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EDUCATION

LEARNING BUILT AROUND GLOBAL NEWS

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soon...



**READING FOR PLEASURE:**  
how non-fiction can make the difference

**FREE WEBINAR**

with Christine Chen and Lindsay Pickton.  
Monday 6 November at 4pm



[hello@primaryeducationadvisors.co.uk](mailto:hello@primaryeducationadvisors.co.uk)

X @EnglishHubUK

# Reading for pleasure



How non-fiction makes the difference

Christine Chen and Lindsay Pickton

[PrimaryEducationAdvisors.co.uk](http://PrimaryEducationAdvisors.co.uk)



**First  
News**

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# PISA

Programme for International Student Assessment  
2002

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"Being more enthusiastic about reading, and a frequent reader, was more of an advantage on its own than having well educated parents in good jobs."

**"Finding a way to engage students in reading may be one of the most effective ways to leverage social change."**

# PISA

Programme for International Student Assessment  
2021

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“Data consistently shows that engagement in reading is strongly correlated with reading performance.”

“Whatever pupils’ socio-economic background, making sure that they become engaged with reading from the beginning is one of the most important ways to make a difference to their life chances.”

# PISA

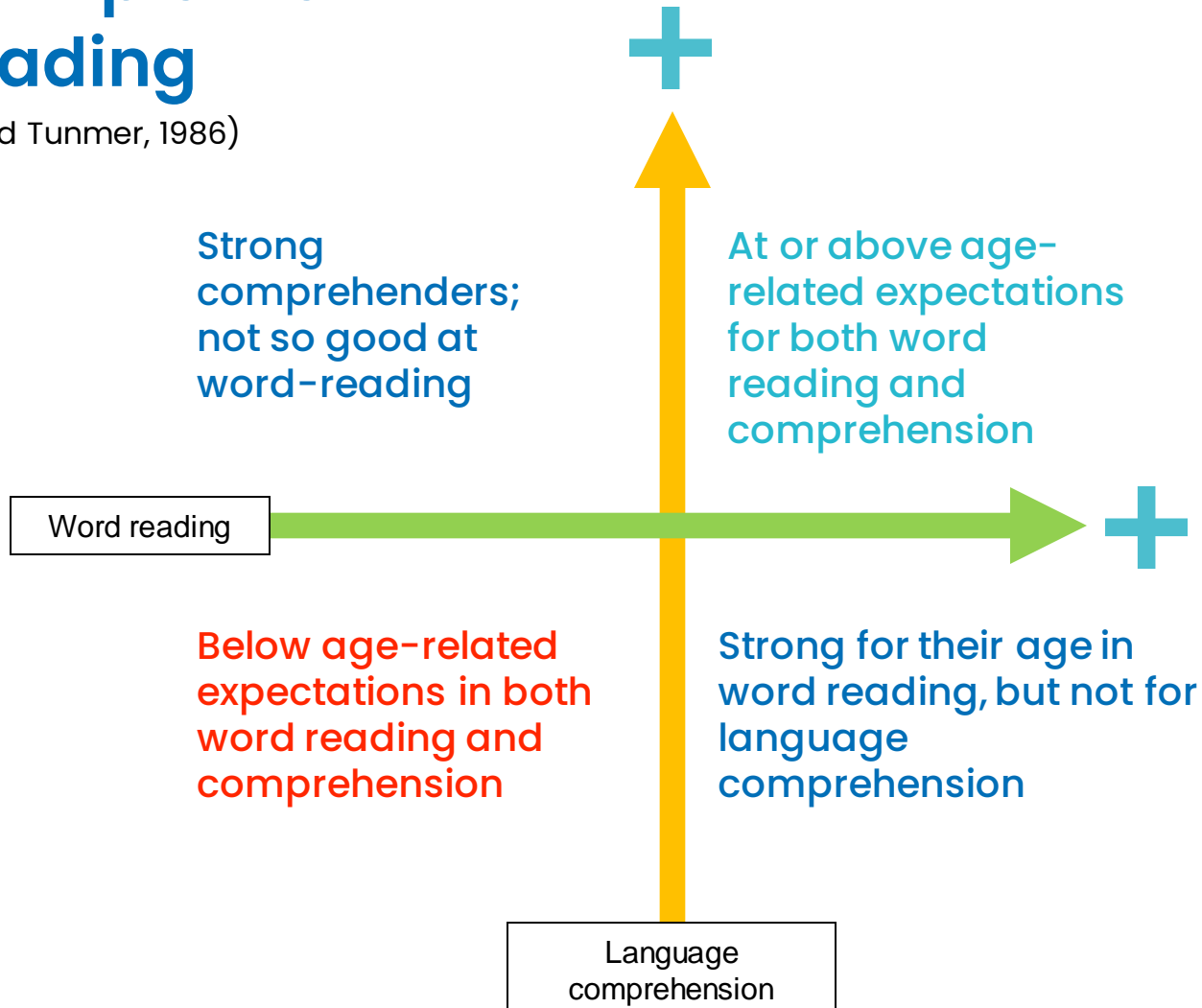
Programme for International Student Assessment  
2021

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“For this to happen, they need to learn to read as fluently as possible.”

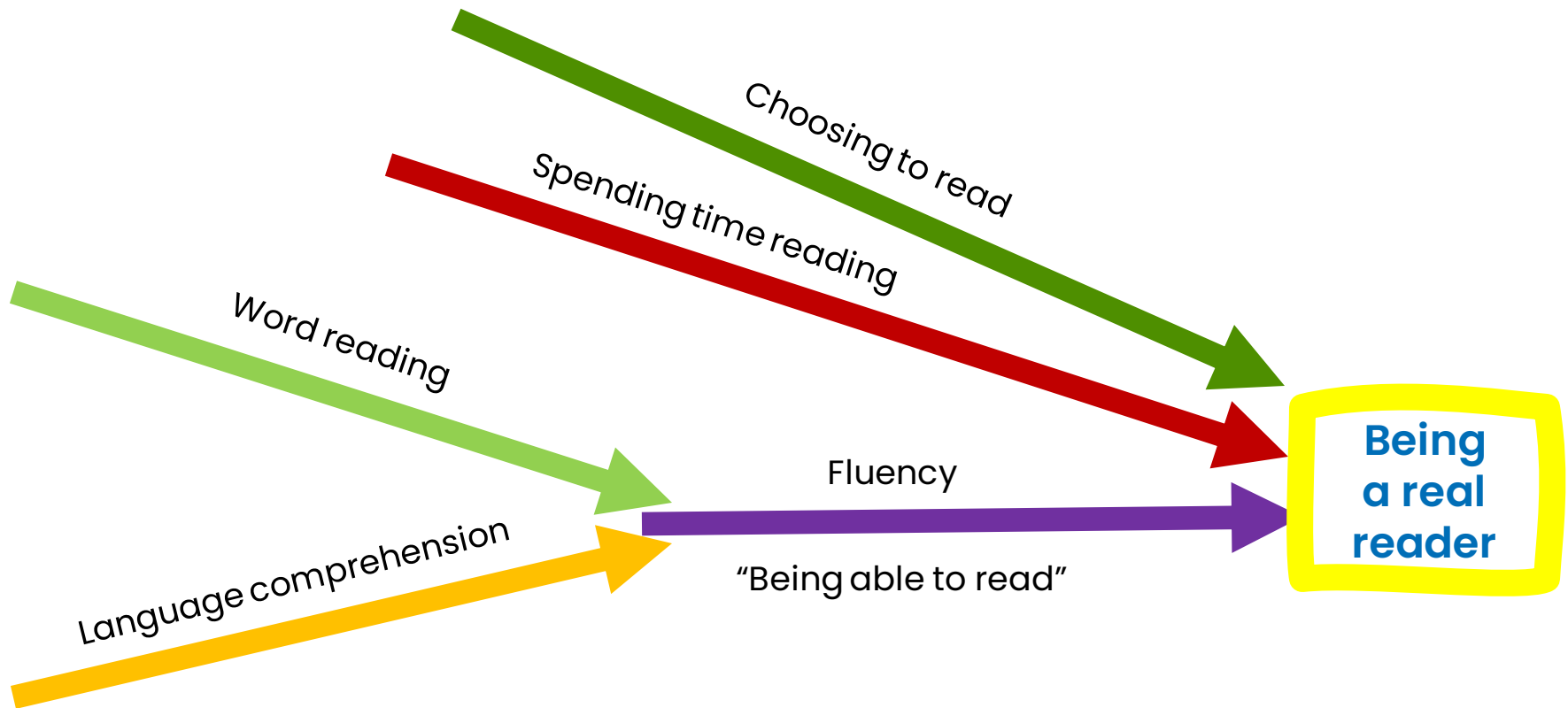
# The Simple View of Reading

(Gough and Tunmer, 1986)

