Task 1 – Read through the poem again in **Source 1** (below) to remind you of the key events.

Task 2- Make a list of all the mysterious things that happened and that will need to be explained in your report. You will have to use your own imagination to solve this mystery e.g. Why do you think the lighthouse keepers left the room in such a hurry? What had happened?

Task 3- Create character profiles for each of the lighthouse keepers who have gone missing. You will need to use your imagination to create a back story for each of the men shown in **Source 2**. Think about their age, personality and background. How long have they worked on the island? Are the men related in any way? You could draw an image of each of the men. Use this link to see an example of how this could be presented. <https://www.novel-software.com/CMS/FILES/Worksheets/CharacterBasicInfo2.pdf>.

Lesson 2

Now think about what has actually happened. Imagine that you are a police officer and have been sent to the island to investigate the disappearance. Give details from the poem about the key events and what you found. You could begin your summary with this sentence, **“I visited Flannan Isle on 6th December 1920 and was astounded by what I found...”**

Lesson 3

Draw a scene-of-the-crime diagram. This should include details of what you find when you are inside the lighthouse but you may wish to provide additional clues. Look at **Source 3** which is an example of how this could be presented.

Lesson 4

Now imagine that you search the island and find some additional clues. What are they? How will they help you solve the mystery? You could begin this section of your crime report with the sentence, **“During my search of the island, I discovered new pieces of information...”** These could include a letter, old newspaper clippings or mysterious objects. Be as creative as possible but think about how these clues will help you solve the crime.

Lesson 5

Now imagine that you are able to interview some relevant people. Who did you interview? This could perhaps be people who had worked on the lighthouse in the past. These could be people who lived on the island or had visited it in the past. What did they say? You could begin your interviews in this way, **“I interviewed Mr Peter Brown, an ex-lighthouse keeper. He said, “I worked on Flannan Isle for one year...”** You could possibly role-play these interviews and record them.

Lesson 6

Now that you have gathered all of the necessary information, write a solution to the mystery and include some recommendations about what you think should happen next. Will there be a trial or perhaps the lighthouse could be shut down? It is up to you to decide.

Lesson 7

This is your **ACCELERATED READER** lesson and you should spend the hour reading your book. Alternatively you could read JK Rowling’s new children’s story which can be found: <https://www.theickabog.com/read-the-story/> There is a competition that you may wish to enter based on this story. Details can be found on this link: <https://www.jkrowling.com/j-k-rowling-introduces-the-ickabog/>

If you require further information please email:

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Source 1

Flannan Isle

1. "THOUGH three men dwell on Flannan Isle
To keep the lamp alight,
As we steered under the lee, we caught
No glimmer through the night."

2. A passing ship at dawn had brought
The news; and quickly we set sail,
To find out what strange thing might ail
The keepers of the deep-sea light.

3. The Winter day broke blue and bright,
With glancing sun and glancing spray,
As o'er the swell our boat made way,
As gallant as a gull in flight.

4. But, as we neared the lonely Isle;
And looked up at the naked height;
And saw the lighthouse towering white,
With blinded lantern, that all night
Had never shot a spark
Of comfort through the dark,
So ghostly in the cold sunlight
It seemed, that we were struck the while
With wonder all too dread for words.
And, as into the tiny creek
We stole beneath the hanging crag,
We saw three queer, black, ugly birds—
Too big, by far, in my belief,
For guillemot or shag—
Like seamen sitting bolt-upright
Upon a half-tide reef:
But, as we neared, they plunged from sight,
Without a sound, or spurt of white.

5. And still too amazed to speak,
We landed; and made fast the boat;
And climbed the track in single file,
Each wishing he was safe afloat,
On any sea, however far,
So it be far from Flannan Isle:
And still we seemed to climb, and climb,
As though we'd lost all count of time,

And so must climb for evermore.
Yet, all too soon, we reached the door—
The black, sun-blistered lighthouse-door,
That gaped for us ajar.

6. As, on the threshold, for a spell,
We paused, we seemed to breathe the smell
Of limewash and of tar,
Familiar as our daily breath,
As though 't were some strange scent of death:
And so, yet wondering, side by side,
We stood a moment, still tongue-tied:
And each with black foreboding eyed
The door, ere we should fling it wide,
To leave the sunlight for the gloom:
Till, plucking courage up, at last,
Hard on each other's heels we passed,
Into the living-room.

7. Yet, as we crowded through the door,
We only saw a table, spread
For dinner, meat and cheese and bread;
But, all untouched; and no one there:
As though, when they sat down to eat,
Ere they could even taste,
Alarm had come; and they in haste
Had risen and left the bread and meat:
For at the table-head a chair
Lay tumbled on the floor.

8. We listened; but we only heard
The feeble cheeping of a bird
That starved upon its perch:
And, listening still, without a word,
We set about our hopeless search.

9. We hunted high, we hunted low;
And soon ransacked the empty house;
Then o'er the Island, to and fro,
We ranged, to listen and to look
In every cranny, cleft or nook
That might have hid a bird or mouse:
But, though we searched from shore to shore,
We found no sign in any place:
And soon again stood face to face
Before the gaping door:
And stole into the room once more
As frightened children steal.

10. Aye: though we hunted high and low,
And hunted everywhere,
Of the three men's fate we found no trace

Of any kind in any place,
But a door ajar, and an untouched meal,
And an overtoppled chair.

11. And, as we listened in the gloom
Of that forsaken living-room—
A chill clutch on our breath—
We thought how ill-chance came to all
Who kept the Flannan Light:
And how the rock had been the death
Of many a likely lad:
How six had come to a sudden end,
And three had gone stark mad:
And one whom we'd all known as friend
Had leapt from the lantern one still night,
And fallen dead by the lighthouse wall:
And long we thought
On the three we sought,
And of what might yet befall.

12. Like curs, a glance has brought to heel,
We listened, flinching there:
And looked, and looked, on the untouched meal,
And the overtoppled chair.

13. We seemed to stand for an endless while,
Though still no word was said,
Three men alive on Flannan Isle,

Source 2



Source 3

