

English Tasks Wednesday 15th/ Thursday 16th March 2023

1. Work through CGP books.
2. Make sure you have completed your entry for World Book Day- write a story or poem or design a poster about your favourite animal.
3. Read and write a short review of the book you are reading.

4. Read this extract and answer the following questions:

Opening extract from A Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket

If you are interested in stories with happy endings, you would be better off reading some other book. In this book, not only is there no happy ending, there is no happy beginning and very few happy things in the middle. This is because not very many happy things happened in the lives of the three Baudelaire youngsters. Violet, Klaus, and Sunny Baudelaire were intelligent children, and they were charming, and resourceful, and had pleasant facial features, but they were extremely unlucky, and most everything that happened to them was rife with misfortune, misery, and despair. I'm sorry to tell you this, but that is how the story goes. Their misfortune began one day at Briny Beach.

1. **Highlight the negative words.**
2. **List the characters.**

3. **Is this opening paragraph funny or serious?**
4. **Why do you think this?**

The three Baudelaire children lived with their parents in an enormous mansion at the heart of a dirty and busy city, and occasionally their parents gave them permission to take a rickety trolley - the word "rickety," you probably know, here means "unsteady" or "likely to collapse"- alone to the seashore, where they would spend the day as a sort of vacation as long as they were home for dinner. This particular morning it was gray and cloudy, which didn't bother the Baudelaire youngsters one bit. When it was hot and sunny, Briny Beach was crowded with tourists and it was impossible to find a good place to lay one's blanket. On gray and cloudy days, the Baudelaires had the beach to themselves to do what they liked.

5. **Highlight any adjectives.**
6. **What is the setting in this paragraph?**
7. **Does this setting seem positive or negative?**

Violet Baudelaire, the eldest, liked to skip rocks. Like most fourteen-year-olds, she was right-handed, so the rocks skipped farther across the murky water when Violet used her right hand than when she used her left. As she skipped rocks, she was looking out at the horizon and thinking about an invention she wanted to build. Anyone who knew Violet well could tell she was thinking hard, because her long hair was tied up in a ribbon to keep it out of her eyes. Violet had a real knack for inventing and building strange devices, so her brain was often filled with images of pulleys, levers, and gears, and she never wanted to be distracted by something as trivial as her hair. This morning she was thinking about how to construct a device that could retrieve a rock after you had skipped it into the ocean.

8. What is your impression of Violet? Why? Push yourself to use a PEE paragraph.

Challenge: Write the opening of your own story in the same style.

- **Talk to your reader**
- **Use humour**
- **Introduce characters**