



English Bridging Unit for Year 6 into 7



What am I being asked to do?

Create a lively 'scrap book' based on your favourite novel. It is called a scrap book but it really means a fun booklet all about your favourite book that you have read recently (at some point this year). The scrap book (or booklet) could be done on a computer using lively fonts and pictures, on plain or brightly coloured paper that are fastened together with paper clips or in an A4 book.

What will be inside my scrap book?

You will be making your own front cover for your scrap book and aiming to make it five pages long. Each page will contain creative activities about the novel's storyline, characters, the author and much more. You will be given ideas, a bit like a menu, where there are lots of choices but you just choose one that suits you the best for each page.

How does this link to English at The Deanery High School?

In English lessons at The Deanery, you will have three lessons in class and one lesson in the school library each week. You will follow a reading program that will help your reading skills but above all, we hope to nurture a love of reading that will take you into adulthood. Your first English theme in year 7 is about the magic of storytelling and the work you do in your scrapbook will give you many ideas to make a really good start on this unit of work.

What shall I do with it when I have finished?

Bring your scrapbook into school in September (it does not need to be on the first day) and hand it in to your English teacher. Your scrapbooks will then be displayed and shared in the school library in the first term of year 7.



Choice of activities to do on each page of your scrapbook

Front Cover

Design an alternative front cover for your book. Include:

- Title of book
- Author's name
- Pictures that reflect the story in some way
- Your name in the corner.

Page 1: Events

Choose one of the tasks below:

- A storyboard or cartoon strip of the main events in the novel with pictures and captions;
- A newspaper report on a dramatic event in the book;
- A diary of the main character, reflecting on the events of their life so far.

Page 2: Character

Choose one of the tasks below:

- Design and label costumes for your favourite character (e.g. Harry Potter in his Hogwarts uniform and one of him wearing his invisibility cloak).
- Write a page called "A Day in the Life of ..." describing an average day in the life of your character.

Page 3: Author Research

Research information about the author of your book and choose one of the tasks below:

- A fact-file about his/her life using images or facts (or both!)
- An interview with him/her for a chat show.

Page 4: A Creative Response

Choose one of the creative tasks below:

- Write an additional chapter or an alternative ending to the book;
- Write a poem or song about your favourite moment / character / event in the book;
- Write a letter to the author asking questions and giving your view of the book;
- Write a letter to an actor playing a character from the book in a film, giving advice about how they should perform their role.
- Draw, paint or collage your favourite moments from the book.

