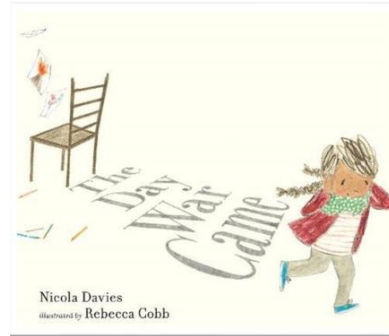


English Writing Year 6 Spring 2



Vocabulary to explore within this unit:

NC Word List – Years 5 and 6		Developing Vocabulary	
accompany	familiar	acceptance	ragged
appreciate	foreign	apprehension	refugee
committee	identity	approval	shambling
communicate	individual	benevolence	situation
community	necessary	displaced	solidarity
conscience	neighbour	empowering	spattering
curiosity	persuade	flee	unaccompanied
desperate	prejudice	optimism	wailing
determined	recognise	possession	
disastrous	vehicle		

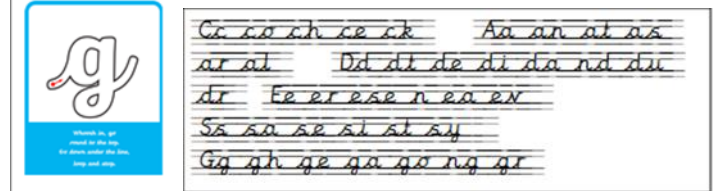


Nicola Davies
illustrated by Rebecca Cobb

Additional texts:
Leaf by Sandra Dieckmann
Illegal by Eoin Colfer and Andrew Donkin (Not essential)

Letter Formation

The curly caterpillar family c a d e s g



Outcome: Recount – Persuasive letter

Writing outcome:

To write a letter to raise awareness of the plight of refugees.

Greater depth writing outcome:

To choose the form and the audience for a piece of writing about refugees.

Additional writing opportunity:

To write a diary in role as a child in the story.

Recount – Persuasive letter writing includes:

- Persuasion/recount letter hybrid:
- Select the appropriate style to engage the audience and directly appeal to the reader
- Use direct and reported speech to express a range of viewpoints
- Use emotive language including use of modals and adverbs for possibility (e.g. surely, every right-thinking person would)
- Support points using persuasive examples and provide evidence
- Create authority through some use of a formal style where appropriate (e.g. in role as expert)

Non Negotiables in Year 6 Writing Spring 2

- Capital letters for **the start of every** sentence and **proper nouns**
- The **correct punctuation** mark at the end of a sentence . ? !
- Accurate use of **apostrophes** for contracted forms and apostrophes for possession with singular/plural nouns
- **Commas** after fronted adverbials, **commas** in a list, **commas** to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity.
- Use of **inverted commas** and other speech punctuation
- Use brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis (Y5)
- Use expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely
- Select appropriate grammar and vocabulary
- Extend the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions (Y4)
- Distinguish between the language of speech and writing
- Use Y5 standard punctuation correctly
- Use semi-colons to mark boundaries between independent clauses

Grammar and Punctuation Knowledge

Use passive verbs

What are active and passive verbs?

Passive verbs are used when the object and verb (or action) is emphasised in a sentence over the subject. The subject is not performing the verb in the passive voice, but is rather being acted upon by it.

When the **subject** is emphasised, this is the **active** voice.

Active and passive verb examples

Active: The school arranged a visit.

Passive: A visit was arranged by the school.

Active: The fans adored The Beatles.

Passive: The Beatles were adored by fans.

Active: The angry wasp chased Claire.

Passive: Claire was chased by the angry wasp.

Variety of verb forms used correctly and consistently including the progressive and the present verb forms

What are tenses?

The tense shows when the actions happen in a sentence. The verb shows whether the sentence is written in the present tense (happens now), the past tense (happened in the past) or the future tense (will happen at some point). The verb forms that show tense can be in their simple, progressive, perfect or perfect progressive forms.

What is the simple tense?

The **simple present tense** states things that are true now or things that happen often or regularly in the current period and is formed by adding -s to the verb or using the root form of the verb (infinitive).

The **simple past tense** is used to show when something happened in the past at an earlier time and is created by adding the suffix -ed to most verbs (the infinitive), although there are some verbs that are irregular (e.g. teach / taught or fly/flew).

What is the progressive (continuous) tense?

The **present progressive tense** is used to show something happening in that precise moment and will continue for a longer period of time. It is formed using the verbs is/are/am and the verb ending in the suffix -ing (present participle).