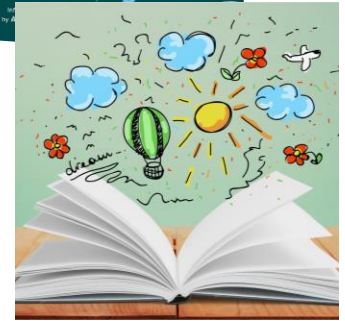
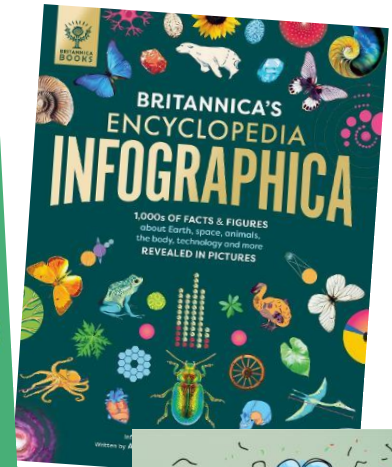
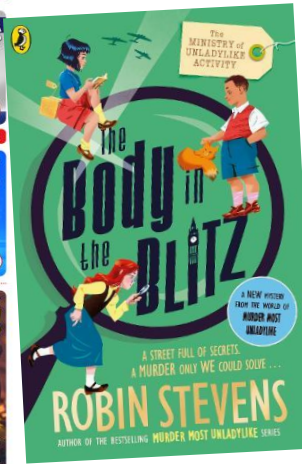
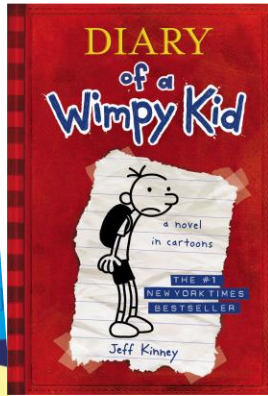


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# Key messages from the updated Reading Framework (July 2023)

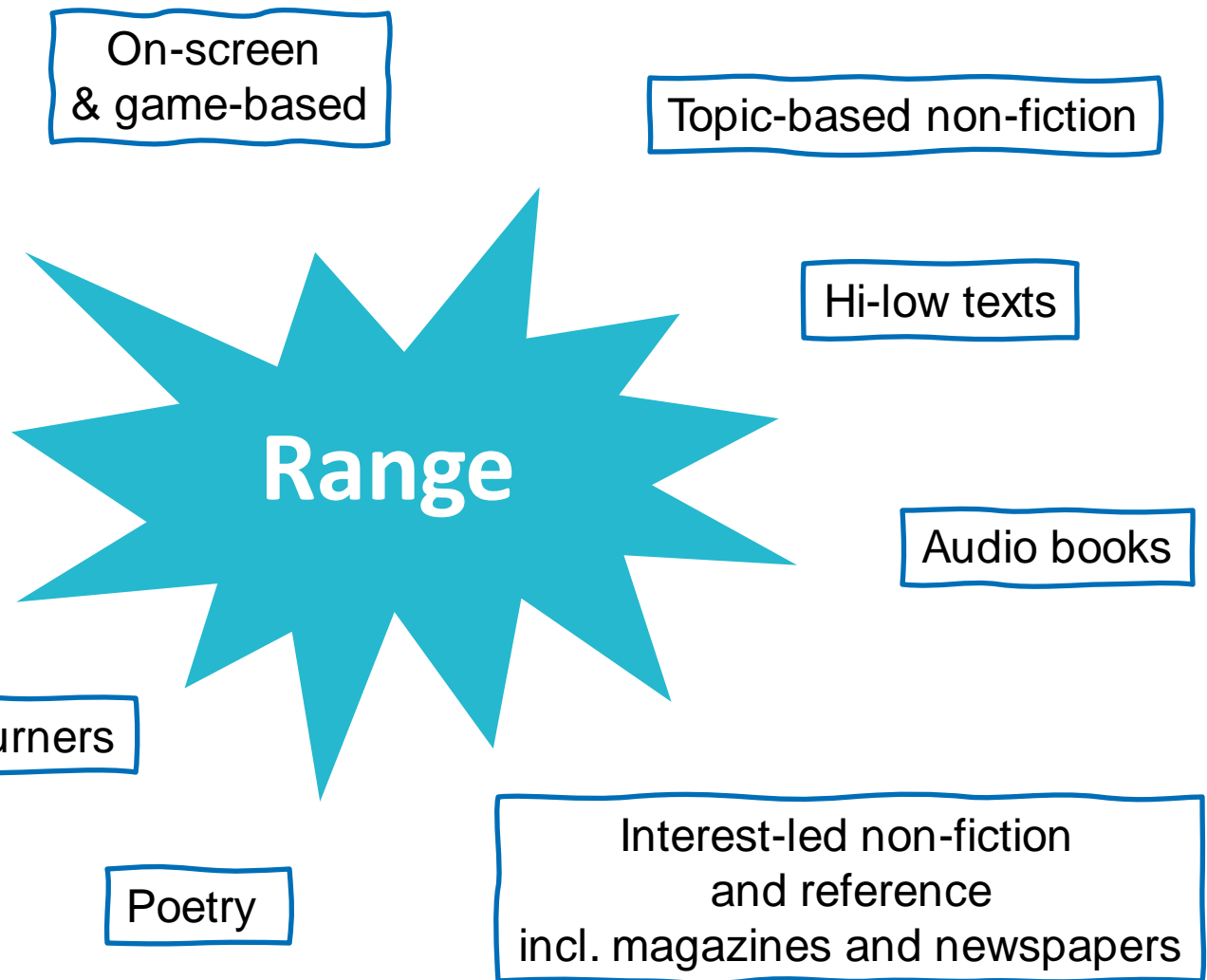






# Variety

The more types of reading,  
the more reading





# Reading for pleasure

... and for purpose

# Purposeful Reading

“Our default method for finding out about things is to read about them.”

## Reading Mileage

You get good at what you practice!

# The National Curriculum

## Year 1

Listening to and discussing a wide range of poems, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently

Being encouraged to link what they read or hear to their own experiences

Recognising and joining in with predictable phrases

Participate in discussion about what is read to them, taking turns and listening to what others say

## Year 2

Listening to, discussing and expressing views about a wide range of contemporary and classic poetry, stories and non-fiction at a level beyond that at which they can read independently

Participate in discussion about books, poems and other works that are read to them and those that they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say

Explain and discuss their understanding of books, poems and other material, both those that they listen to and those that they read for themselves

# The National Curriculum

## Year 3/4

Listening to and discussing a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks

Participate in discussion about both books that are read to them and those that they can read for themselves, taking turns and listening to what others say

## Year 5/6

Participate in discussion about books that are read to them and those that they can read for themselves, building on their own and others' ideas and challenging views courteously

# WORLD FOOD DAY

THIS World Food Day, 16 October, Action Against Hunger is calling on all young people to find out more about the global hunger crisis and what can be done to tackle it. There's enough food to feed everyone on Earth, so why are almost one in ten people around the world hungry right now?



Mahfuz's family

## Where are the world's hungriest countries?

Afghanistan	Somalia
Burkina Faso	South Sudan
Haiti	Sudan
Mali	Yemen
Nigeria	

(Source: United Nations)

## What causes hunger?

- Poverty is often a major cause
- Conflict and violence can stop people getting the food they need
- Climate change and natural disasters can also reduce people's food supply

## What's the solution?

The UN estimates that 735 million people go hungry every day. Action Against Hunger knows that a world without hunger is possible. It works in 55 countries to prevent hunger by leading research, running agriculture and livelihood projects, training parents and healthcare workers to spot the first signs of malnutrition and delivering life-saving care to people who need it.

## Yasumi's family in Peru

Eight-year-old Yasumi has been part of an organic garden project. She says: "We worked together, and we worked really hard. Now we have our own vegetables to eat: lettuce, tomatoes, cabbages, carrots – peppers are my favourite. I am very happy with my life now."

Her mum says: "The nutrition of my family is much better, Yasumi is doing better at school, and I can sell some of our vegetables to our neighbours too."



Yasumi's family

## Mahfuz's family in Bangladesh

Mahfuz lives in an area of Bangladesh often affected by cyclones and floods. His family was suffering from a lack of nutrition until they learnt new skills with Action Against Hunger and received money to farm fish in their pond. Now they have enough fish for their daily needs and to sell



Mahfuz and his grandmother

at market.

His grandmother Sabuda says: "Our lives have transformed so much. By selling fish, we saved to buy cattle and chicken. My grandson Mahfuz is six years old, he is going to school now and we can provide for his education."



Sabuda makes a fish meal

## Treating malnutrition in Kenya

In West Pokot, Kenya, families have struggled to get enough to eat as unpredictable rainfall, floods and drought have ruined their crops. Action Against Hunger has been teaching families like Mary's\* how to grow nutritious vegetables that stand up to climate challenges. Mary\* has also been taught how to identify whether baby Solomon\* has malnutrition by using this simple colour-coded armband so she knows when to seek help. Often just six weeks' supply of nutritional supplements can bring a child back to full health.



Mary measuring Solomon's arm to check for malnutrition



Nanou In The Hunger Game

## The Hunger Game

For World Food Day, Action Against Hunger is launching a new game for young people to learn more about the global hunger crisis. It's an online interactive, decision-based game, where you will meet Nanou, a 12-year-old Madagascan girl living in a small village with her mum and three younger siblings, and follow in her footsteps.

Throughout the game, Nanou has to navigate problems in her everyday life, like a broken water pump, dry weather causing her family's crops to wither, and sudden floods.

