

Monday 22nd June: Meerkat Mail - plan a journey full of problems

Last Friday, I asked you to write a paragraph about a problem your character might have with where they live (their habitat) - congratulations, you've written the first part of your story! So, today I would like you to plan a journey they might make which is like the one Sunny makes in Meerkat Mail. To plan this I would like you to imagine the places he might go and talk about them with your grown up. Perhaps you would like to do a bit of reading about the place they go so you could use this website www.kids-world-travel-guide.com/geography-facts.html.

Extra research is *optional* though, because the main thing you need to do is **create a story map plan**. Imagine the places your character will visit and **what problems they might find in that place**. You could use the word bank below to imagine some problems.

✓ *Starting: what does your character pack?*

✓ *1st place and a problem*

✓ *2nd place and a problem*

✓ *3rd place and a problem*

✓ *Finishing place: adjectives to describe why this place is the perfect place for your character.*

Adjectives

dry wet sandy muddy noisy quiet
clean dirty dusty gritty squishy hard
windy rainy sunny stormy snowy



Pack: ball, bone
and a blanket.



1st place: **supermarket**

✓ lots of people and food!

X too crowded and noisy



2nd place: **a large bin**

✓ lots of people food!

X dirty and uncomfortable

3rd place: **park**

✓ lots of people to play with

X noisy and uncomfortable



HOME!

✓ two lovely owners to
play with

✓ a comfy chair

✓ peaceful rooms to
sleep in

Tuesday 23rd June: Meerkat Mail - write about the first place

Today, use your plan to help you describe the first place your character visits on their journey. Have a go at writing it as a postcard. You can look at the book to get some ideas or at my example below. Expanded noun phrase video:

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/articles/z3nfw6f

Dear Jules and Jamie,

I am staying at Sainsbury's supermarket where there is so much food!

Although it smells amazing, I can't to get any of the food because

there are these sliding doors which keep closing when I try to get through!

There are lots of people coming and going here too. Some of them have

given me lovely scratches and strokes but no one wants to play with my

ball. Also, someone stood on my tail and there was a baby crying when I was

trying to get some sleep.

Tomorrow, I think I will try somewhere else. Perhaps I will look for a place

with less people.

From Odgar.



Jules and Jamie

The Quiet, Tidy House

Pleasant Street

Woofington

Year 2s, in my postcard, can you spot the **adjectives**?

Year 3s, in my postcard can you spot the **conjunctions**?

Words such as: **but, although, because, so, when, which, who, with**



Aim to use some adjectives in your postcard!



Aim to use some conjunctions in your postcard!

Wednesday 24th June: Meerkat Mail - write about the second place

Today, use your plan and the book to help you write your next postcard. Remember to write your postcard in the **past tense**. Pay careful attention to the endings of your **verbs** (doing words). Watch: www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zh4thbk

Dear Jules and Jamie,

Today I **sniff** my way to a lovely, large bin. It **was** full of rubbish and old food, it **smell** delicious. I **snuffle** my nose into lots of different things and **ate** so much I **feeled** sick!

To feel better I **lie** down outside the bin in a sunny spot and had a sleep (it wasn't very comfy in the bin). When I **woke** up I **feeled** lots better and **wanted** to play but there wasn't anyone to throw my ball. A man **comed** and **filled** up the bin and **gived** me a stroke. He didn't want to play though and I felt quite lonely. Tomorrow I think I will try somewhere else. Perhaps somewhere cleaner with more people.

Wish you were here,

Odgar xxx



Jules and Jamie

The Quiet, Tidy House

Pleasant Street

Woofington

Can you check my **verbs**? I've written some of them in the **past tense** and some of them aren't! Read the postcard aloud and tick the **verbs** which are correct. Circle the **verbs** which are incorrect and write them out so they are the correct **past tense** version of the word.

When you've written your own postcard, read it out loud to check you have used the correct **past tense verbs**.

Thursday 25th June: Meerkat Mail - write about the third place

Today, use your plan and the book to help you write your third postcard. Watch:

www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/articles/z9wvqhv . Try to include at least one sentence which is made of two separate ideas joined together with a coordinating **conjunction**, such as **and, but, so, or, for, nor, yet**. For example:

*I found a bin **so** I ate lots of rubbish. I ate lots of rubbish **but** it made me feel sick!*

Dear Jules and Jamie,

Yesterday I found a park **and** it was full of people playing! A little girl threw my ball for me over and over again. It was so much fun **but** then she wouldn't stop throwing it. I was too tired to keep playing so I went to sniff out some food. I found a meaty sandwich to eat on the floor. It was tasty **yet** not as delicious as the food in my bowl at home. I found a spot to sleep under a tree for it was time for bed. I couldn't sleep! The park was not warm **nor** was it quiet. There were cars whizzing past, owls hooting, a football game happening. I have decided to come home or I will never get to sleep ever again!

I miss you so much and I will see you soon.

Love from Odgar xxxxxxxx



Jules and Jamie

The Quiet, Tidy House

Pleasant Street

Woofington

Can you spot my coordinating **conjunctions**? I've highlighted some for you **but** there are more to spot!

Year 3 Challenge



Aim to include some expanded noun phrases in our postcard as well

Friday 26th June: Meerkat Mail - write the end of your story

Today could be a tricky challenge: you are going to write the end of your story by writing **about** your character in the **present tense** again. The end of your story won't be a postcard, you will write **about** your character like a story-teller in the same way you did at the beginning of your story. Read the end of the book and my example to help you. Your ending can be shorter than mine - I have included lots of present tense verbs to help you remember how to write verbs in the **present tense**.

After a sleepless night in the park, Odgar **trots** down the road with his nose to the ground. He **smells** freshly cut grass and dog biscuits. He **hears** Jules talking quietly to Jamie. He **thinks** of his soft, squashy chair in the quiet living room. He **starts** to run faster and faster until he reaches the garden gate. He **jumps** over the top and into Jules' and Jamie's arms!

After lots of cuddles and tummy scrubs, Odgar **potters** inside and **finds** his food bowl in the kitchen where the radio plays quietly. With a full tummy, Odgar **pads** into the living room, **climbs** onto the soft, squashy chair, **curls** himself into a ball and **falls** asleep in his peaceful, perfect home.