Airedale Junior School
Ambition · Bravery · Respect

Year 4

English Pack 2

Summer Home Learning

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Reading Texts

Lesson 1 & 2

The Dreaming Chupacabra

Lurking upon the misty moors, obscured by tooth-shaped boulders, lives the Dreaming Chupacabra. Standing at only 3 feet tall, at a distance it is often mistaken for a child but up close its steel-grey, wart-ridden skin leaves no doubt. Due to its allergy to sunlight, these creatures are nocturnal and prefer to sleep during the day and for some periods in the summer they can sleep for up to 15 hours. Because of its thick, rubbery hide, the creature is well protected against the cold and prefers cool, damp temperatures.

Round, saucer eyes stare unblinkingly whilst pointed ears protrude from the top of its head. They have impeccable hearing like bats and they can listen for a range of 1 mile in any direction. Upon its head, wisps of matted hair grow in sporadic clumps which look like tufts of grass and reveal patches of pale, peeling skin. Some have pug noses; others have ugly snouts that hook round towards their hairy chins. Thin lips open into a wide toothless smile from which a black tongue resides. Bony shoulders lead into long, dangling arms that fall past its knobbly knees.

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Although small in height, this agile creature can run very fast (up to 20mph) for extended periods of time ; it is particularly good at moving swiftly over marshes and bog-mosses due to its wide, splayed feet. Its razor-sharp claws are trowels which they use in order to burrow into hillsides, creating vast warrens underground, allowing them to move about the moorland easily.

Preferring to live in groups, they carry each other if they get tired and protect their young inside a small pouch. Because they are afraid of heights, they will never venture up into the trees so they prefer to have their flat feet on the ground. Even though these creatures look quite outlandish, they are not harmful to humans and due to their lack of teeth, they are strictly vegetarian. Surprisingly, they gain sufficient nutrients from sucking the moisture from plants such as lush ferns and arum lilies.

Often quite mischievous, these creatures like to play pranks in order to entertain themselves and they particularly enjoy teasing unsuspecting tourists - the younger and more innocent the better! From blocking countryside footpaths to making rustling sounds in the hedgerows, they feed off a human's nervous energy. Watching lost, frustrated families try to navigate their way through the monotonous moorlands offers them hours of endless entertainment.

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English – Lesson 1

1. Where does the Dreaming Chupacabra live?

_____

2. According to the text, why do these creatures prefer to sleep during the day?

_____

3. How tall is the Dreaming Chupacabra?

_____

4. Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is true or false.

The Dreaming Chupacabra:	True	False
Never ventures up trees		
Can't dig burrows		
Prefer to live on their own		
Is a vegetarian		

5. Complete the table to include two facts about the Dreaming Chupacabra's appearance and personality.

Appearance	Personality
1.	1.
2.	2.

Spellings

These are the words that you are trying to learn this week:

invention
discussion
hesitation
permission
musician
magician

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English – Lesson 2

1. What evidence in the text suggests that the Dreaming Chupacabra doesn't like to be seen?

_____

_____

2. Why do you think people might find the Dreaming Chupacabra scary to look at? Give evidence from the text to support your answer.

_____

_____

3. How do you know a Dreaming Chupacabra is quite athletic?

_____

_____

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4. Preferring to live in groups, they carry each other if they get tired and protect their young inside a small pouch. This suggests that...

a) They are lazy.

b) They are caring.

c) They are lonely

5. What impressions do you get of the Dreaming Chupacabra? Give two impressions, supporting your answer with evidence from the text.

_____

_____

_____

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English – Lesson 3

1. **Find and copy** two examples of expanded noun phrases in the second paragraph.

   1. _____

   2. _____

2. **Identify** an example of each of the following types of figurative language:

   a) Similes _____

   b) Metaphor _____

   c) Alliteration _____

3. **Find and copy** an example of parenthesis within the text.

_____

4.Read the following sentences and **identify** the **fronted adverbials**.

Upon its head, wisps of matted hair grow in sporadic clumps which look like tufts of grass and reveal patches of pale peeling skin.

Lurking upon the misty moors, obscured by tooth-shaped boulders, lives the Dreaming Chupacabra.

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5. Read the sentence and identify whether the conjunction used is coordinating or subordinating.

Sentence	Coordinating conjunction	Subordinating conjunction
Because they are afraid of heights, they will never venture up into the trees.		
They carry each other if they get tired and protect their young inside a small pouch.		