Players learn about the realities of poverty and food shortages, while understanding how vulnerable communities can be impacted by climate change, inequality and conflict.

The game illustrates how charities such as Action Against Hunger can break the cycle of poverty and life-threatening hunger, creating positive choices for people by providing cash assistance and malnutrition treatment.

(\*Some names have been changed in this special report to protect identities)



This World Food Day, play The Hunger Game as part of a class activity or at home with your family.

Visit [actionagainsthunger.org.uk/thehungergame](http://actionagainsthunger.org.uk/thehungergame)

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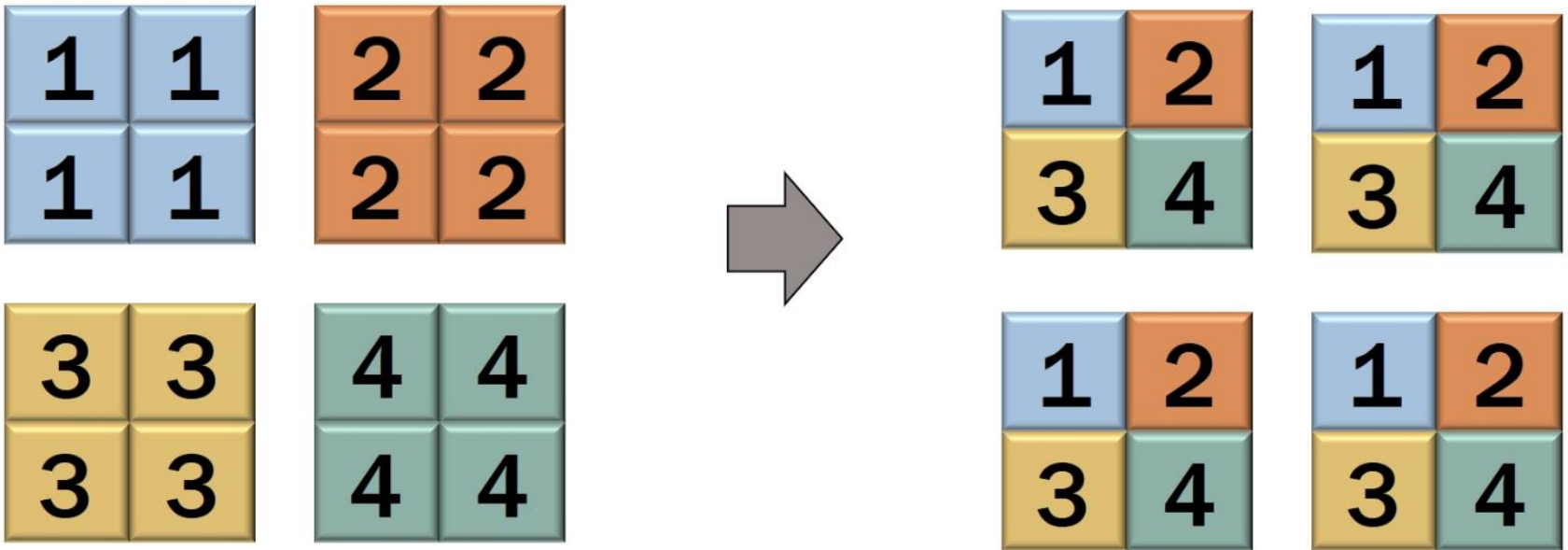
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# Jigsaw

## Read and share



## Millions of children affected by natural disasters, says UN



More than 43 million children around the world have been forced to leave their homes due to storms, floods, and wildfires between 2018 and 2021, says UNICEF. The UN agency predicts that another 113 million children could face displacements in the next three decades due to extreme weather events. Floods accounted for the majority of cases at 85%, followed by droughts and wildfires. UNICEF emphasises the importance of taking action to protect children from the impacts of climate change.

## UK misses out on 'ring of fire' eclipse

Tomorrow (Saturday 14 October), millions of people across the Americas can view a special kind of solar eclipse known as an annular eclipse, or 'ring of fire' eclipse. Unfortunately, people in the UK won't be able to witness this spectacular event as it'll only be visible from a small part of the planet. During an annular eclipse, the moon doesn't fully cover the sun, leaving a ring-shaped glow. The next eclipse visible from the UK will be a partial one on 29 March 2025, where the moon will block almost half of the sun. The next total eclipse in the UK won't happen until 2090.



An annular eclipse seen from Qingdao, China, in 2010

## Turtle rescued and released into wild

A sea turtle named Iona, discovered on a Scottish beach, has successfully been released back into the wild after an amazing transformation. Iona was found in a terrible state, but luckily received care that brought her back to good health. She was named after the Scottish island of Iona, where she was discovered. Robin Hunter, one of the members of the care team, said: "When she first arrived, she wasn't in great condition, and she was very dehydrated, very malnourished [lacking nutrition]... we really didn't expect her to make the night." But now she's been taken 1,700 miles (2,735km) home, where she can happily roam the ocean again.



## Man-made reef of oysters released into ocean



Thousands of oysters have been placed on an artificial reef in the sea off the coast at Whitburn, near Sunderland, to clean up the water. The reef, about the same size as a football field, is expected to create a new underwater home for marine life. A project called Wild Oysters put 750 tonnes of old stones and scallop shells on the seabed and then added the oysters by hand. The hope is that the oysters will help to clean the water and spread to other places along the UK coast, supporting the creation of a new home for sea creatures. Céline Gamble from the Wild Oyster Project said: "This new reef will give the oysters a chance to grow and help other marine animals too."

## Ancient make-up found in Turkey



A pink pigment, similar to blusher

Archaeologists have made an incredible discovery in the ancient city of Alazani, located in modern-day western Turkey. They uncovered an ancient shop that sold make-up and jewellery thousands of years ago. The shop contained perfume bottles, oyster shells used as make-up containers, and colourful pigments similar to today's blusher and eyeshadows. The experts were amazed to find ten different shades of red and pink make-up. The findings give us a glimpse into the beauty routines of Roman women over 2,000 years ago.

# HAVE YOU HEARD?

## Giant robot suit unveiled in Japan



The Archax robot

Engineers in Japan have designed a massive robot suit, taking inspiration from a popular animated series. The 4.5-metre-tall Archax robot, resembling a character from the TV show *Mobile Suit Gundam*, was developed by start-up company Tsuabome Industries. The \$3 million (£2.47 million) robot can be controlled by a pilot inside it using joysticks. It has two modes: a standing 'robot mode' and a 'vehicle mode' that can travel at speeds of up to 6mph (10km/h). Tsuabome Industries hopes to use the robot for space exploration and emergencies such as natural disasters.

## Fake AI videos target Labour leader

Deepfake videos have been posted online targeting Sir Keir Starmer, the leader of the Labour Party. Deepfakes are made using AI and can accurately copy faces and voices. The videos show him saying things he didn't actually say, such as insulting the city of Liverpool. Deepfakes are becoming a growing concern because experts warn they could be used to spread fake information. Dame Wendy Hall, a computer scientist, said that artificial intelligence tools make it easy to create convincing fakes. The Government is being urged to take action to detect and stop deepfakes, but scientists say they could be useful in some situations – see p4.



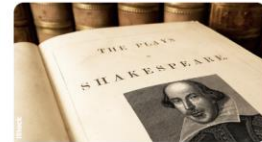
## Tom Gates funny story competition



The Tom Gates funny story competition is open for entries. Entrants must write a funny short story of no more than 350 words. The funniest piece will feature in the paperback version of Liz Pichon's book *Tom Gates: Five Star Stories (hooray)*. Ask your parent, teacher or guardian to send a photo or scan of your story to [tomgatescompetition@scholastic.co.uk](mailto:tomgatescompetition@scholastic.co.uk) by 18:00pm on 16 November 2023 for a chance to win. Full terms and conditions can be found at [scholastic.co.uk/competition-terms](https://www.scholastic.co.uk/competition-terms).

## Historic Norfolk stage with links to Shakespeare

A theatre in Norfolk, believed to be the oldest working theatre in the UK, has uncovered a stage where famous playwright William Shakespeare performed over 400 years ago. St George's Guildhall in King's Lynn found floorboards dating back to the 15th century during recent repairs. Using tree-ring dating, experts determined the floor to be from the same time the Guildhall was built. Dr Jonathan Clark, an expert in historical buildings, said: "This is likely to be the surface that Shakespeare was walking on."



## Pupil behaviour worse since Covid



The chief inspector of schools in England has said that the disruptive behaviour of school pupils has worsened since Covid. A survey of teachers found that 42% of teachers believed the behaviour of their pupils had declined since the pandemic. The most frequent issues among troublesome pupils were persistent low-level disruption, children ignoring authority and talking back to staff.

## Survey shows girls' distrust in politicians



A new survey marking International Day of the Girl (11 October) reveals that just 15% of girls believe that politicians act in their best interest. Girls and young women in the UK reported feeling underrepresented by politicians and just under half said they had lost trust in politicians in the last three years. The survey also shows that the cost of living crisis is the number one issue that most girls feel politicians should focus on.

## Millions of new teachers needed by 2030, says United Nations

A new UNESCO report says 44 million new teachers are needed globally by 2030 to educate every child on the planet. Audrey Atoulay, the director-general of UNESCO, said: "Teachers play a vital role in our societies. We must better value, better train and better support teachers."



