

# English Writing Year 6 Summer 1



Year 6 Pathways to Write: Summer 1

Additional texts:  
 Great Adventurers by Alastair Humphreys (class novel to link)  
 Swimming with Seals by Gillian Clarke (available online)  
 The Fantastic Undersea Life of Jacques Cousteau by Dan Yaccharino (optional)

NC Word List – Years 5 and 6		Developing Vocabulary	
accompany	equipment	fascinated	marine
achieve	foreign	villainous	scorpion fish
amateur	muscle	surrounded	dorados
conscience	programme	perilous	emeralds
conscious	shoulder	pioneer	sapphires
curiosity	sufficient	inventor	rubies
determined	vehicle	legacy	checkerboard fish
environment	yacht	innovations	truckfish
		camouflaged	moustache
		seascape	

## Outcome: Recount - Biography

### Writing outcome:

To write a multi-modal biography of Jacques Cousteau in the style of the 'Great Adventurers' text

### Greater depth writing outcome:

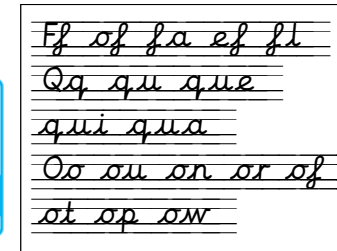
To add a section entitled 'How Jacques Cousteau inspired me' linked to his role in the conservation debate

### Additional writing opportunity:

Pupils plan and write an imaginary adventure story

## Letter Formation

The curly caterpillar family f q o



## Recount – Biography writing includes:

- Select the appropriate style to engage the audience
- Use direct and reported speech to express a range of viewpoints
- Use verb tenses consistently and correctly
- Use real life facts, including dates and place names
- Use thematic language specific to the subject
- Use formal language appropriately

## Non Negotiables in Year 6 Writing Summer 1

- Extend the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including when, if, because, although
- Organise paragraphs around a theme
- Use fronted adverbials
- Choose appropriate pronouns or nouns within and across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetition
- Use punctuation at Y4 standard correctly

## **Grammar and Punctuation Knowledge**

Use relative clauses beginning with **who, which, where, when, whose, that** or **an omitted relative pronoun**

### **What is a relative clause?**

Relative clauses are a type of subordinate clause that adds information about a noun.

They can be used to specify which person or thing.

The girl **who lives next door** has a new cat.

The relative clause tells us which girl has the cat. This is called a defining relative clause and commas are not needed around it.

They can also add information about the person or thing.

The song, **which he wrote last year**, is now a worldwide hit!

We now know when the song was written. This is called a non-defining relative clause. It does not specify which person or thing is being written or talked about but gives more information. Commas are needed to punctuate these relative clauses.

### **What is a relative pronoun?**

Relative clauses begin with a type of pronoun (a word that can be used to replace a noun in a sentence) called a relative pronoun. These are **who, which, where, when, whose, whom** or **that**.

*Paul has a brother **who** works at the bank.*

*Hassim travelled for a meeting, **which** was in London, by train.*

*Can we go to the park **where** the tall slide is?*

*Marge has a daughter **whose** school is closed today.*

*The man **whom** Steve met on the train was an old friend.*

*The shoes **that** I bought today are very comfortable.*

### **When can relative pronouns be omitted?**

The word 'omitted' means to be removed. We can omit relative pronouns in some relative clauses if the noun is the object of the verb.

The man **whom** Steve met on the train was an old friend.  
The man Steve met on the train was an old friend.

'Whom' can be omitted because 'The man' is the object of the verb 'met' (Steve met the man).

The shoes **that** I bought today are very comfortable.  
The shoes I bought today are very comfortable.

'That' can be omitted because 'The shoes' are the object of the verb 'bought' (I bought the shoes).

## 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.

## Use hyphens to avoid ambiguity

### What are hyphens?

A hyphen is a punctuation mark that is used to join two or more words or a prefix to a word.

great-aunt  
co-operate  
deep-blue

### When are hyphens used?

#### Compound adjectives

A hyphen can be used to join two adjectives before a noun.

We watched the dolphins swim in the deep-blue sea.  
My brother has many high-tech gadgets.  
The cold-hearted witch planned her revenge.

#### With prefixes

A hyphen can be used to join some prefixes to words. This is usually when the root word begins with the same letter as the end of the prefix. The hyphen helps the reader to read the word accurately.

co-operate  
re-enter

They are also used regularly with some prefixes, such as self- or ex-.

ex-wife  
self-assess

They are also used with prefixes to help make meaning clear. The word may have different meanings with and without the hyphen.

resign (to voluntarily leave a job)  
re-sign (to sign something again)

## What does 'ambiguity' mean?

Ambiguity means that something could be open to more than one interpretation. It could be ambiguous.

### How do hyphens avoid ambiguity?

The hyphens help make the meaning clear to the reader and avoid confusion, including when some prefixes are used. Some examples are listed below.

man eating shark (a man eating a shark)  
man-eating shark (a shark that eats men)  
recover (to return to health)  
re-cover (to put a new cover on something)  
long running race (a running race which is long)  
long-running race (a race that has been happening for many years)

## Use a colon to introduce a list and use semi-colons within lists

### 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.

### How is a colon used to introduce a list?

A colon can be used to introduce a list after an independent clause. An independent clause (also known as a main clause) is a clause that makes sense on its own as a sentence.

Tigers can be found in four countries: Russia, North Korea, China and India.

A variety of equipment is needed to create the circuit: wires, bulb, battery and a switch.

### How are semi-colons used in a list?

A semi-colon is used in a list to separate longer phrases.

- Tigers face many threats in the wild: their habitats are being destroyed; poachers hunt and kill the animal for medicines; and tigers are killed or captured if they come too close to communities as their habitat shrinks.
- The circuit can be used to illuminate a range of items: a small table lamp; a nightlight for a child's bedroom; sections within a picture or painting; or a toy with buttons that light