
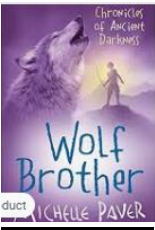


Goldfinch English – Home Learning tasks - Week Beginning 27 April 2020

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|--|--|
| <p>Monday 27/4/2020</p> | <p>Read the WAGOLL biography of Charles Darwin. Complete the PNIQ sheet. LIKES/DISLIKES/PUZZLES/PATTERNS.</p> <p>LIKES - What did you enjoy in the text? Why? What did you like about it? How did it make you feel? Anything that caught your attention? Anything that you would have liked more of?</p> <p>DISLIKES - What things did you not like about this text? Why?</p> <p>PATTERNS- How is it similar to another biographical text you read (maybe of your favourite celebrity on Wikipedia?) What are the features that you can find in both texts? Think about the way paragraphs are organised.? What was it? Can you make any links between the parts of the text?</p> <p>PUZZLES - I wonder if..., Why did..., I am not sure why..., Was there anything that took you by surprise?</p> |
| <p>Tuesday</p>  | <p>Can I create text map for a biography?</p> <p>You know what to do! Create a text map of the biography of Charles Darwin.</p> |
| <p>Wednesday</p> | <p>Can I identify the main features of a biographical text</p> |
| <p>Thursday</p> | <p>'Imitate' a biography about a celebrity of your choice using the Charles Darwin as a model for your own writing. Keep the important structure, useful phrases and features but edit/rewrite it to fit your own celebrity's life story.</p> <p>If you write this on word you could email your work. If you hand write it, take a photo and email that.</p> |
| <p>Friday</p>  | <p>Reading Comprehension</p> <p>This term, our class book is Wolf Brother by Michelle Paver. In class, there is a lovely new book for each of you. Not much use at the moment. So we are going to try something different. Click the link below and follow the instructions. If it work - great. If it doesn't, don't panic.</p> <p>https://wakelet.com/wake/_1kSBkKoA4x-NNH3EWEax</p> |

Monday 27th April 2020

What A Good One Looks Like

Charles Darwin - A Biography (WAGOLL)

There was one man who caused major controversy in his time and changed the way the world understood evolution - Charles Darwin. Now, surely you've heard of this famous scientist?



Perhaps he's been mentioned during one of your science lessons but didn't seem hugely important at the time? Well, in fact, he was an incredibly important person, whose discoveries kick-started the theory of evolution by natural selection and would change the world; they are still hugely important in the modern world!

Early life and childhood

Darwin's childhood and strict parents probably created the intellectual man that he became. Born on the 12th February 1809, Darwin grew up in a privileged and well-connected family. They were known for their authoritarian attitudes; their high expectations extended to Darwin and all of his siblings. His family home was located in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, where his love for nature would be ignited. His younger years were filled with exploratory walks, where he hunted for insects, plants and minerals to study in more detail and developed his interest even further. Being nearly the youngest sibling in his family - he was fifth out of six children - he attended the Shrewsbury School for boys.

At the age of thirteen, Charles demonstrated his early passion for science: he built a science laboratory in his garden shed. Initially, this pleased his father - a doctor - and Darwin was soon enrolled in a school in Edinburgh to pursue a medical career. However, a distinct disliking for blood halted any further advancement in this profession; he was not going to follow in his father's, grandfather's or brother's footsteps. Instead, his father enrolled him at Cambridge, where he studied to become a vicar - a rather different profession to a doctor, don't you think? Having successfully passed his studies, he yet again changed course and decided to eventually pursue his dream of becoming a naturalist. Despite support from friends and teachers, his biggest chance was soon to be received: an offer which stood above the rest and would catapult him into the history books forever!

The Beagle

Upon receiving a letter from John Henslow, Darwin was finally given the opportunity he had always dreamt of! The captain of the HMS Beagle (Rover FitzRoy) was searching for a naturalist to accompany him and his crew to various locations dotted around the globe, to explore, record data and retrieve new information; Darwin jumped at the opportunity!

The HMS Beagle embarked in 1831, carrying Charles along with it. Unfortunately, Darwin suffered badly from nausea; yet this did not deter him. The trip was an extremely challenging experience anyway: with seventy-five crew members on board, conditions were poor and very cramped. However, this did not dampen Darwin's spirits. By 1835, after five

years of voyaging, they had reached the Galapagos Islands (which lie to the west of Columbia in the Pacific Ocean).