## RSPCA rescue centres overwhelmed

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) is facing a huge animal rehoming crisis. The rescue organisation's branches are 'full to bursting' with animals in need of new homes. More animals are coming into care than are being adopted, causing a big issue for the centres and reducing the space available. To improve adoption rates, the RSPCA's Adopter month-long campaign encourages rehoming these animals to permanent loving homes.



## Study shows how early humans may have left Africa

Scientists have discovered new evidence about how early humans left Africa thousands of years ago. Instead of travelling through the Red Sea, they followed river routes through Jordan, researchers say. They found ancient tools in Jordan's dried-up rivers, dating back to around 84,000 years ago. Professor Paul Corling explains: "Humans migrated using a northern route, hunting wildlife in grasslands and using small wetlands as resting places."



A valley in Jordan

## WORLD FOOD DAY

**16 OCTOBER**  
Promotes awareness and action to help those suffering from hunger.

## RECYCLE WEEK

**16-22 OCTOBER**  
This year's theme is The Big Recycling Hunt – recycling items at home that are often missed.



# Active, purposeful reading

## Jigsawing

Creating and debating headlines and sub-headings

Creating true/false and matching questions

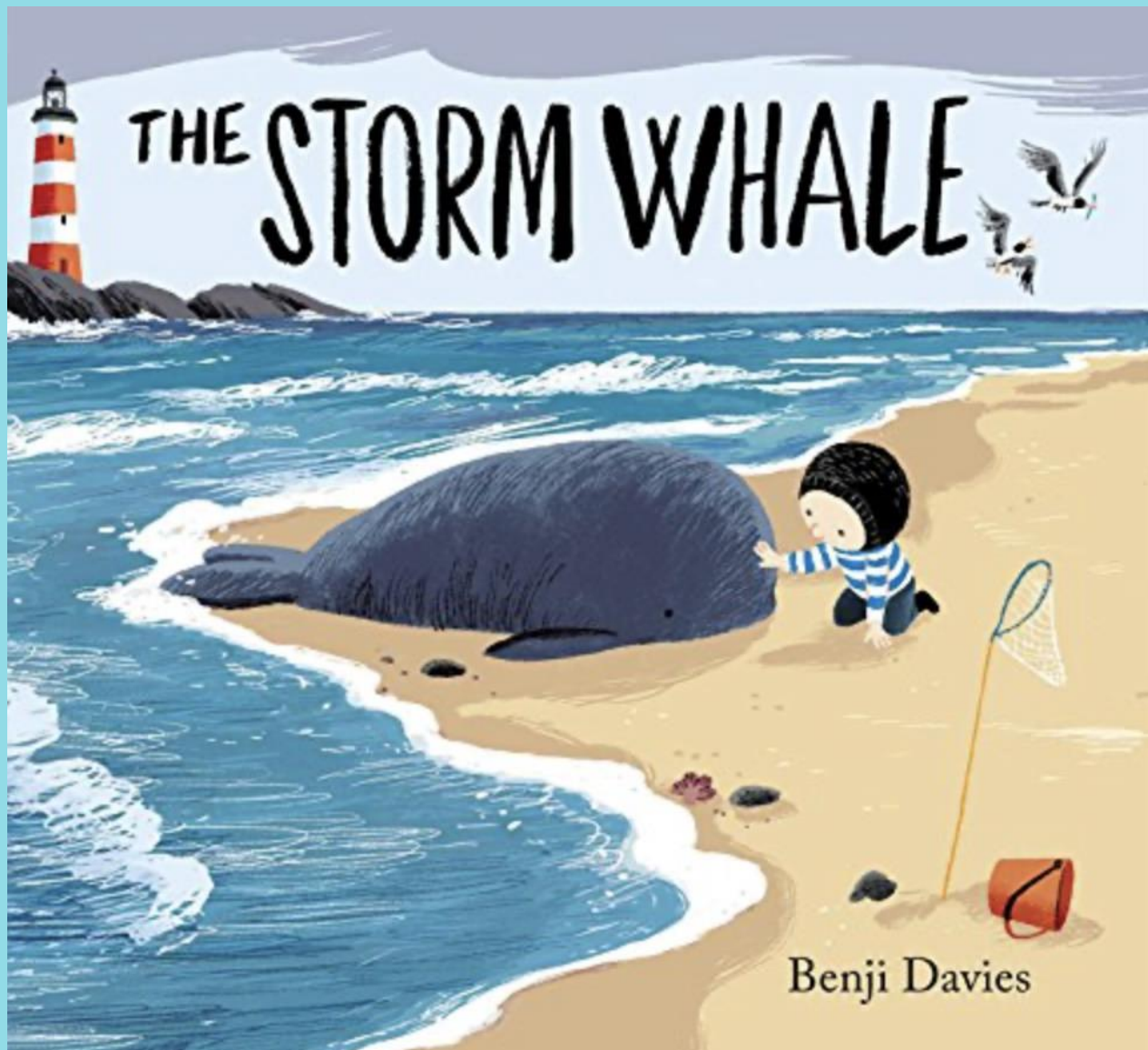
Dramatising characters: freeze frame, hotseat and interview