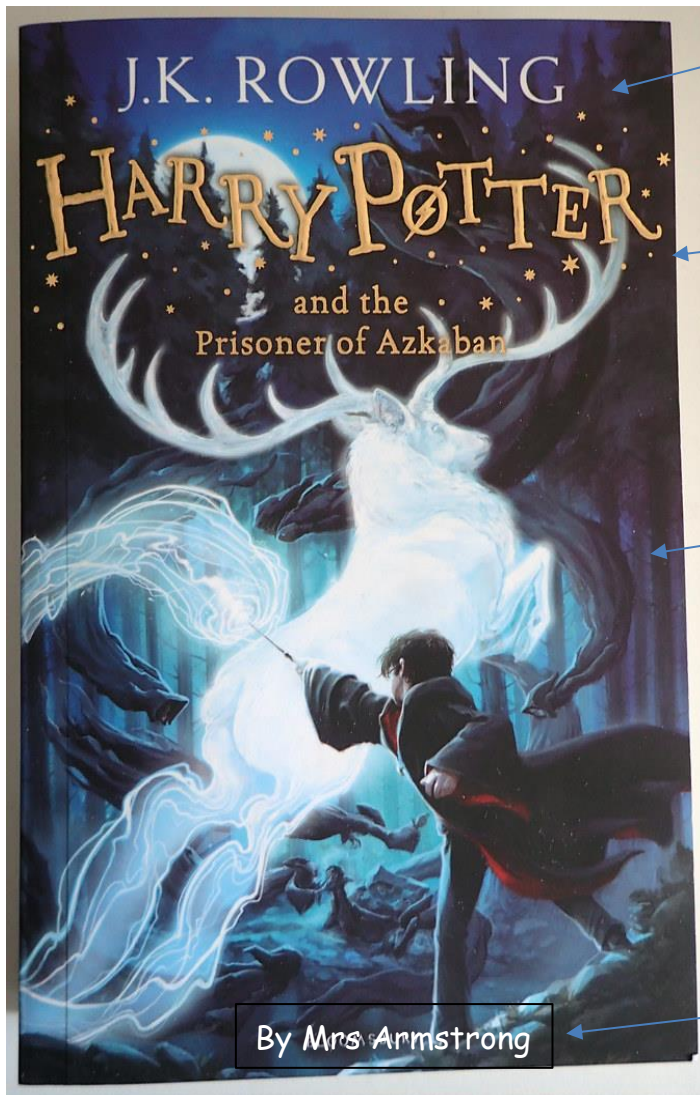
Page 5: Book or film review

Choose one of the tasks below:

- Write a review of the book expressing your thoughts and feelings about it;
- If the book is made into a film, watch the film and write a review giving your thoughts and feelings about the film;
- Draw a table listing the similarities and differences between the book and film then explain whether you prefer the book or film and give reasons why.

Front Cover Ideas

Over the next few pages will be ideas and example templates (e.g. a newspaper report layout) that you could use to help you with your pages. Remember to only choose one task per page!



The Author

The Book's Title

Picture

Add your name

Page 1: Events (A newspaper template)

Add a snappy headline e.g.
HAUNTED HOGWARTS!

(Add the name of the newspaper,
the date and price)

Put a picture and caption here

Write WHAT happened? WHEN? WHERE? TO WHOM?
HOW? INCLUDE SOME EYE WITNESS VIEWS TOO.

Page 1: Events (Story board or cartoon strip template)

Break the main events in the book into six main sections and draw or add an image to the big space with a sentence underneath to sum up what is happening. If you are doing a cartoon strip, add speech bubbles.

1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.