6. Draw a picture of what you imagine the Dreaming Chupacabra to look like. Write a caption underneath.

Caption

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English – Lesson 4

1. Underline the subordinate clause in the sentence below.

a) Even though he had little patience, Robert enjoyed chess.
b) Polly's hockey skills were good although she had not been playing for long.
c) They finished the walk, which seemed never-ending

2. Complete the sentence by adding a subordinate clause to follow the main clause? The first one has been done for you.

Main clause	Subordinate clause
The creature fell asleep	after he had eaten his tea.
The Dreaming Chupacabra like to play pranks	
These creatures are vegetarian	
Its razor-sharp claws are trowels	

Subordinating conjunctions	
Although	Even though
As	Whereas
After	In addition
Because	Until
Before	When
Since	While
Whilst	Despite

3. Extend these sentences by adding a subordinate clause to the beginning. The first one has been done for you.

a) After the tourists had left, the Dreaming Chupacabra ate his supper.
b) _____, the Dreaming Chupacabra teased the tourists.
c) _____, the creatures never venture up into the trees.

4. Finish off the sentences by adding more detail to these subordinate clauses:

a) Because they have impeccable hearing like bats, _____.
b) Although they are small in height, _____.
c) Before the Dreaming Chupacabra eats supper, _____.

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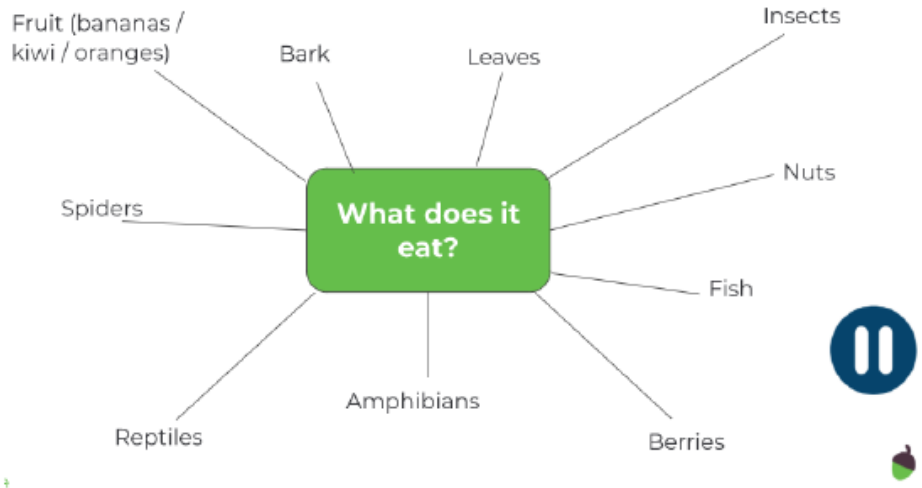
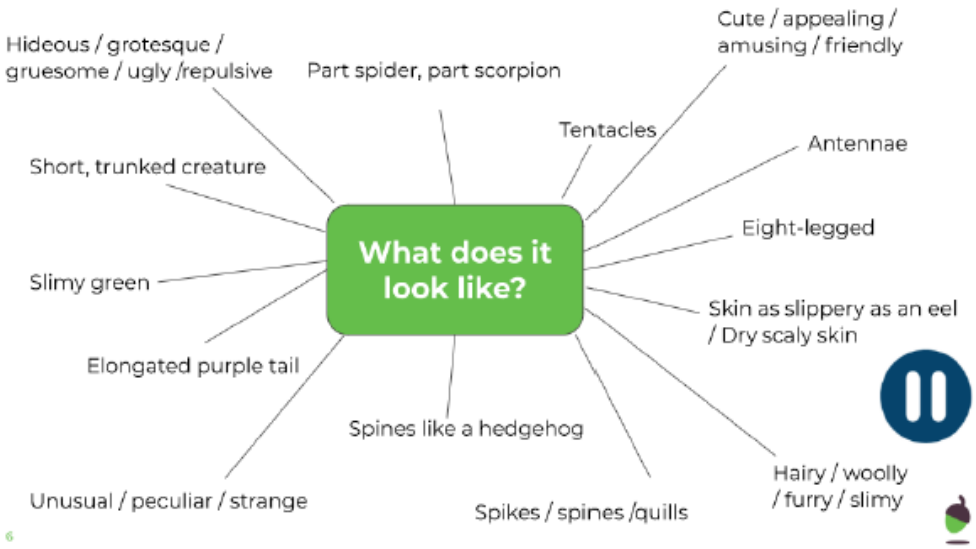
English – Lesson 5