Darwin was amazed by what he saw: Galapagos tortoises, which, rumour states, he attempted to ride; komodo dragons, a potentially dangerous creature due to the fact they can eat up to eighty percent of their body weight in one sitting; and a variety of finches, which would lead to Darwin making his now-famous theories surrounding evolution and natural selection. Who would have thought that some small, relatively insignificant birds would go on to inspire one of the most famous naturalists of all time and change the way people viewed evolution! It's simply impossible to imagine!

The Galapagos Islands

Despite having travelled the globe, it was the Galapagos Islands which were to be the location of his most famous theory. The Galapagos Islands are made up of several islands, created due to volcanic eruptions. It was here that Darwin came to the realisation that each island held its own specific variety of finch: they had adapted to the specific environment of each island. It was his belief that the types of finch that (in this case) did not have the appropriate shaped beak for the food source of the island would die off; the ones who had a suitable beak shape would thus be able to feed, then reproduce and consequently bear offspring, which would have the most suitable size beaks. Closer studies supported his theories and he was able to establish that those birds with long, thin beaks were able to eat insects; whilst birds with shorter, stronger beaks were able to break nuts and seeds. The humble finch had given him the evidence he needed; now he just needed to convince everyone else of his seemingly 'crazy' idea! Little was he to know the shockwaves and controversy that he would cause across the world!

The Origin of Species

Inspired by his findings, Darwin recorded his ideas, along with detailed diagrams to support his theories. These were then sent to England to other naturalists working in similar areas. He authored a book named 'The Origin of Species', which explained his notion of natural selection and survival of the fittest: a theory which suggested that creatures who had a greater advantage in their environment - such as the finches and their beak shape - had more chance of reproducing, who would go on and reproduce themselves. However, this idea was extremely contentious: it went against many religious beliefs, which were particularly prevalent at this time. It might be hard to imagine in this modern world where science dominates, but at this time, it was strongly believed that God had created everything. In fact, Darwin was so fearful of the reception his book would receive, he delayed publishing it for almost twenty years; he stated that 'explaining his ideas was like confessing to a murder!' Eventually the now-famous book was published in 1859 and is still - more than one-hundred-and-fifty years later - referred to. His book really did revolutionise the world we live in! Just imagine, if he had been a doctor or a vicar, things would be very different in our modern world!

What 'wow words' could you 'magpie' for your own biography? What do they mean?

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

Tuesday 28th April 2020

Can I create text map for a biography?

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying most of the page. It is intended for the student to draw a text map for a biography.

Wednesday 29th April 2020

Can I identify the main features of a biographical text?

Use this checklist and annotate Monday's Biography of Charles Darwin, showing the different features from the grid below.

Has the writer used:

| | |
|---|--|
| used a question or interesting opening statement to hook the reader? | |
| summarised the main events of the person's life in the first paragraph? | |
| written in the past tense? | |
| used third person pronouns? | |
| written about key events in the person's life? | |
| written about key influences in the person's life? | |
| used the passive voice? | |

linked sentences and paragraphs using:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| • ellipsis? | |
| • repetition? | |
| • adverbials? | |

summarised the person's life by mentioning:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| • their main achievements? | |
| • personality? | |
| • how he or she will be remembered? | |

What punctuation have you identified and for what purpose has it been used?

Thursday 30th April 2020

Imitate a biography about a person of your choice (maybe a celebrity or even someone you know) using the Charles Darwin Biography as a model for your own writing. Keep the important structure, useful phrases and features but edit/rewrite it to fit your own person's life story.

Here is my example for J.K Rowling. I have changed the WAGOLL from Monday but kept much of the structure the same. As you will see, I have underlined the words and phrases which have been changed.

J.K Rowling - A Biography

There was one woman who caused major interest in children's books in her time and changed the way the world viewed wizardry and magic - J.K Rowling . Now, surely you've heard of this famous author?



Perhaps she's been mentioned during one of your English lessons but didn't seem hugely important at the time? Well, in fact, she was an incredibly important children's writer, whose writing kick-started a renewed interest in children's books and would capture the imagination of the world; they are still hugely popular twenty years after they were written!

Early life and childhood

Rowling's childhood and upbringing probably created the writer that she became. Born on the 31st July 1965, Rowling grew up in Gloucestershire. Her teenage years were unhappy as her mother struggled with multiple sclerosis. Her headmaster at secondary school was said to be the inspiration for the character, Dumbledore.

Now you have a go at writing a biography about a person of your choice. It doesn't have to be famous. It could even be someone in your family.