Debate: the most important fact

# Knowledge-building

Comprehension requires knowledge

Reading builds knowledge

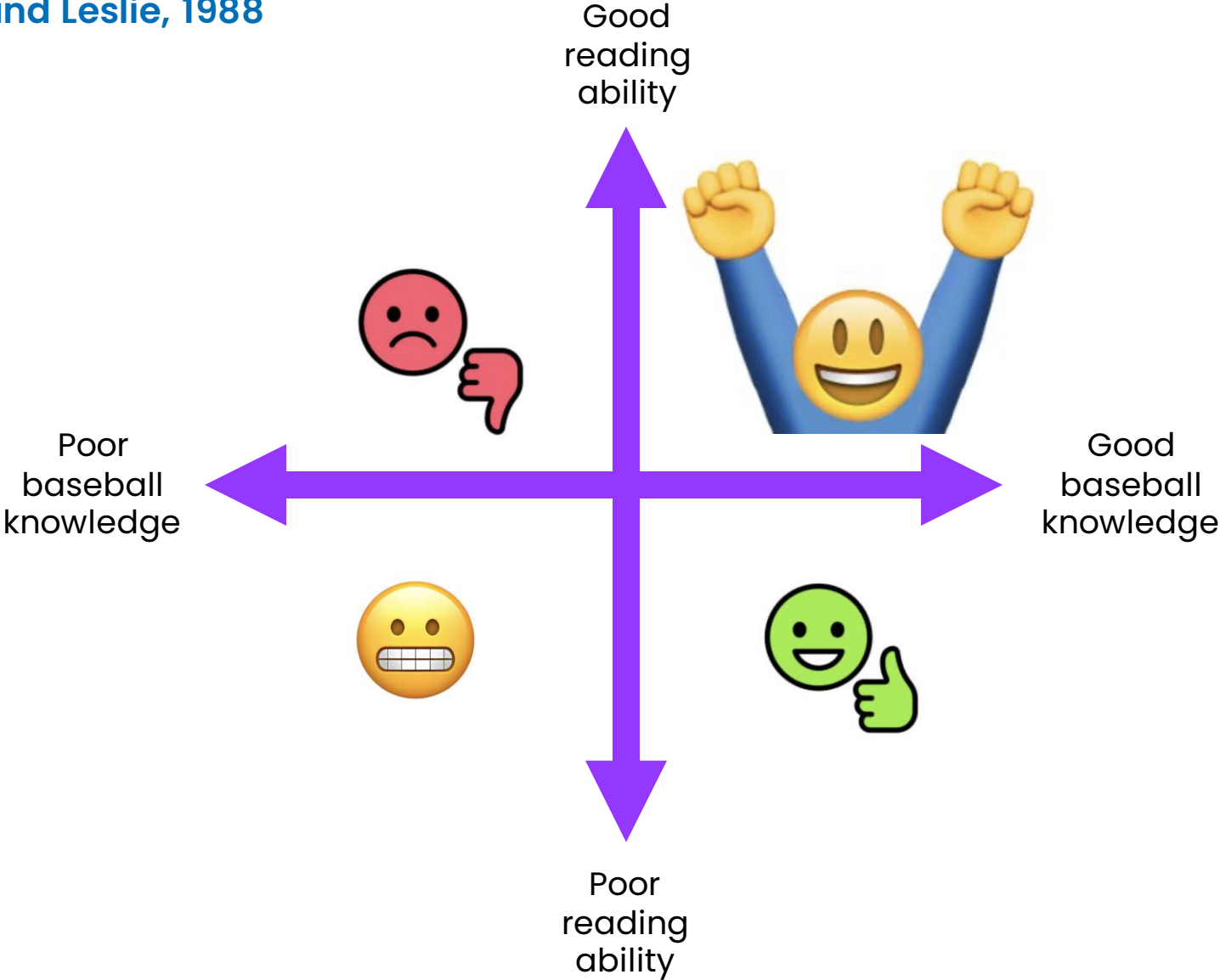


# Comprehension requires knowledge

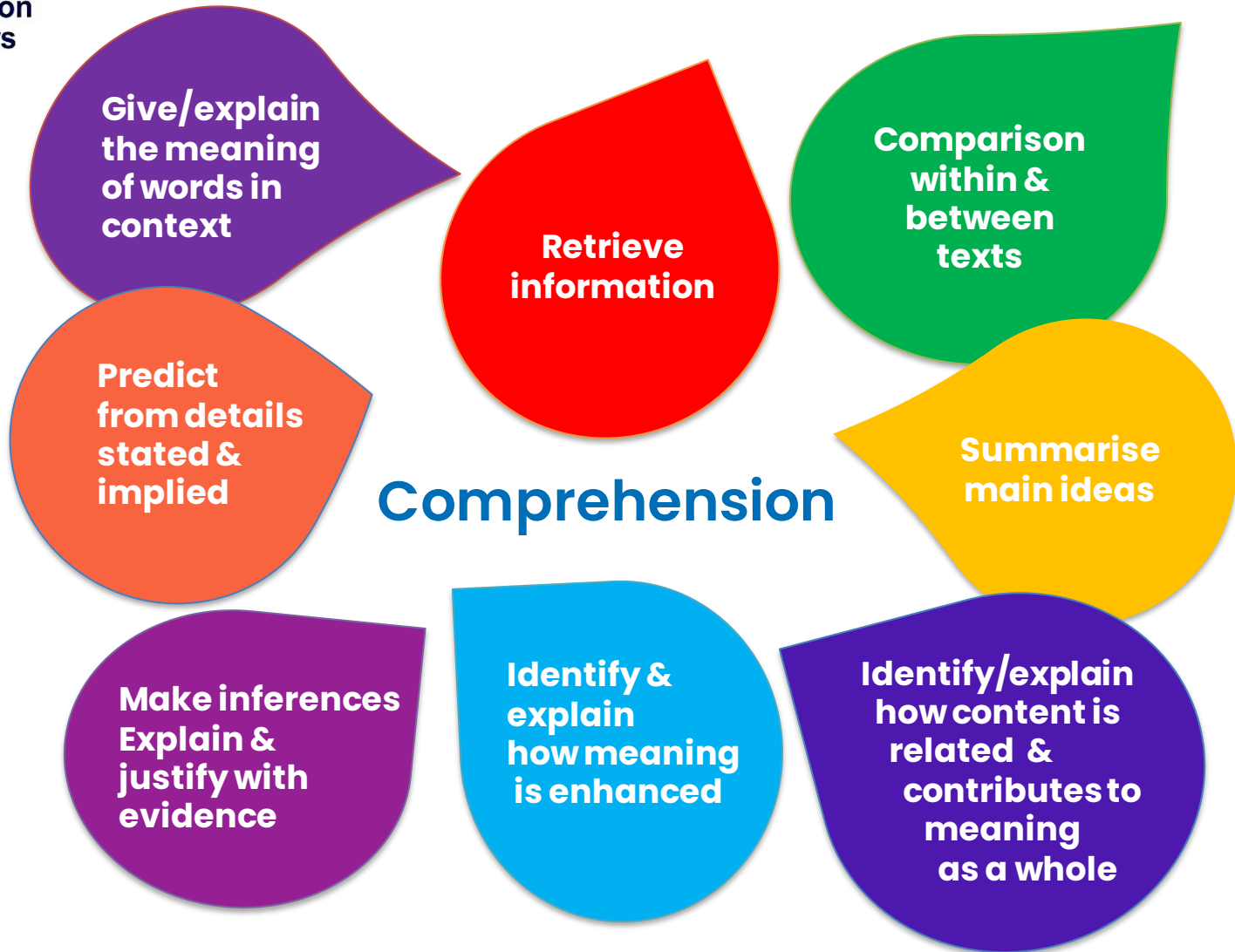
*Bobby was busy with his bucket and spade. The sandcastle was nearly complete. Then a huge wave crashed onto the shore. On seeing that his day's work has been ruined, Bobby started to cry.*

- Inference: Bobby was making a sandcastle.
- Background knowledge needed: a bucket and spade is used to make things out of sand at the beach.
- Inference: The sandcastle was ruined by the wave.
- Background knowledge needed: incoming tides cause waves to come onto the beach and flatten sand sculptures.

From Oakhill and Cain, 2016







## **Retrieval**

**To get or bring something back from somewhere**

**Find or extract information**

## **Inference**

**A conclusion reached on the basis of evidence and reasoning**

**Figuring out what is not directly said**

# Types of inference

**Evaluative** – character feelings and emotions: *How did X feel when he missed the bus? How did he feel when he'd been tricked?*

**Predictive** – based on prior knowledge linked with comprehension of the text so far *e.g. Sophie left her bike by the railings when she spotted her friend in the park.*

**Bridging** (gap-filling) – linking two pieces of information together; forms a link between ideas clearly stated and those left implicit – draws on life experience / general knowledge *e.g. The fire started to burn uncontrollably. Tom grabbed a bucket of water.*

**Cohesive** – helps the reader to build up a coherent understanding of a text *e.g. pronoun resolution: working out who a pronoun relates to e.g. It was as though it had flung her first at the gate, waited for her to open it, and then lifted and thrown her, bag and all, at the front door.*

# ENGLAND **BANS** SINGLE-USE PLASTIC

**THE plastic knives and forks you typically get with your takeaways are history.**

The same goes for polystyrene cups, trays and plastic balloon sticks. This is because, on Sunday, a ban came into force throughout England to stop businesses from giving out single-use plastic items to people.

'Single-use' means you only use it once, then throw it away. In England alone, it's said that 2.7 billion pieces of mostly plastic cutlery and 721 million single-use plates are used every year. They usually can't be recycled, so they end up in landfill sites where waste is dumped, taking hundreds of years to break down.

It's been three years since England banned single-use straws, drinks stirrers and cotton buds. Rebecca Pow, the Government's Environment Minister, says this latest ban on cutlery and containers will "protect the environment... stopping plastic pollution dirtying our streets and threatening our wildlife."

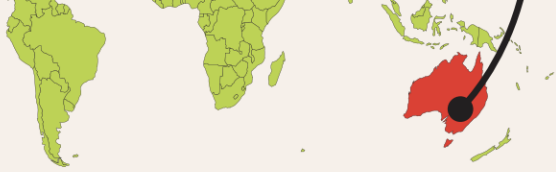
Businesses have been told to use different materials instead. To make sure they follow the new rules, inspectors may pay them a visit and dish out fines if they're not being obeyed. The ban was first announced in January, so they've had more than eight months to get ready. However, some takeaway shops have complained that they didn't know about it.

Greenpeace UK says the ban doesn't go far enough because

some things are still allowed, like the plastic trays or bowls that shops use for ready meals. Its plastics campaigner Anna Diski says the Government needs to "roll out a serious strategy to cut how much plastic is being produced."

Scotland introduced a ban on single-use plastics last year. A similar ban will begin in Wales on 30 October.





### Man gets busted for faking his own kidnapping

A man who faked his own kidnapping on New Year's Eve has been ordered to pay back the amount of money that police spent on finding him! Paul Iera, 35, was supposed to spend time with his partner, but he wanted to see another woman instead. So, he sent his partner a text from some imaginary kidnappers. His partner was so worried, she called the police. Police officers then spent a total of 200 hours looking for Paul, before finding him driving along in his van the next morning. In court, Mr Iera was told to pay \$16,218 Australian dollars (about £8,500) to cover the cost of paying the police officers for the time they wasted in the search. He was also ordered to do 350 hours of community service (unpaid work that has a benefit to the community). His lawyer said that Paul was "pleased to have avoided jail".



## Bright city lights may be shrinking birds' eyes

**SCIENTISTS in the US think that birds living in cities are evolving to have smaller eyes.**

They put it down to man-made light from street lamps, buildings and vehicles.

They studied two common bird species living in the city of San Antonio in Texas – the Northern Cardinal and the Carolina Wren – and found that their eyes were about 5% smaller than the same birds living in the countryside.

Bigger eyes make it easier for animals to see and hunt in the dark, while smaller eyes make it easier to cope with constant light.

# *First*News

Comprehension development  
every week  
on subscription!

These stories are from page 5 and 15 of this week's issue of *First News*. Read the stories, and then try the puzzle. To help you we have underlined the answers to the crossword puzzle clues in the stories – but you will need to match the correct word with each clue!



**CRAZY BUT TRUE**

**Lost jumper found on school roof... 20 years later!**



Clothes in lost property don't usually smell great, but this is something else!

**A SCHOOL pupil who lost his jumper is finally having it returned to him, 20 years later!**

One day in 2003, during play time, seven-year-old Tommy Crank took off his Huxley CoFe Primary School jumper and tied it around a ball. He and his friends wanted to see if they could throw it over the school building and catch it on the other side. Tommy's throw fell short, though – it landed on the roof, and it's been lying there ever since!

That was until last week, when the caretaker climbed the roof to make a repair and found the jumper, all covered in moss and muck.

Tommy's name was still visible on the label, so the school posted it on social media. Tommy, who is now 27, replied: "Hi, can I have my jumper, please?" Even though it's probably a little small for him now, he's going to visit the school to collect it.

