

Knowledge Organiser

Year Group	Subject	Topic
6	English	Biography

The Big Picture

During this unit, children will learn how to write a biography. They will understand why biographies are written and explore different types of biographies, analysing their structure and purpose. Children will create a timeline to ensure that their biography is written in chronological order and incorporate a range of punctuation in their writing (see punctuation progression pyramid below). They will be introuduced to new, relevant terminology and learn to incorporate these in their writing, using a dictionary to help them spell more challenging words. Children will end the unit by writing a biography about the life of Martin Luther-King.

Enquiry Question

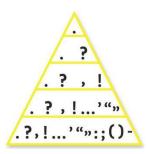
What is a biography?

What is the purpose of a biography?

Why is it important for a biography to be written in chronological order?

Should it be written in a formal or informal tone?

Biography	
Biography	An account of a
	person's life written
	by another person
Chronological Order	The order in which
	events occurred
Paragraphs	These are used to
	organise ideas
Key Events	Identify the most
	important events in a
	person's life
Timeline	Key events written in
	the order in which
	they occurred.
Subheading	A brief title used to
	summarise a
	paragraph



Grammar Tech	niques
D (*	A cluster of letters which goes
Prefix	before a word to alter the
	meaning.
Semi-colons	These are used to join two main
	clauses and are used in a place
	of a conjunction.
Passive voice	The subject undergoes the
	action as opposed to carrying
	out the action. The people were
	hurt by the fire (passive) / The
	fire hurt the people (active)
Past Tense	Use past tense verbs with an
	understanding or regular and
	irregular verbs.
Cohesive	Using fronted adverbials and
Devices	conjunctions to connect
	paragraphs
Formal Tone	Written in third person and
	avoiding slang, contractions and
	abbreviations.
Third Person	Using pronouns he, she, they,
	their, etc.

Vocabulary related to Martin Luther-King

African-American.	assassinated.	boycott.
bias	bigotry	civil rights
change	civil resistance	democracy
demonstration	dignity	freedom
segregation	human rights	"I have a dream"

Influential People to research		
Roald Dahl	Children's author behind Charlie and	
	the Chocolate Factory and Matilda.	
Jacqueline	Children's author who has written a	
Wilson	range of books including <i>The Story of</i>	
	Tracey Beaker.	
Harriett	Harriet Tubman was an American	
Tubman	abolitionist and political activist. Born	
	into slavery, Tubman escaped and	
	subsequently made some 13 missions	
	to rescue approximately 70 enslaved	
	people, including family and friends,	
	using the network of antislavery	
	activists and safe houses known as the	
	Underground Railroad.	
Anne Frank	Famous for her diary written during	
	the holocaust whilst hiding in the	
	attic.	
	Martin Luther King Jr. was an American	
Martin Luther-	Christian minister and activist who	
King	became the most visible spokesperson	
	and leader in the civil rights movement	
	from 1955 until his assassination in	
	1968.	

Homework ideas:
Task 1 Read 'The Diary of Anne Frank' and
write a biography about her life
Task 2 Select an influential person from the
list and create a biography on them.
Task 3 Find other words which contain the
suffix bio- and write down their meanings.
Task 4 Photocopy a biography found online
and then identify and highlight the features of
a biography
Task 5 Have a go at writing an autobiography
– a book about you, written by you!
Task 6 Try to memorise a page of a biography
and practise reading it aloud with expression
Task 7 After reading a biography of your
choice, create your own questions about the
person for your teacher to answer!

Y6 Information Text: Biography Example Text Annotated Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling **Features**

All text: Accurate Accurate spelling, punctuation and grammar taught in previous years is demonstrated throughout

Tom Daley

Wow!7 Who is that figure twirling through the air high above the swimming pool9, and what is he all about? Read on and find out...

worldwide,

formal vocabulary and sentence structur that matches the formality of he text

a range of inking words/ vnne, significantly, ikewise, for nstance etc.)

well as repetition and ellipsis *passive verbs (e.g. The Spanish team were beater by France or The sweets were eaten by the

s modal verbs (e.g. can, could, should, would, etc.)

synchronised events9. Family and Early Life

Introduction

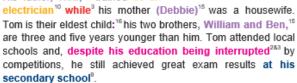
competitions¹⁸

Thomas Robert Daley was born⁴ in Plymouth on 21st May, 1994. His father, Rob,15 trained as an

British diver Tom Daley has

represented his country in many

including three Olympic Games. He specialises in platform dives - both as a solo athlete and in



Sporting Beginnings

Having learned to swim³ at the age of four, 13 Tom then began semi-colons, dashes and

phrases to add detail and clarity (e.g. under the floorboards, across the room etc.)

for clarity

narenthesis

4 multi-clause