The **past progressive tense** is used to show something was not finished before something else happened or for something that continued for some time. It is formed using the verbs was / were and the verb ending in the suffix -ing (present participle).

What is the perfect tense?

The **present perfect tense** is used when something has happened and is still relevant now or when something began happening in the past and continues to happen now. It is formed using has / have and the past tense form of the verb (past participle).

The **past perfect tense** is used to show something that happened before something else or for something that started happening in the past and was still happening at a later time. It is formed using had and the past tense form of the verb (past participle).

Use a wider range of devices to build cohesion

What is cohesion?

Cohesion refers to how a writer links different parts of a text together. It helps the reader understand main points and how they are linked and helps the writing flow. A range of cohesive devices can be used to create writing that is cohesive.

What are cohesive devices?

Cohesive devices are the structures, words or phrases that are used to connect ideas across a text.

Paragraphs

Paragraphs create cohesion by grouping sentences that are linked. This makes the writing easier to read and helps it to flow.

Pronouns

Pronouns are used to link back to nouns or noun phrases that have already been mentioned. They also help to avoid repetition when writing.

There are many people who have tried camping and hated [it](#)!

Adverbials

These can be used to link paragraphs, showing contrasting views, where or when events take place or sequencing ideas and events. Fronted adverbials are often used.

[On camping holidays](#), children have freedom to explore the landscape. [In contrast](#), some people do not enjoy having nature quite so close.

Colons and semi-colons

These punctuation marks are used to show when two sentences are closely linked.

Use a wider range of devices to build cohesion

The inside of the tent can become very dirty: especially in wet weather... There are only so many board games you can play as a family while under canvas as the rain hammers down; this is the time when social media is most missed.

Conjunctions

Conjunctions can create cohesion by linking related sentences to create compound sentences. Subordinate conjunctions can be used to link ideas by showing cause and effect.

The kit is expensive to purchase initially but is also often uncomfortable. Despite many sites having excellent shower blocks, many first-time campers hate having to use shared facilities.

Prepositions

A preposition shows the link between a noun or noun phrase and another part of the sentence, creating cohesion.

Synonyms

Words with the same or similar meaning can be used to refer to the same thing, creating cohesion and also avoiding repetition.

[equipment/kit](#)

[nature/landscape/outdoors](#)

Related words and repetition

Words within the same word family can help to create cohesion when writing. Repeating words and phrases can also create cohesion, reminding the reader of key events or information.

[camp, campers, campsite](#)

Determiners

Determiners indicate which noun is being referred to, linking to an earlier sentence.

... they are bringing their own accommodation.

What is the perfect progressive tense?

The present perfect progressive tense is used for something that started happening in the past and is still happening now. It is formed *using have / has + been and the verb ending in the suffix -ing.*

The past perfect progressive tense is used when something started happening in the past and was still happening at a later time . It is formed using had + been and the verb ending in the suffix -ing.

Use semi-colons to mark boundaries between independent clauses

What is an independent clause?

An independent clause (also known as a main clause) is a clause that makes sense on its own as a sentence. Independent clauses can be joined using co-ordinating conjunctions, semi-colons, colons or dashes.

How are semi-colons used to mark independent clauses?

Semi-colons are used to join two independent clauses that are linked and of equal importance. They can often be used instead of a co-ordinating conjunction.

He slammed the door. The whole house shook.

He slammed the door and the whole house shook.

He slammed the door; the whole house shook.

The writer can choose the way they do or do not join main clauses. It is often considered a stylistic choice.

Use colons to mark boundaries between independent clauses

What is a colon?

A colon is a punctuation mark that is introduced in Year 6. It can be used to mark the boundary between independent clauses and can also be used to introduce a list or bullet points.

What is an independent clause?

An independent clause (also known as a main clause) is a clause that makes sense on its own as a sentence. Independent clauses can be joined using co-ordinating conjunctions, semi-colons, colons or dashes.

How are colons used to mark independent clauses?

Colons are used to join two independent clauses when the second clause is an explanation, expands upon or offers an example linked to the first.

Wilf goes to several clubs after school: he attends chess, cricket, gymnastics and cooking clubs.

Children should have a healthy, balanced diet: fruits, vegetables and whole grain foods should be included daily.

Crocodiles are dangerous animals: several people are killed or injured by them every year

Use organisational and presentational devices to structure text

What is a layout device?

When writers want to convey information in a way that's clear and easy for readers to follow and understand, they will make use of different layout devices, such as the following:

Headings, Sub-headings, Columns, Bullet points, Tables, Diagrams