Rachel Gourley is now the head teacher of the little school in Cheshire, which today has fewer than 40 pupils. She said: "I've spoken to Tommy on the phone... and he thinks it's hilarious!"

It's a good reminder to check that your uniform's labelled – in 2043, it could be you getting a call!

**AUSTRALIA**



**Man gets busted for faking his own kidnapping**

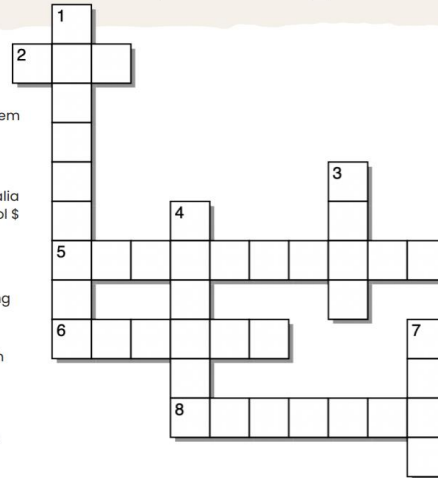
A man who faked his own kidnapping on New Year's Eve has been ordered to pay back the amount of money that police spent on finding him! Paul Iera, 35, was supposed to spend time with his partner, but he wanted to see another woman instead. So, he sent his partner a text from some imaginary kidnappers. His partner was so worried, she called the police. Police officers then spent a total of 200 hours looking for Paul, before finding him driving along in his van the next morning. In court, Mr Iera was told to pay \$16,218 Australian dollars (about £8,500) to cover the cost of paying the police officers for the time they wasted in the search. He was also ordered to do 350 hours of community service (unpaid work that has a benefit to the community). His lawyer said that Paul was "pleased to have avoided  jail".

**ACROSS**

- 2) A small or medium-sized road vehicle that has space to carry goods (noun 3)
- 5) The taking away of a person illegally or holding them prisoner against their will (noun 10)
- 6) When something is mended that was damaged (noun 6)
- 8) The unit of money used in the USA, Canada, Australia and some other countries; represented by the symbol \$ (plural noun 7)

**DOWN**

- 1) A person whose job it is to look after a large building such as a school and deal with small repairs to it (noun 9)
- 3) A place where criminals are kept in order to punish them (noun 4)
- 4) Doing a job without receiving any money for it (adjective 6)
- 7) A very small, soft green plant that grows on damp soil, wood or stone (noun 4)



**CRAZY BUT TRUE**

# Lost jumper found on school roof... 20 years later!



Clothes in lost property don't usually smell great, but this is something else!



Huxley CofE Primary School

**A SCHOOL pupil who lost his jumper is finally having it returned to him, 20 years later!**

One day in 2003, during play time, seven-year-old Tommy Crank took off his Huxley CofE Primary School jumper and tied it around a ball. He and his friends wanted to see if they could throw it over the school building and catch it on the other side. Tommy's throw fell short, though – it landed on the roof, and it's been lying there ever since!

That was until last week, when the caretaker climbed the roof to make a repair and found the jumper, all covered in moss and muck.

Tommy's name was on the label, so the school posted it on social media. Tommy said, "Hi, can I have my jumper back now, he's going to collect it."

Rachel Gour, the school's caretaker, said she had found the jumper today. She said: "I've been lying there ever since!"

It's a good reminder to always check your uniform's labels when you get a new one.



**AUSTRALIA**

**Questions on: Crazy But True**

Look at both stories.

1) Write the correct name in each sentence.

Tommy Crank

Paul Iera

- ..... tried to throw his jumper over his school.
- ..... pretended he'd been kidnapped.
- ..... got 350 hours of community service.
- ..... got his jumper back 20 years later.

Look at the story 'Lost jumper found on school roof... 20 years later'.

2a) Put these steps in the correct order.

- The school posted about the jumper on social media.
- The caretaker found Tommy's jumper.
- Tommy spotted the social media post and replied.
- The caretaker climbed on to the roof to make a repair.

2b) What's the next step?

3a) How did Tommy know it was his jumper?

3b) Looking at the photo, what do you think Tommy is going to do with the jumper now?

4) Have you ever lost anything in an unusual place? Tell a story about how it might find its way back to you!

Look at the story 'Man gets busted for faking his own kidnapping'.

5a) On which of these dates did Paul Iera pretend to go missing?

- 30th December
- 1st January
- 31st December
- 2nd January

5b) On which of these dates was he found?

6) Put these steps in the correct order.

- Paul was found driving along in his van.
- Paul's partner called the police.
- Police officers spent 200 hours looking for Paul.
- Paul sent a fake text to his partner.

7a) Which two punishments did Paul receive from the court?

7b) In what way was Paul pleased with the result?

Look at both stories.

8) Both stories involve an unsuccessful trick or hoax – although one is more serious than the other! Describe a time something you've done went wrong. How did it work out in the end? Did you learn anything from the experience?



## WORLD NEWS



USA



An estimated 23 million people were affected by flooding

### New York streets flooded

New York declared a state of emergency last weekend as extreme rain caused flash floods. The subway system shut down, schoolchildren had to be moved to upper floor classrooms and motorists left their stranded cars as roads turned to rivers. State governor Kathy Hochul called it "a dangerous, life-threatening storm" and warned that climate change was making storms like this normal in the city. Usually, the average rainfall in New York for the entire month of September is 10.9cm, but some areas had double that amount in a single day and the sewers couldn't cope with it. Pictures showed ceilings leaking in subway stations and there were fears for New York residents living in basement apartments. An estimated 100,000 New Yorkers live in illegal basement homes that don't meet safety standards, and city officials said at least six had to be rescued during the floods. On Monday, the rain had stopped and subway services returned.



FINLAND



UK: MPA Group copyright

Lucky there were no road accidents



SPAIN



University of Alcalá

The shoes are made from woven grass

Brit

Som  
a sin  
Finla  
car,  
Air F  
didn  
as it  
pilot  
no c  
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first  
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defin

### Questions on: World News

Look at all of the stories.

1) Match up each quote what it is describing.

"dangerous, life-threatening"

jet landing

"oldest and best-preserved"

storm

"pretty crazy"

shoes

Look at the story 'USA: New York streets flooded'.

2) Find four different ways people were affected by the flash floods.

3a) Which of these sentences is correct?

- The average rainfall for one day in New York is 10.9cm.
- 100,000 people live in apartments in New York.
- Six people had to be rescued from basement apartments.

3b) Can you correct the two sentences that are incorrect?

Look at the story 'Finland: British jets land on public highway.'

4) Why weren't any motorists surprised?

5) In what way was this 'a first'?

- it was the first time a jet had ever landed on a road.
- it was the first time crews from the RAF had taken part.
- it was the first time the Finnish Air Force had taken part.

Look at the story 'Spain: Europe's oldest pair of shoes is found in a bat cave'.

6a) Tick the items that were found in the Cave of the Bats.

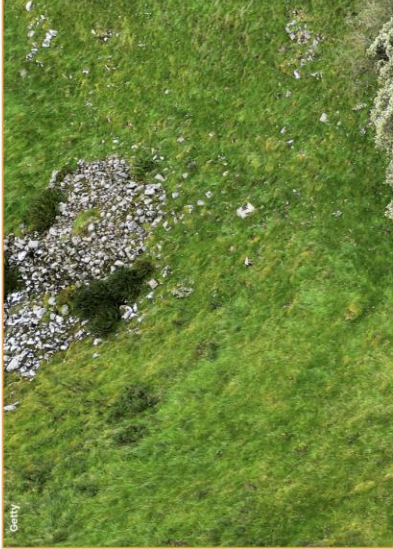
- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gadgets | <input type="checkbox"/> Mummies         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shoes   | <input type="checkbox"/> Boar teeth      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baskets | <input type="checkbox"/> Superhero suits |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cars    | <input type="checkbox"/> A gold crown    |

6b) Why is it thought that the items survived so long inside the cave?

7) Maria Herrero Otal says the shoes and other items demonstrate the "skill of prehistoric communities". What materials and tools do you think prehistoric people used to make items like shoes and baskets?

Look at all of the stories.

8) If you had to choose one of these stories for the front page of First News, which one would you choose and why? Explain your reasons.



1

● Where is th



3

● Who are these people? ● What do they want? ● Why is this story in the news?

## HEADLINES

# ENGLAND BANS SINGLE-USE PLASTIC



THE plastic knives and forks you typically get with your takeaways are history.

The same goes for polystyrene cups, trays and plastic balloon sticks. This is because, on Sunday, a ban came into force throughout England to stop businesses from giving out single-use plastic items to people.

'Single-use' means you only use it once, then throw it away. In England alone, it's said that 2.7 billion pieces of mostly plastic cutlery and 721 million single-use plates are used every year. They usually can't be recycled, so they end up in landfill sites where waste is dumped, taking hundreds of years to break down.

It's been three years since England banned single-use straws, drink stirrers and cotton buds. Rebecca Pow, the Government's Environment Minister, says this latest ban on cutlery and containers will "protect the environment... stopping plastic pollution dirtying our streets and threatening our wildlife."

Businesses have been told to use different materials instead. To make sure they follow the new rules, inspectors may pay them a visit and dish out fines if they're not being obeyed. The ban was first announced in January, so they've had more than eight months to get ready. However, some takeaway shops have complained that they didn't know about it.

