

Year 4 Family Learning

Spring 1



What do you know about Talk for Writing?

Talk for Writing is...

- listening to and learning texts and stories
- taking part in drama and role-play
- drawing and story mapping
- collecting words and language strategies
- building children's working knowledge of grammar.

The Model Text

- Changes every 3 weeks
- Traditional story structure
- Different text types
- Features SPAG objectives
- Children innovate and magpie from it
- Story map used to learn it
- Linked to WCR lessons

Ready for the Rain-Cat?

Jalal's words rang around Var-jak's mind while he snuck through the dreadful rain-cat's turf.

"Var-jak, my boy," the wise old cat had purred, "the day of the storm is not the time for thatching your roof. Do not fight your enemy unless you are ready."

Was Var-jak ready? He hoped so. He wanted to make Jalal proud. He wanted to vanquish their enemy. It was his heart's desire!

Suddenly, thunder roared overhead, wind whipped the twisted alleyways and streetlights flickered, throwing shadows against the walls. Rusted dustbins rattled, metal stairwells creaked and rain drummed on car roofs. Var-jak shivered.









At that moment, he sensed something crawling, creeping along the pavement. It was shrouded by shadows. Silently, an ill-defined shape slipped from the darkness into a doorway. Var-jak was sure that he had glimpsed an icy blue eye. He could hear a low growl while the rain danced devilishly on the pavement. His fur prickled as his muscles tensed. Was he ready for this fight?









Var-jak had heard enough. He wasn't ready. Like a shadow, he snuck under a lorry and tucked himself into a space near the engine. It was still warm. Spying, he could just make out what looked like an enormous cat with icy eyes stalking the rain-washed streets like a ghost.




Underneath the lorry, Var-jak waited. The rain-cat was getting closer and closer. Its icy eyes glistened and Var-jak could hear its claws scratching the tarmac demonically. It reached the lorry's engine and sniffed. Did it know Var-jak was there?




Var-jak couldn't bear it. He shot from under the lorry, skidded across the rain-swept road and leapt over the wall. Thankfully, he was alone. The rain-cat hadn't followed him, but it was screeching dreadfully. The sound tore through the night. Var-jak shuddered. He was safe – for now.










Making my fruit salad.






Today,    yum. Class 1     .






1st,     Sally John Mark.   +   because







  .

Next,   + .

After that,    .     + .

    .

Finally,    →  .

    + . What u ?

A typical unit • Fiction and non-fiction

Cold Write	Story Map	Grammar	Grammar	Grammar
Grammar	Short-Burst Write	Reading as a writer	Planning	Planning
Innovation	Innovation	Innovation	Innovation	Innovation

Take a moment to match the learning journey (above) to your child's book.

Tuesday 10th January 2023

Vocabulary:

- fiction
- suspense
- sentence
- main clause
- adverbial clause
- past tense

Tuesday 10th January 2023

Recap:

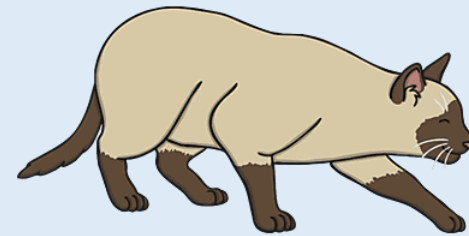
- What does past continuous tense mean?

I **was reading** a novel.
We **were playing** basketball.
He **was fighting** with his friends.
She **was becoming** a good actor.

Challenge:

- On your whiteboard, can you write some sentences in past continuous tense about this picture?

Mr Mouse was _____ when _____.



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Tuesday 10th January 2023

LO: I can write sentences that use the past perfect tense to create suspense.

- **Past perfect tense** indicates a past action which is completed before another past action.

Event A	Event B
John had gone out	when I arrived in the office.

Kevin sobbed. He had just fell from his mother's pouch.



Ronaldo celebrated like a madman. He had just scored his first goal for Al Nassr.



Mickey was furious! Goofy had stolen his lunch again.



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-
TrE6VdtgLE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-TrE6VdtgLE)

had or hadn't + a past tense verb

Remember: The formula is had or hadn't + a past tense verb

- A. Varjak's muscles tensed. He hadn't met a creature with such a peculiar appearance before.
- B. Varjak's muscles tensed. He hadn't meet a creature with such a peculiar appearance before.
- C. Varjak's muscles tensed. He hadn't been meeting a creature with such a peculiar appearance before.

- Which example makes most sense?
 - Why?

Let's innovate:

Varjak's muscles tensed. He had _____
before.

Varjak's muscles tensed. He had never seen such a hideous kitty before.

Varjak's muscles tensed. He had only seen vampires in movies before.

Let's innovate:

A shiver ran up Varjak's spine. He had _____ before.

Challenge:

Use the structure above to write your own sentence, choosing your own **subject** and **predicate**.

_____ had
_____ before.

Tuesday 10th January 2023

LO: I can write sentences that use the past perfect tense to create suspense.

Tuesday 10th January 2022

LO: I can write sentences that use the past perfect tense to create suspense.

Complete these sentences in your book:

1. A shiver ran up Varjak's spine. He had _____ before.
2. Minnie froze. She had _____ before.
3. Harry hid in the broomstick cupboard. He had _____ before.
4. Sally shrieked. She had _____ before.
5. The dogs barked. They had _____ before.

Challenge 1: Can you write two of your own sentences that follow the above structure?

Challenge 2: Can you up-level your previous sentences?

What can you do at home to help?

- Read daily
- Help learn the model text
- Sentence writing
- Home Learning

Any questions?