

Literacy

There are 2 literacy activities set for each day. These are a combination of either reading comprehension tasks, writing tasks or SPAGE tasks (spelling, punctuation and grammar).

DAY 1

SPAG activity

one, for example: "it's" for "it is". The **apostrophe** here is termed the "**apostrophe of omission**" as it shows that 'i' has been **omitted**. Have a go at the following questions below, can you put the apostrophe into the correct place to show the contracted form.

<p>I <u>will</u> call you later with details of <u>who is</u> coming.</p> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div>	<p>She said that <u>she would not</u> like to go there as <u>she has</u> already been.</p> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div>
<p>We <u>do not</u> live here anymore because <u>we have</u> found a more suitable home.</p> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div>	<p><u>Where is</u> the homework that <u>you have</u> worked so hard on?</p> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div>
<p>I <u>would</u> like to know where <u>you have</u> put the remote control?</p> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div>	<p><u>She will</u> see you next week when <u>you are</u> free.</p> <div><input type="text"/></div> <div><input type="text"/></div>

Writing task

Look at this picture from the film, The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe. Write a paragraph to describe the setting. Remember to include interesting adjectives, expanded noun phrase, the senses and complex sentences.



Rosa Parks

Rosa Parks was an African-American woman who made history with her comparatively small action of sitting still on a bus, which went on to spark major changes in American society.

Early Life

Rosa Parks was born on 4th February, 1913 and grew up mainly on a farm with her mother, brother and grandparents in Montgomery, Alabama, USA. She grew up at a time when American was segregated for black and white people.

Segregation in America

Segregation meant that many things for black and white people had to be separated by law. They had to use separate toilets, water fountains, entrances to public buildings and black and white children went to separate schools. It was also quite obvious that all the black facilities were not as clean or as modern as white facilities. Not only were black and white people segregated; black people were treated worse than white people within society.

The Bus Ride That Changed History

On 1st December, 1955, Rosa Parks was travelling home from work on a bus and sitting – as she had to – in the section allocated for black people at the back of the bus. The bus companies always moved black people further back or made them stand if the section allocated for white people was full and a white person needed to sit down. This happened to Rosa and she was told to move further back to give her seat to a white person...but she did not move. She was threatened with police action but she stayed put. Eventually, the police arrested, charged and fined her for breaking the law.

What Happened Next?

Amazingly, Rosa's behaviour unleashed a wave of protest and 40 000 black people in the area (and some white people) supported a bus boycott (a refusal to use the bus services in Montgomery). The bus companies lost a lot of money and the amount of people involved could not be ignored. The newspapers reported it and the boycott went on for 381 days, before it came to the attention of the government and just over a year later, in December 1956, the segregation on buses was lifted.

Rosa's actions made history as they sparked a movement to make a change. Even though it wasn't the end of segregation and civil rights still had a long way to go, it was a victory.

"People always say that I didn't give up my seat because I was tired, but that isn't true. I was not tired physically, or no more tired than I usually was at the end of a working day. I was not old, although some people have an image of me as being old then. I was forty-two. No, the only tired I was, was tired of giving in."

Parks, Rosa; James Haskins (1992). Rosa Parks: My Story. Dial Books. p. 116



Try and answer the questions using full sentences.

1. Where did Rosa grow up?

2. What is 'segregation'?

3. How were the facilities provided for black and white people different?

4. How old was Rosa when she did not move on the bus?

5. If you boycott something, what are you doing?

6. In 1955, how were the buses in Montgomery segregated?

7. In 'The Bus Ride That Changed History' section, why has the author used an ellipsis?

8. Near the end of the text, the author writes that 'it wasn't the end of segregation'. When the bus laws were changed, why wasn't it the end of segregation?

9. In Rosa's quote, what was Rosa tired of and why do you think this was?

10. What sort of characteristics and qualities do you think Rosa Parks had? Give reasons for your answers.

Writing task



Generate 6 sentences to describe this mythical creature. Include lots of interesting adjectives and explained noun phrases.

You may want to include sentences that describe its appearance, temperament and movement.

DAY 3

SPAG activity

- 1) Underline the relative clause in the sentence below.

The statue that stands in the centre of the field was vandalised.

- 2) What is the grammatical term for the underlined words in the sentence below?

Sam ventured into **the dark foreboding cave.**

- 3) Underline the adverbial phrase in the sentence below.

On Sunday, Molly baked cookies for her family.

- 4) Circle the expanded noun phrase in the sentence below.

Melina boarded the enormous first-class ship.

- 5) Add a comma in the correct place in the sentence below.

Although she had left on time she was late for school.

Reading task

Help!

- 10 The trees were like inky giants menacingly looming over
17 the house with twisted, reaching arms. Their decaying
25 leaves rustled loudly and the air smelled damp.
- 35 Lucy arrived at the door. Her chest tightened. Her eyes
44 widened. She lifted her shaking, clammy hand to knock
55 on the door but before she could touch it, it creaked
56 open...
- 61 They wouldn't find her here.
- 70 Slowly edging across the threshold, her heart began to
78 pound. Thoughts were racing wildly around her head
87 as she tentatively peered into the darkness, trying to
98 see if the coast was clear. After moments of silence and
107 stillness, she had reassured herself; judging by the state
116 of the house, nobody had ventured there in years.
- 117 Relief.
- 126 Then, from the floors above, a small, almost inaudible
130 voice called, "Help... me..."