Diary entry template

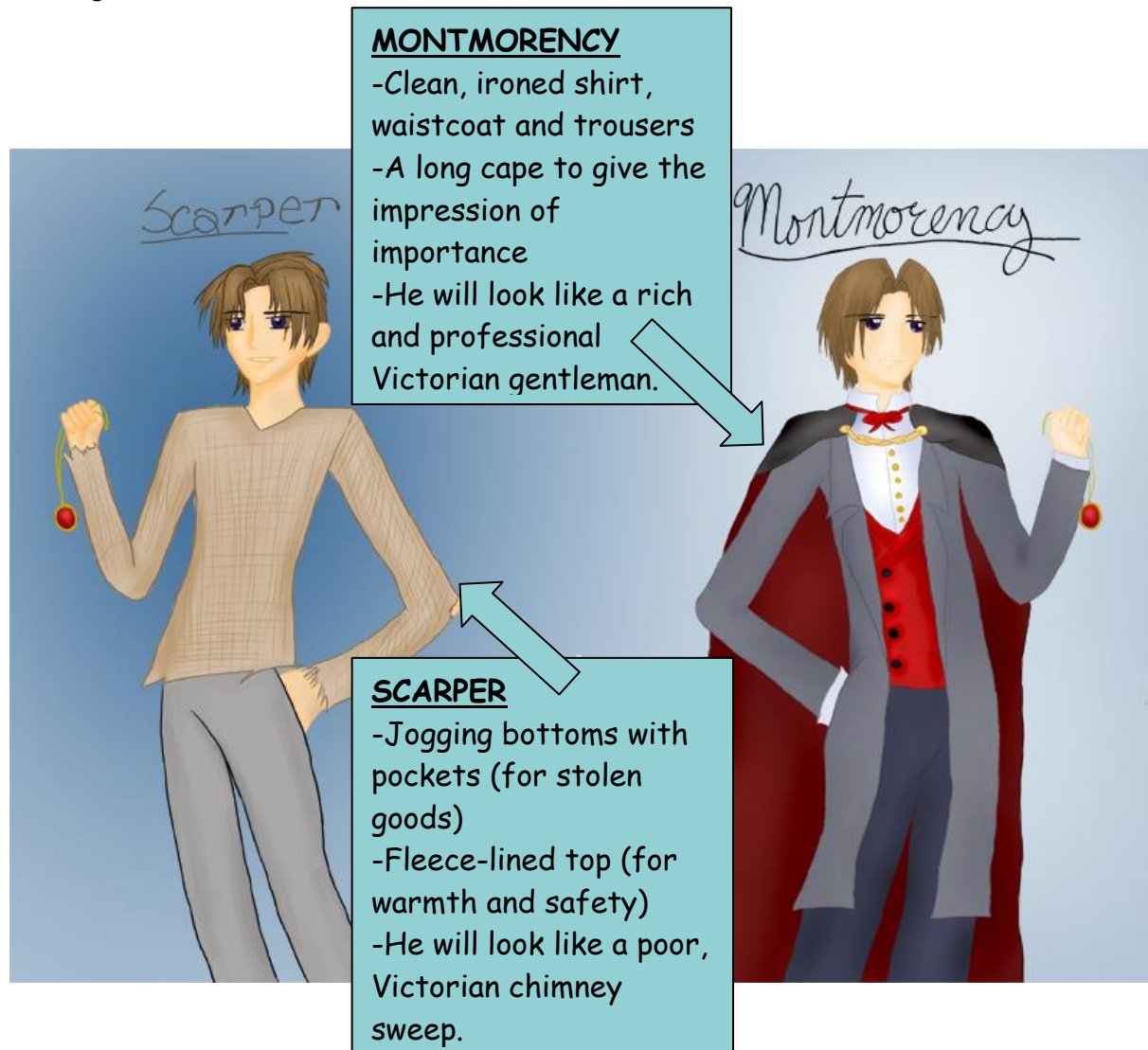
_____(date)
Dear Diary,
Yesterday I....

Write 2-3 paragraphs as if you are a character in the book, describing their feelings after a sad or happy moment. Ideas for your paragraphs are:

1. What happened yesterday?
2. How did it make you feel?
3. What are your thoughts or worries for the future?

Page 2: Character (Costume design ideas)

You could draw two costumes for one character and label your choice of clothing for them or design costumes for two different characters from the book.



A Day in the Life of...

My day usually begins at 6.30am when I hear...

Write 2-3 paragraph describing your character's average MORNING, AFTERNOON and EVENING. You could describe their home life (if you know), where they usually go in the day and what they usually do. It might be a good opportunity to describe your character's friends (or enemies) and how they add excitement (or danger) to his/her day!

Page 3: Author Page (Fact-file)

Research some interesting facts about your chosen author such as where they grew up, when they were born, if they have a family, how many books they sold and anything else that interests you! You could present the information with pictures like the one below...



Interview with an author

If you prefer, you could write a lively 'chat-show' style interview with an author. See the example and tips below.

A welcoming introduction

The interviewer shows that he/she knows a lot about the interviewee's background before asking a question.

The interviewer makes a comment on what has just been said before asking another question.

Interviewer: Ladies and gentleman, we have one of the world's best children's writer of all times on our show today: Mr Roald Dahl.

Dahl: Thankyou...

Interviewer: So, I have read that your own life experiences have influenced your writing and I know you have had a pretty colourful life! I believe you were in the RAF in WW2?

Dahl: Hmmmm

Interviewer: Is it true that you then became a spy?

Dahl: Well, I wouldn't necessarily call myself a spy but I worked for the SAS and I found myself getting into all sorts of situations there!

