

English Department Year 6 – Year 7 Transition Work



Higham Lane School
Helping Learners Succeed

Heroes and Villains creative writing

Hello Year 6!

It's been wonderful to meet so many of you during your Transition days. Rest assured we're working really hard to finalise your amazing English lessons for next year and beyond.

We've included a little taste of what awaits you at Higham Lane and a few tasks and challenges for you to have a go at and to develop your English skills ready for September. When you start in Year 7 your first English topic will be 'The History of English' focusing on the story 'Beowulf' and these writing tasks are linked to one of the main themes: Good VS Evil.

Also, don't forget your Summer of Reading Challenge – we are looking to rewarding you!

English Department at HLS

The 7 tasks within this project are labelled essential or optional and include how long you should take on each one. Challenge tasks are options if you really want to impress us! The aim is to develop the following skills:

- ✓ Creating a powerful opening
- ✓ Using engaging and ambitious vocabulary
- ✓ Punctuating for effect
- ✓ Creating effective tone and style
- ✓ Drafting and editing

You may wish to print this booklet out or follow it and complete every activity neatly on paper or type it up on a computer – it is up to you. All we ask is that you bring this work and your finished story with you in September so that we can see the fantastic effort that you have put in.

KEY WORDS

Draft: to create a version of a story

S.P.I.T.E.: An acronym (a word made from the first letters of a list) that helps you to plan and analyse a piece of writing

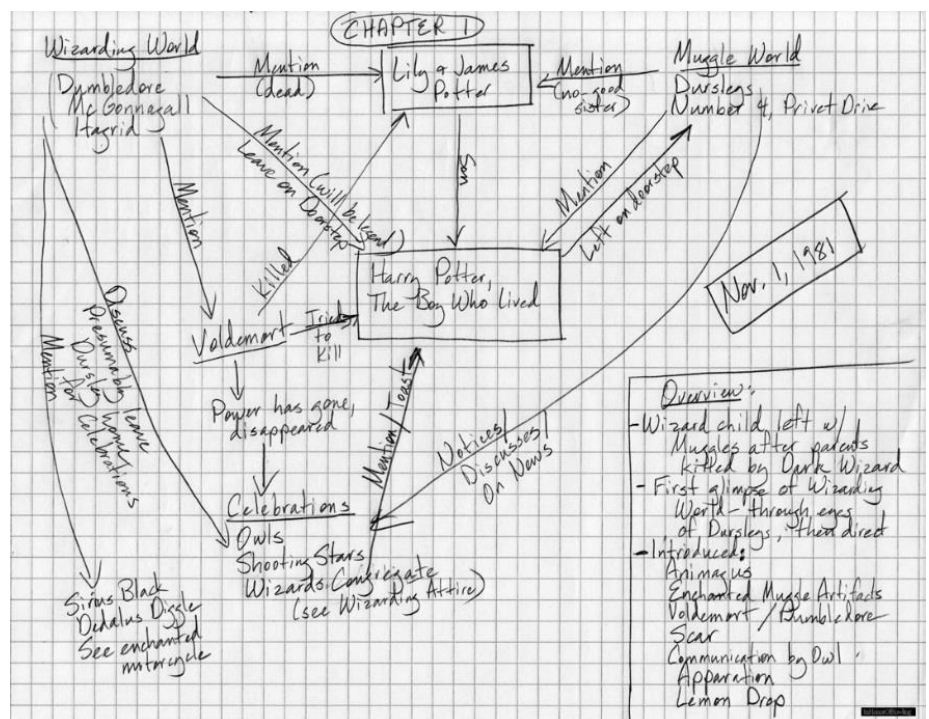
Annotate: to make notes on a piece of texts

Protagonist: the main 'good' character in a story

Antagonist: the main 'villain' in a story

Essential Task 1

20 minutes



A handwritten plan by J.K. Rowling for the start of the Harry Potter novels.

A detailed plan is really important when you write. Using the headings below (S.P.I.T.E.), construct detailed notes for each of the elements of your story.

Setting: (where will your hero and villain meet?)

People: (Design a hero - *protagonist* and a villain - *antagonist*. You may need a separate piece of paper for this)

Ideas: (how will your hero and villain meet? Are they arch enemies?)

Tone: (how can you show a change in the action?)