Quick Questions



1. Where did the voice come from?



2. Define: inaudible.



3. Why was her 'heart pounding'? Give two reasons.



4. What do you predict Lucy will do next? Use the text to support your answer.

Ruby Bridges

Ruby Bridges was born in Tylertown, Mississippi in 1954 and, when she was six, she was the first African-American child to go to a school with white children in Southern America.

Separated Schools

Up until 1954, the same year that Ruby was born, black and white children had to go to separate schools – this was called 'segregation'. Even though it became law to let children mix in schools, it took quite a while for African-American children to be able to go to white schools and even then, there was a lot of trouble.



When Ruby was in nursery school in New Orleans, she took a test to see if she could go to the school for white children, which had become open to African-Americans that passed the test. Ruby's father was worried what would happen if she went to the white school, but her mother was sure that she would get a better education. Many think that the test was made hard so that not many children would pass it and be able to go. However, in 1960, Ruby and her parents found out that she was one of only six African-American children to pass the test and able to go to white schools in the area.

The First Day at School

People expected there to be trouble for Ruby when she started at the white William Frantz School, so to keep her safe, she was driven and walked into school by four US Marshals (American police officers). When she arrived at school, there were crowds of people. Some were shouting rude names and throwing things because they did not want African-American children coming to the white school. There was so much trouble that the white children had been kept at home, so there were no classes that day anyway. A painting was done by Norman Rockwell of this famous walk to school called 'The Problem We All Live With'.

The First Year

Time went on and during this first year, only one white teacher would agree to teach Ruby. Her name was Mrs Henry. The other parents even kept their

white children away from Ruby, so for a whole year, it was only Ruby and Mrs Henry together in one classroom. Thankfully, after the first year, white children started to return to Ruby's class and the Federal Marshals stopped taking her to school. She had found the first year very hard and knew that children did not want to play with her because of the colour of her skin.

What Happened to Ruby Next?

Ruby went on to graduate from high school and work as a travel agent. She had four sons and is now a civil rights activist, which means that she does anything she can to make life fair for black and white people together.



In 2014, a statue of Ruby was placed outside William Frantz School. In 2001, she was awarded a medal from President Bill Clinton and in 2011, she looked at the Norman Rockwell painting with President Barak Obama and he said to her,

"I think it's fair to say that if it hadn't have been for you guys, I might not be here".

Ruby Bridges Questions

1. What does the word 'segregation' mean?

2. Look at the end of paragraph two, why do you think that '...there was a lot of trouble'?

3. What type of punctuation mark joins the adjective 'African-American'?

4. What did Ruby have to do to be able to go to the white school?

5. Why did Ruby need to be taken to school by US Marshals?

6. People say that Ruby was very brave – do you agree and why?

7. In your own words, explain what sort of person Mrs Henry must have been.

8. Find a fronted adverbial in the fifth paragraph.

9. Ruby is now a civil rights activist. What does that mean?

10. Look at the final quote from Barack Obama. How have people like Ruby helped him?



Spelling and Grammar

- 1) Circle the object in the sentence below.

I stroked the cat carefully.

- 2) Read the sentence below. Which punctuation mark would be best to go in the space? Tick one.

It's very hot today ____ you'd better put on some sunscreen.

- Colon
- Semi colon
- Comma
- Question mark

- 3) Underline the adverbial phrase in the sentence below.

After seeing her friends at school, Jessie decided to plan a sleepover.

- 4) Circle the expanded noun phrase in the sentence below.

The children noticed the grubby, old scarecrow amongst the corn in the field.

- 5) Circle the prepositional phrase in the sentence below.

There were many people gathering for the concert within the stadium.

DAY 5

SPAG

1) Convert the following reported speech into direct speech, using the correct punctuation.

The teacher told them that they could go outside now.

2) Tick to show whether each clause underlined is a main clause or a subordinate clause.

		Clause	Subordinate Clause
1.	<u>We couldn't go to the party</u> as we were on holiday that weekend.		
2.	My dog, <u>who is very mischievous</u> , stole the cake from the cupboard.		
3.	If you want to go to the circus, <u>call me back</u> .		

3a) Write a sentence using the word *fight* as a verb.

3b) Write a sentence using the word *fight* as a noun.

4) Which sentence is written in the passive voice?

A. The gardener mowed the lawn and watered the plants.

B. The children completed the puzzle really quickly.

C. The fair will be organised by a volunteer group.

D. She lit the candle before her friends arrived.

5) Identify whether each underlined word is an adjective or an adverb.

1. She slammed the door shut firmly.

2. He paid thousands of pounds for the original painting.

3. Come to my house later.

Writing task

Chose a holiday destination in North America and create a travel brochure.

Remember to use persuasive language to make the destination appealing. You should be selling the idea of a holiday there.

Explain what you can see and do there.

Remember to include different sections with subheadings in your brochure.

Day 6

- 1) Circle the prepositional phrase in the sentence below.

There were many people gathering for the concert within the stadium

- 2) Which sentence is punctuated correctly? Tick one.

I have two hobbies; painting and hockey.

I have two hobbies painting and hockey.

I have two hobbies: painting and hockey.

- 3) What does the word 'swiftly' mean in this sentence? Circle one.

The owl flew swiftly towards its prey.

gradually quickly slowly casually

- 4) Practise spelling these common homophones using the look, say, cover, write, check strategy. Make sure you understand the meaning of them and can use them all in a sentence.

Dessert Desert Stationary Stationery Principle Principal Prophet Profit Guessed
Guest