Greenpeace UK says the ban doesn't go far enough because

some of the shops say the ban is too strict. A similar



## Look Closer

## GLOSSARY

- polystyrene** – a type of plastic that is often used to make single-use cups and food trays  
**landfill** – a system of waste disposal where the rubbish is buried in the ground

## ENGLAND BANS SINGLE-USE PLASTIC

- 1) Explain why the author says that the plastic knives and forks we often get with our takeaways are "history"?
- 2) What other items have just been banned in England?
- 3) What items were banned in England three years ago?
- 4) How likely do you think businesses are to obey the ban?
- 5) How effective does Rebecca Pow think the ban will be?
- 6) In what way does Anna Diski think she is wrong?
- 7) Why do Rebecca Pow and Anna Diski have different views?
- 8) What is effective about the way this article is presented? Look at the headline and the photo to help you answer this.
- 9) Do you believe that the ban has gone far enough? Explain your answer.
- 10) Can you think of other plastic items you use? Share some ideas about how we could cut down on our plastic use.



Part B: Pictures


These questions are about stories in the news this week. Can you find the article and information? Write the answer, the section of the paper and the page number where you found the information.




Page Number: \_\_\_\_\_ What's the story?  
 Section: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 B1  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Page Number: \_\_\_\_\_ What's the story?  
 Section: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 B2  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Page Number: \_\_\_\_\_ What's the story?  
 Section: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 B3  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Page Number: \_\_\_\_\_ What's the story?  
 Section: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 B4  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Page Number: \_\_\_\_\_ What's the story?  
 Section: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 B5  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Page Number: \_\_\_\_\_ What's the story?  
 Section: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 B6  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Page Number: \_\_\_\_\_ What's the story?  
 Section: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 B7  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Page Number: \_\_\_\_\_ What's the story?  
 Section: \_\_\_\_\_  
  
 B8  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Part B: Pictures

**B1** This fossil of a spider, called *Megamonodontium mccluskyi*, that lived between 11 and 16 million years ago, is the first spider fossil of its family to be found in Australia and is five times larger than its living relative, the trapdoor spider. 'Giant spider fossil found in Australia', Quick News, page 2

**B2** An animation of Michael Morpurgo's *Kensuke's Kingdom* is one of the films at the Manchester Animation Festival, the UK's largest animation festival. 'Animation festival is back in town...', Manchester, UK News, page 8

**B3** A 6,000-year-old pair of shoes, made from woven grass, has been found in the Cave of the Bats in southern Spain. 'Europe's oldest pair of shoes is found in a bat cave', Spain, World News, page 14

**B4** One of the two baby white rhino calves born at Cotswold Wildlife Park, which are helping to raise awareness about rhino conservation. 'Baby rhinos' first steps outside', Natural World, page 9

**B5** Greenpeace Brazil is launching a new Minecraft game called *Save Amazônia*, inviting players to become environmental activists to spread awareness and help protect the rainforest. 'Minecraft saves the Amazon', Game Zone, page 19

**B6** Astronaut Frank Rubio has returned to Earth, after being in space for 371 days – a new record! 'Record-breaking Rubio returns', Science News, page 10

**B7** Charity School in a Bag has pledged to fund 1,000 bags for victims of the 6.8 magnitude earthquake that shook Morocco in September. 'School bags to Morocco', Somerset, UK News, page 8

**B8** One goal was scored by Liverpool to win away from home in the WSL for the first time since January 2020. '1', Sport, page 28

HEADLINES

# PHONE BAN AT SCHOOL

by editor in chief Nicky Cox MBE

**PHONES should be banned in schools across England, says the Government's schools boss, Education Secretary Gillian Keegan.**

Head teachers are being told to bring in the ban throughout the whole school day, including at break times. Ms Keegan says the move will tackle disruptive behaviour and online bullying while boosting attention during lessons. Government data shows nearly a third of secondary school pupils said phones were being used in most, or all, lessons when they weren't supposed to be.

The ban will bring England in line with other countries that have already kicked phones out of school, including France, Italy and Portugal. It also follows warnings from the United Nations on the risks of smartphones in schools.

**Safer and happier**

Tom Bennett, a school behaviour

advisor, said: "Schools that have already banned them report that students are safer, happier and able to focus far more than they were before."

However, in a *First News* poll of 2,400 school children, 68% said they thought phones shouldn't be banned in schools.

One reader said: "I think you should be allowed a LITTLE bit of time on your phones, as well as essential phone calls. But, apart from that, you don't really need them. And, they are right, we do spend too much time on our phones. It would be good to have some time without them."

Another said: "Messing around on phones at break is not good. People who don't have phones, or can't get games on them, will be bored all break because everyone else is glued to their screen like zombies. However, if something happens, you will need a mobile phone. So, I say mobile phones should just stay in your bag then when you NEED them you can contact parents."



**GLOSSARY**

**Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI)** – provides independent inspection services and policy advice for the Department of Education and a number of other government departments.

**HEADLINES: 'Phone ban at school' and 'Language GCSEs are too hard say pupils'**

**'Phone ban at school'**

**Part A: Find and explain the facts**

A1. Answer the following quick questions:

Who is the Education Secretary?	
What does she say should be banned in schools?	
When during the school day does she think that the ban should be enforced?	
Why does she think that the ban should be put in place?	

A2. Which countries have already banned mobile phones in their schools?

**Part B: Deduce and infer information**

B1. What evidence is there to suggest that such a ban would be beneficial for students?

B2. Why is it noteworthy that in a *First News* poll of 2,400 schoolchildren, 68% said that they thought mobile phones shouldn't be banned in schools?

**Part C: Analyse the writing and presentation**

C1. Why do you think that readers are quoted at length in this article?

**Part D: Discussion task**

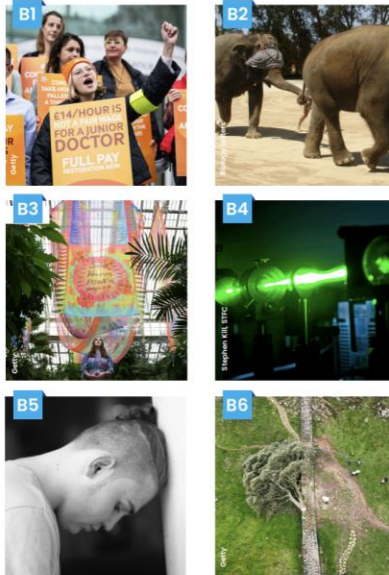
"Mobile phones should be banned throughout the whole school day." Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Give reasons for your view.



Part A: Words

- A1 What trials are Japanese scientists planning for 2024?
- A2 When Home Secretary Suella Braverman proposed to restrict asylum for gay people, how did singer Sir Elton John respond?
- A3 Even though teachers say that pupils are not taking foreign language GCSEs because they think they'll be too difficult, why might it be a good idea to study German for GCSE?
- A4 Why do scientists think that birds in cities are evolving to have smaller eyes?
- A5 Why is National Gas talking to the Government?
- A6 How many pieces of mostly plastic cutlery and single-use plastic plates are used every year?
- A7 Why has Elfed Wyn ap Elwyn walked 200 miles (322km) from Bangor to Cardiff?
- A8 Bangladesh has suffered its worst ever outbreak of dengue. How is this disease carried, and where does it mostly occur?
- A9 For every year of secondary education a girl has, how much does the money she could earn increase by?
- A10 Why did Sergio Vargas make it into the news this week?

Part B: Pictures What news do these pictures tell us?



Part C: Person

Who is this person, and why is she in the news this week?



Part D: Object

What is this object, and why is it in the news?



Part E: Place

Where in the world are fishermen having to take action to protect their local marine life from invasive lionfish?



Part F: Statistics What news do these numbers tell us this week?

F1 Tens of thousands; 30%; 140km journey	F2 A 4% drop in volume, following a record 6% fall in 2022
F3 5m (1.5m-long)	F4 4.3 inches (11cm)
F5 Up to 90% of certain pollutants	F6 4min 20.98sec

Teacher Answers

Part A: Words

- A1 Trials on adults who are missing teeth, to see if they can develop new teeth with a drug that blocks the USAG-1 gene from stopping a tooth bud's growth. 'New drug can grow teeth', Science News, page 10
- A2 By saying that "Leaders need to provide more compassion... Nearly a third of all nations class LGBTQ+ people as criminals, and homosexuality is still punishable by death in 11 countries". 'UK Home Secretary hits back at Sir Elton over asylum seekers', Quick News, page 3
- A3 Because the Government has told exam boards to be more generous with their marks for German GCSE (along with French GCSE). So, passes in German have risen from 75.8% to 76.9% this year – and only physics, chemistry and biology had better pass rates. 'Language GCSEs are too hard, say pupils', Headlines, page 5
- A4 Because of man-made light from street lamps, buildings and vehicles. Smaller eyes make it easier to cope with constant light like this. 'Bright city lights may be shrinking bird eyes', Headlines, page 4
- A5 About an idea to give discounts on bills to households that use less gas at peak times. 'Families paid to save power this winter', Headlines, page 5
- A6 2.7 billion pieces of mostly plastic cutlery and 721 million single-use plates. 'England bans single-use plastic', Headlines, page 4
- A7 The Gwynedd councillor is on a mission! He wants a direct train link between North and South Wales and his petition (with 12,000 signatures and counting) for a direct rail connection will be debated in the Senedd (Welsh Parliament). 'Walk to link Wales', Crazy But True, page 22
- A8 It's carried by mosquitoes and occurs mostly in urban areas with poor cleanliness, where mosquitoes can multiply. 'Dengue disease overwhelms Bangladesh', World News, page 15
- A9 10–20%, based on global data. 'International Day of the Girl', Special Report, page 23
- A10 The Colombian gymnast face-planted into the mat, after losing his grip just before his dismount from the horizontal bar at the Artistic Gymnastics World Championships. The Big Picture, page 17