Page 4: Creative Response (Poetry template)

Look at the poem below, it focuses on the past, present and future actions of Ms Trunchbull from 'Matilda'. Pairs of lines rhyme too. You could use the sentence starters in bold to write your own poem about your favourite character from your book.

I was the girl called Agatha or 'Ag' to some,
I was the girl who wore my hair in a tight bun,
I was the girl who thought tripping people up was fun,
I was the girl whose path of meanness had just begun.

I am the Trunchbull with my hands on my hips,
I am the Trunchbull with NEVER a smile on my lips!
I am the Trunchbull who made Bogtrotter eat cake,
I am the Trunchbull who screams out 'FOR GOODNESS SAKE!'

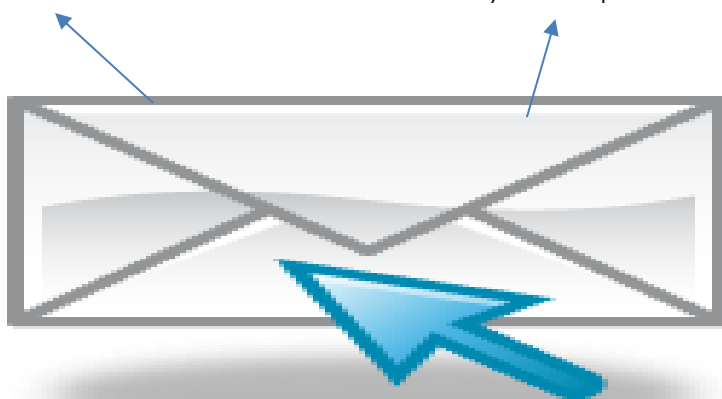
I will be the pensioner as grumpy as can be,
I will be the pensioner demanding five cups of tea.
I will be the pensioner who lives to an old age
And use my walking stick in a fit of rage!



Or write a letter or an additional chapter or different ending

Write a letter to the author asking questions and giving your view of the book.

Write a letter to an actor playing a character from the book in a film, giving advice about how they should perform the role.



Proof-read your writing to check:

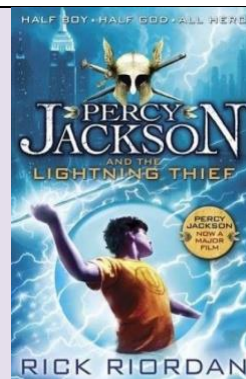
- **SENTENCES** – are they complete? Do they make sense? Do they begin with a capital and end with a full stop?
- **VARIETY OF PUNCTUATION** – do all my sentences end in full stops? Can I add ? or ! to add variety?
- **SENTENCE STARTERS** – do sentences begin with 'The' / 'A' / 'It' too much? Can I use verbs / adverbs / adjectives to start sentences instead?

Page 5: Book or Film Review

Read the example book review below followed by the ideas of what to put in each paragraph.

'Percy Jackson: The Lightning Thief' review.

Percy Jackson is just a normal twelve-year-old boy. Sadly, he has problems with school, bullies, and authority. He gets expelled from school and his life seems to be in a bit of a mess. One day though on a seemingly innocent visit to the beach with his mother, Percy's life changes forever. Finding out his best friend is a satyr and being chased by the Minotaur into a camp for demigods is only the beginning of Percy Jackson's new life. Here he makes friends with children of similar parentage and finally finds himself a place where he belongs. Along the way is more adventure than one boy can handle danger at every turn.



An absolutely fantastic tale marvellously woven by the author Rick Riordan. As a book written for young adults, I didn't expect it to be as fun and engaging as it was. It certainly out-shone Harry Potter for me! Smart mouthed, practical and fun Percy doesn't go looking for trouble but he was born a hero, a combination of mortal and god parentage that he cannot control.

I often fear reading young adult books because the main characters can be whiny and immature which can get on the readers' nerves. Amazingly Percy seems to be mostly free of this, while still staying young and believable. A fantastic book for sure that has me thanking the gods I bought the series. Definitely worth the read!