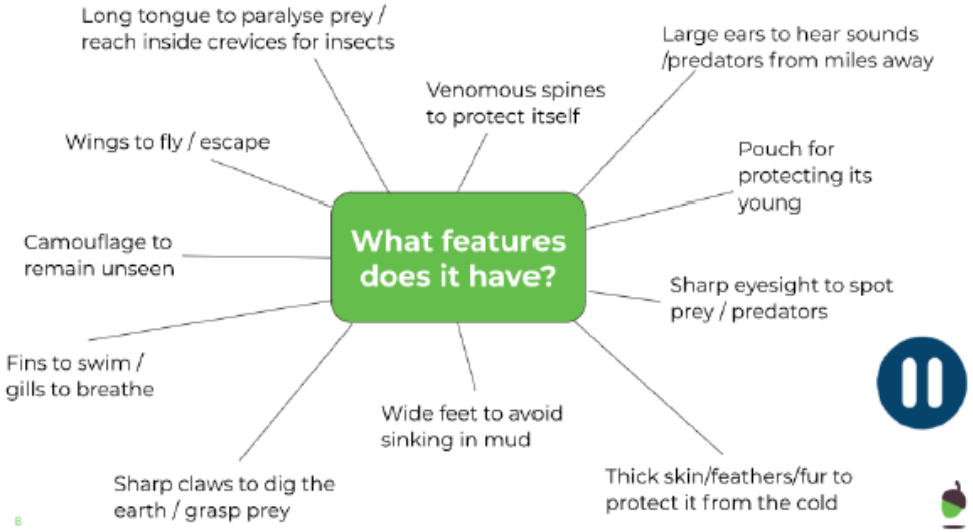
Your task is to write your own character description.

You need to think about what your creature might look like; where it lives; what features it might have; what it eats and any personality traits it may have.

Let's plan some ideas together...







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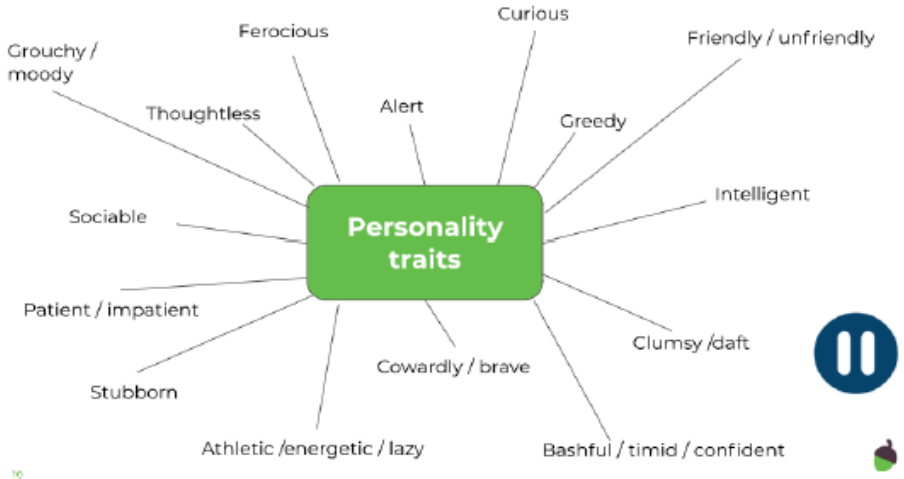

VOCABULARY you could use:

lurking	prefer	mischievous
skin	agile	monotonous
creature	nocturnal	slender
protect	venture	surroundings
protrude	outlandish	dangerous
impeccable	adapted	innocent
sporadic	predator	hunt
reveal	prey	curious

WAGOLL

Opening with a verb to add more detail to my creature

Chosen habitat of where it can be found

Skulking at the bottom of the garden - amongst the weeds and dense, untidy bushes - lives the Timber Trackers. At at meer 20cm tall, these diminutive creatures are not easy to spot! Due to their dry, green skin and slender bodies, they easily blend in with their overgrown surroundings.

Use of parentheses to add further details

Alliteration

Expanded noun phrases to describe its appearance

Subordinating conjunction leading to a subordinate clause adding detail

Remember to include the skills that you learnt last week. You should include a range of fronted adverbials!

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