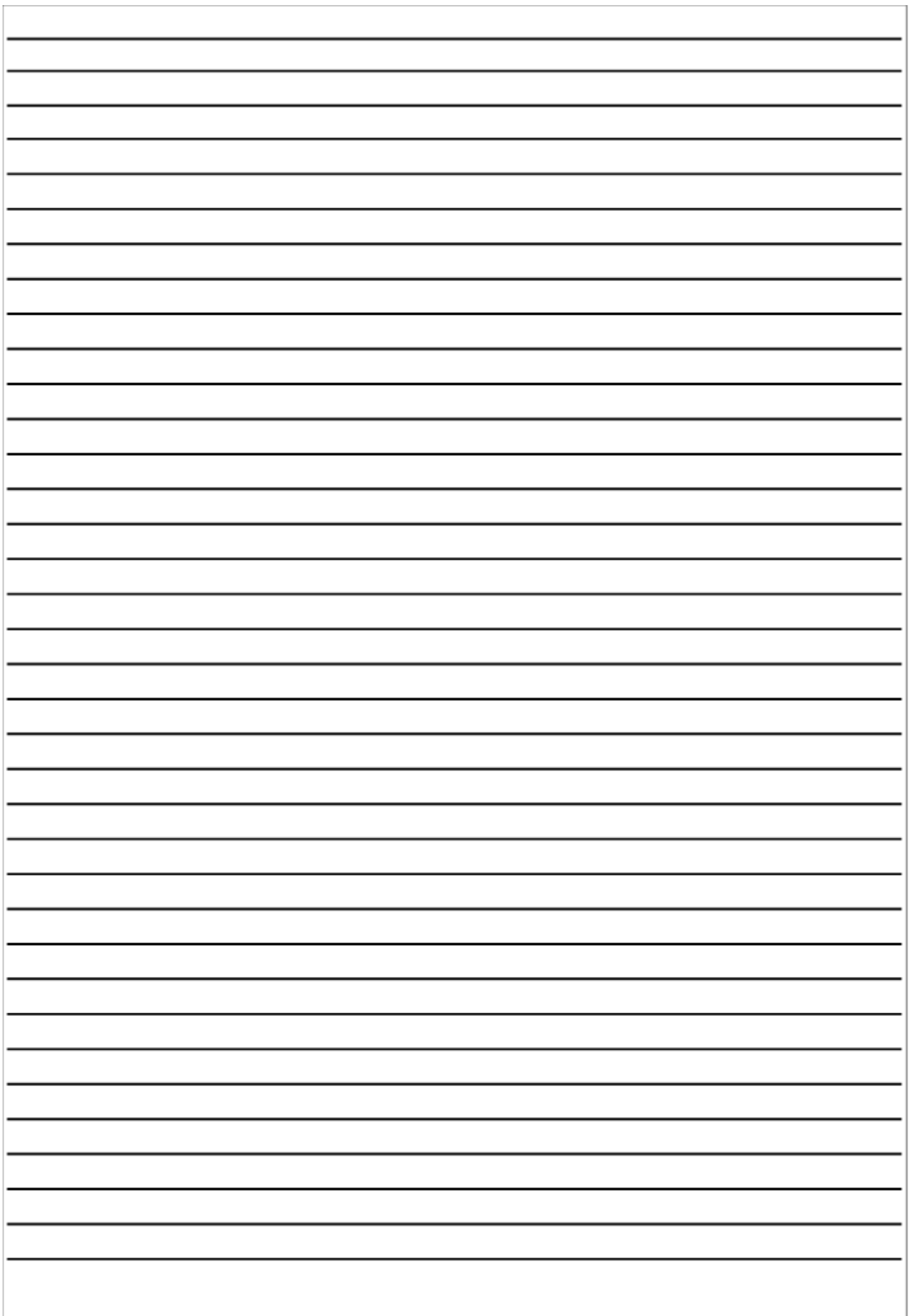
Events: (what will happen? A sword fight? The destruction of a city? A battle of super powers?)

Completed

Optional Task 02: Read this extract from the opening of a crime novel. What 'S.P.I.T.E.' features from above can you identify? Why are they effective? Annotate the extract with your ideas. This should take no more than 30 minutes.

It was about eleven o'clock in the morning, mid-October, with the sun not shining and a look of hard wet rain in the clearness of the foothills. I was wearing my powder blue suit, with dark blue shirt, tie and display handkerchief, black brogues, black wool socks with dark blue clocks on them. I was neat, clean, shaved and sober, and I didn't care who knew it. I was everything the well-dressed private detective ought to be. I was calling on four million dollars.

Essential Task 03: **Draft** the opening of your story. Make sure that you have a powerful and engaging opening line. You should write at least 100 words. This should be 20 minutes' worth of work.



Completed

OPTIONAL CHALLENGE TASK: Draw a picture of your hero / villain (or both!)



Essential Task 06: Create a title for your story. Write a paragraph explaining why you have chosen this title. This should take 10 minutes. It should be

- Attention grabbing
- Memorable
- Informative
- Intriguing (your reader should want to find out more!)

The title of my story is:

I have chosen this title because _____

Optional Task 07: Write up the final draft of your story on lined paper (or type it). This should take no more than one hour. Don't forget to bring it into school!

Completed

Optional challenge / development ideas

- Structure: How does the 'flow' of your story influence the reader, or impact the narrative?
- Contrast: Does your story have 'light and shade'? Contrast can be used to highlight key events or emotions. Can you develop your story with this technique?
- The senses: Using sight, sound, smell etc. can be a powerful way to add atmosphere to your work.
- Have you used typical conventions of heroes and villains in your story? Is the hero a good character and the villain bad? Why did you choose to present them in this way?

Well done! You have come to the end of this English project! We can't wait to read your hero and villain stories!