How to write a book or film review...

1. Start by describing what the book is about but don't spoil the plot! Focus on the main events, especially the first half of the book. *The action-packed novel 'Montmorency' is...*
2. Explain what you particularly liked about the book. Who was your favourite character and why? What did you like about the setting? Was there a particular scene that was written really well? Did the writer keep you guessing? *Readers will be delighted by every page, especially...*
3. Explain what you disliked about the book. E.g. Did a cliff-hanger frustrate you? Did it deal with a theme that wasn't interesting or relevant to you? *However, a word of warning...*
4. Sum up the book and say who you would recommend would enjoy reading it e.g. gender and age group and explain why. *Overall, I feel...*

Fantastic Reads

The book you choose could be a book you read with your class teacher, at home or you could choose one to read from this list...

Historical Reads

- Chains – Laurie Halse Anderson
- The Children of the King – Sonya Hartnett
- Once, Now and Then – Morris Gleitzman
- Number the Stars – Lois Lowry
- The Book Thief – Markus Zusak
- The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas – John Boyne
- When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit – Judith
- I Am David – Ann Holm
- The Silver Sword – Ian Serraillier
- The Diary of Anne Frank
- Street Child – Berlie Doherty
- Carrie's War – Nina Bawden
- Opal Plumstead – Jacqueline Wilson
- Witch Child – Celia Rese
- Between Shades of Gray – Ruta Sepetys
- Goodnight Mr Tom – Michelle Magorian
- Hetty Feather series – Jacqueline Wilson
- Coram Boy – Jamila Gavin
- The Eagle of the Ninth – Rosemary Sutcliff



Adventures

- The Maze Runner Series – James Dashner
- The Medusa Project Series – Sophie McKenzie
- Hacker Malorie Blackman
- Bridge to Terabithia – Katherine Patterson
- Trash – Andy Mulligan
- Divergent Series – Veronica Roth
- Underworld – Catherine Macphail
- The Hunger Games Trilogy – Suzanne Collins
- Journey to the River Sea – Eva Ibbotson
- Tom's Midnight Garden – Philippa Pearce
- Millions – Frank Cottrell Boyce
- Alex Rider Series – Anthony Horowitz
- Young James Bond Series – Charlie Higson
- The Itch Series – Simon Mayo
- The Skulduggery Pleasant Series – Derek Landy
- The H.I.V.E series – Mark Walden



Mysteries and Thrillers

- The London Eye Mystery – Siobhan Dowd
- Deadly Dare Mysteries – Malorie Blackman
- The Scandalous Sisterhood – Julie Berry
- Murder Most Unladylike Series – Robin Stevens
- Ruby Redfort Series – Lauren Child
- The Lady Grace Mysteries – Grace Cavendish

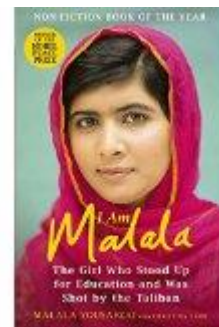


- Girl Missing Series - Sophie Mackenzie
- The Sally Lockheart mysteries – Philip Pullman
- Cuckoo Song – Frances Harding
- Butterfly Summer – Anne Marie Conway
- Dear Scarlett – Fleur Hitchcock
- Dark Lord Series– Jamie Thomson
- Whispers in the Graveyard – Theresa Breslin
- The Graveyard Book – Neil Gaiman



Fantasy Worlds and Sci-Fi

- The Giver – Lois Lowry
- Gone Series - Michael Grant
- Uglies Series – Scott Westerfield
- Maggot Moon – Sally Gardner
- His Dark Materials Trilogy - Philip Pullman
- Harry Potter Series - J. K. Rowling
- Percy Jackson series - Rick Riordan
- Shadow of the Minotaur - Alan
- Artemis Fowl Series – Eoin Colfer
- Power of Five series – Anthony Horowitz
- Discworld Series – Terry Pratchett
- Mortal Engines Series – Philip Reeve
- Noughts and Crosses trilogy – Malorie Blackman
- Cirque du Freak Series – Darren Shan
- Shadow of the Minotaur – Alan Gibbons