Part B: Pictures

- B1 Junior doctors and consultants on a 72-hour joint strike over pay. So far, more than one million hospital bookings have had to be rescheduled since NHS strikes began last December. 'London, UK', News In Pictures, page 6
- B2 A study in the journal Biology Letters has revealed that elephants rely on their eyesight to stay upright, after researchers found that elephants use their vision to time their steps, which is how they keep their balance. 'Elephants use eyesight to balance', Natural World, page 9
- B3 House of the Spirits is at the Royal Botanic Gardens to celebrate the diversity of plants and fungi, as part of a new festival called Queer Nature. 'Queer Nature in Kew', London, UK News, page 8
- B4 UK scientists are creating the Vulcan 20-20 laser, the most powerful laser in the world and a "million, billion, billion" times brighter than the sun", at the Central Laser Facility in Oxfordshire. 'World's most powerful laser will be built in the UK', Quick News, page 2
- B5 Working with St Mary's Ukrainian School in Holland Park, London, the organisation Show and Tell Photo collaborated with young people, such as Vitali (pictured), to help them share their emotions on the war in Ukraine. 'St Mary's Ukrainian School photo project', Special Report, page 12
- B6 The famous Sycamore Gap tree next to Hadrian's Wall was cut down by vandals. The iconic tree, thought to be around 300 years old, featured in the 1991 film Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves. 'Northumberland, UK', News In Pictures, page 7

Part C: Person

Who is this person, and why is she in the news this week? This is Simone Biles, who has become the first female gymnast to land a move called the Yurchenko double pike vault, which she executed in her first international competition since returning from a two-year break. '1', Sport, page 28

Part D: Object

What is this object and why is it in the news? This is an artwork called El Corazón Secreto ('The Secret Heart'), by Spanish artist Jaume Plensa, which was shown on World Heart Day to raise awareness of heart-related diseases. 'Barcelona, Spain', News In Pictures, page 7

Part E: Place

Where in the world are fishermen having to take action to protect their local marine life from invasive lionfish? Venezuela. 'Caribbean lionfish invade Venezuela', Natural World, page 9

Part F: Statistics

- F1 Tens of thousands; 30%; 140km journey – Tens of thousands of people are abandoning their homes and fleeing from a disputed region in Azerbaijan (30% of them are children), and most are escaping by making a 140km journey to Armenia's mainland. 'Children are separated from fleeing families',
- F2 A 4% drop in volume, following a record 6% fall in 2022 – This year has seen a 4% drop in the volume of the ice in glaciers in Switzerland, following a record 6% fall in 2022. 'Ice melting at record rate', Science News, page 10
- F3 5ft (1.5m-long) – A 5ft (1.5m)-long reticulated python was discovered curled up around the boiler in a home in Tooting Bec, London. 'Sneaky python hides in kitchen', Quick News, page 3
- F4 4.3 inches (11cm) – New York declared a state of emergency last weekend, as extreme rain caused flash floods and shut down the subway system. Some areas had double the average rainfall for September, which is 4.3 inches (11cm). 'New York streets flooded', USA, World News, page 14
- F5 Up to 90% of certain pollutants – can be filtered from wastewater by water fleas to make the water cleaner. 'Water fleas used to treat water', Quick News, page 3
- F6 4min 20.98sec – Ethiopia's Diribe Welteji ran an incredible 4min 20.98sec race at the World Athletics Road Running Championships to win her first senior world title and knock seven seconds off the previous world record for the road mile. 'Kenya rules the road', Sport, page 28

# Written response

## Locking down an argument ...with precision.

It requires layered readings... Students need to read a challenging text more than once.

Asking students to write causes them to express their opinions in the most rigorous and important format...

And writing has permanence: it can be revised, and referred to again and again, used to show students the development of their ideas over time.

And at the end of a lesson, having asked your students to write allows you to assess not only whether the class generally understood the text but also **whether each student was able to make sense of it.**

Reading Reconsidered  
Lemov, Driggs and Woolway

# Developing Writing

How will they get better at...

Ideas?

Sentences?

Spelling?

Handwriting?



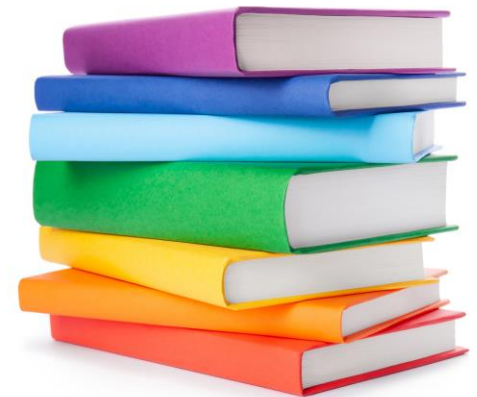
**Reading!**



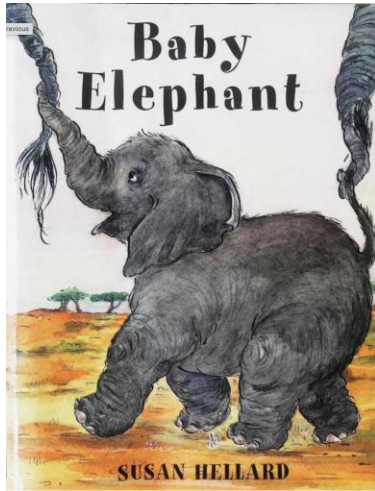


# Language is acquired through imitation

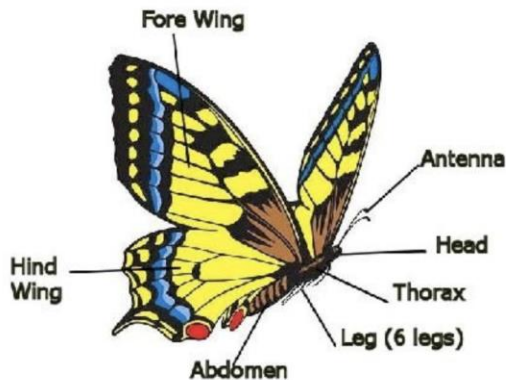
What are they imitating?



# E.G. expanding noun phrases:



Although Ephra was **the smallest baby elephant** in the herd, she had **the biggest ears**.



**Tiny overlapping scales on the membrane** give the wings their **pattern and colour**.

# Lost jumper found on school roof... 20 years later!



Clothes in lost property don't usually smell great, but this is something else!



**A SCHOOL pupil who lost his jumper is finally having it returned to him, 20 years later!**

One day in 2003, during play time, seven-year-old Tommy Crank took off his Huxley CofE Primary School jumper and tied it around a ball. He and his friends wanted to see if they could throw it over the school building and catch it on the other side. Tommy's throw fell short, **though** – it landed on the roof, and it's been lying there ever since!

That was until last week **when** the caretaker climbed the roof to make a repair and found the jumper, all covered in moss and muck.

Tommy's name was still visible on the label **so** the school posted it on social media. Tommy, who is now 27, replied: "Hi, can I have my jumper, please?" Even though it's probably a little small for him now, he's going to visit the school to collect it.

Rachel Gourley is now the head teacher of the little school in Cheshire, which today has fewer than 40 pupils. She said: "I've spoken to Tommy on the phone... and he thinks it's hilarious!"

It's a good reminder to check that your uniform's labelled – in 2043, it could be you getting a call!

**And finally...**

# National Literacy Trust

(Eight-week study in 2015)

- Children's reading progressed significantly
- Particularly in reading comprehension /and inference
- Children became more likely to read newspapers in their free time
- 75% reported that they thought newspapers were interesting
- Boys in particular found newspapers fun after the project
- Read and enjoy newspapers more; read more generally especially non-fiction



# Thank you!

[hello@primaryeducationadvisors.co.uk](mailto:hello@primaryeducationadvisors.co.uk)

X [@EnglishHubUK](https://twitter.com/EnglishHubUK)

# *First*News

Thank you for attending today's session. The next webinar in this series ('How creating a news reading community can improve comprehension and engagement') will take place in the first half of the spring term, and we'd love to see you there, too!

A recording of this webinar, and your certificate of attendance, will be sent to you by email. If you haven't received it after 48 hours, please let us know by emailing [helen.mulley@firstnews.co.uk](mailto:helen.mulley@firstnews.co.uk)

If you would like to have a chat about how *First News* could help in your school, Kate and Daisy are staying online to be available for you; alternatively, please email [schools@firstnews.co.uk](mailto:schools@firstnews.co.uk) to arrange a more convenient time.