Real Lives

- I am Malala – Malala Yousafzai
- Chinese Cinderella – Adeline Yen Mah
- Boy – Roald Dahl
- My Family and other Animals – Gerald Durrell

Classic Reads

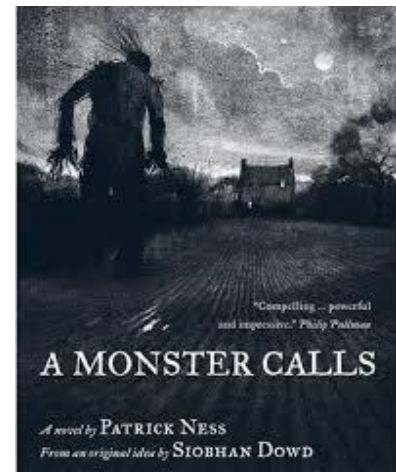
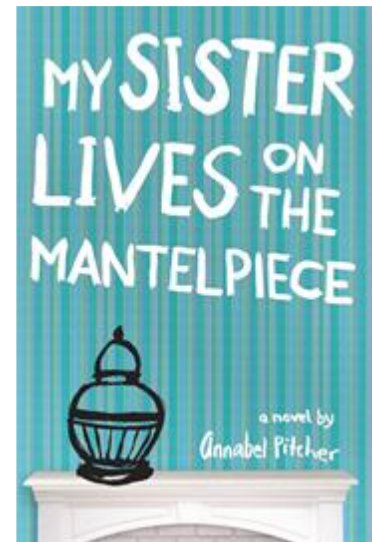
- Watership Down - Richard Adams
- Little Women - Louisa May
- The Secret Garden - Frances Hodgson-Burnett
- Anne of Green Gables - L. M. Montgomery
- Five Children and It - Edith Nesbit
- The Railway Children - Edith
- Heidi - Johanna Spyri
- The Midnight Fox – Betsy Byars
- Mrs Frisby and the Rats of Nimh – Robert C. O'Brien
- Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson
- Moonfleet – J Meade Falkner
- The Lord of the Flies – William Golding
- The Lord of the Rings trilogy – J.R.R. Tolkien



- War of the Worlds – H G wells
- The Time Machine – H G Wells
- Robinson Crusoe – Daniel Defoe
- Gulliver's Travels – Jonathan Swift
- The Owl Service- Alan Garner

Friends, Family and Relationships

- The Tulip Touch – Anne Fine
- Flour Babies - Anne Fine
- Goggle Eyes - Anne Fine
- Geek Girl Series – Holly Smale
- A Greyhound of a Girl – Roddy Doyle
- Dandelion Clocks – Rebecca Westcott
- A Monster Calls – Patrick Ness
- The Fault in our Stars – John Green
- Looking for Alaska – John Green
- Wonder – R L Palacio
- Love Aubrey - Suzanne LaFleur
- My Sister Lives On The Mantelpiece - Annabel Pitcher
- Chocolate Box Girls series – Cathy Cassidy
- Love Ya Babe – Chris Higgins
- Would You Rather? – Chris Higgins
- The Child's Elephant – Rachel Campbell-Johnstone
- The Edge - Alan Gibbons
- Pig-Heart Boy - Malorie Blackman
- Noughts & Crosses - Malorie Blackman
- Refugee Boy - Benjamin Zephaniah



Check out these web-sites for more ideas!

<http://www.booktrust.org.uk/books/teenagers/>

<http://www.lovereadng4kids.co.uk/>

<http://www.readingmatters.co.uk/index.php>

<http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/carnegie.php>

<https://www.theguardian.com/childrens-books->

