YEAR 4 Writing Units

Writing Root (Unit)	Tar Beach by Faith Ringgold	The Mermaid of Zennor by Charles Causley	FArTHER by Grahame Baker Smith	The Iron Man by Ted Hughes
Outcomes	Poetry Setting descriptions Formal letters Dialogue (scripts)	Information booklets Retelling from a different perspective Letters Tourist guides	Retellings Recounts (postcards) Setting descriptions Labels Diary entries Instructions	Character descriptions Short news reports Letters of advice Diary entry Menus Logbook entry
Main Outcome	Retelling as a script	Own version legend	Sequel story	Mystery narrative
Audience/ Form	• Poem about freedom • First person setting description of New York City • Formal persuasive letter to the Union • Dialogue as a play script • Narrative retelling as a play script	• Love letter to the mermaid • Letter of advice to Zachy • Letters in a bottle from sailors to mermaids • Retelling of the story from mermaid's perspective • Tourist guide to Zennor • Own version mermaid legend	• Postcard from the boy to his best friend • Soundscape setting description • Technical labels for a flying machine • Instructions for a flying machine • Letter from father to son • Sequel with the boy as the new main character	• Character description of The Iron Man • Short news report about coming of the Iron Man • Letter of advice to Hogarth • Diary entry as Hogarth • Menu for the Iron Man • Astronomer's log • Own version mystery narrative
Purpose	Entertain Describe Persuade	Inform Persuade Entertain	Recount Inform Describe Instruct Reflect	Describe Inform Reflect Entertain
Word	-ing suffix * un- prefix *	personification metaphor	-ing verbs as nouns personification	words spelt -ight
Sentence	modal verbs * conjunctions to explain * noun phrases expanded with preposition phrases conditional sentences – if *	noun phrases with -ing adjectives contrasting conjunctions – whilst, but, although, despite fronted adverbials multi-clause sentences sentence order * causal conjunctions – when, before conditional sentences – if/then*	modal verbs * conjunctions to explain * questions * noun phrases with abstract nouns sentence order * multi-clause sentences prepositions to extend noun phrases – with, for, to adverbial phrases	modal verbs * questions * expanded noun phrases adverbials of time multi-clause sentence
Punctuation	commas to mark clauses * apostrophes for contractions * possessive apostrophes, inc. for plural nouns brackets – stage directions	commas after fronted adverbials commas to mark clauses *	question marks * commas after fronted adverbials	inverted commas for speech
Text	present progressive * play script construction tense consistency	paragraphs to organise around a theme subheadings * adverbials for cohesion *	present perfect tense * conjunctions for cohesion *	short sentences paragraphs to organise around a theme

Writing Root Unit	Winter's Child by Angela McAllister	Cinnamon by Neil Gaiman	The Lion and the Unicorn by Shirley Hughes	The Matchbox Diary by Paul Fleischman
Outcomes	Postcards (recount) Dialogue Setting descriptions Retellings	Diary entries Informal letters Dialogue Adverts Limericks / other poetry	Letters Diary entries Character descriptions Setting descriptions Non-chronological reports	Dialogue Diary entry Retelling Mini-autobiography Fact file
Main Outcome	Fantasy story sequel	Own version mythical tale	Own version historical narrative	Biography
Audience/ Form	• Postcard recount of reindeer adventure • Conversation between two boys • Letter to Winter's Child • Retelling of the story • Sequel for an alternative season	• Advert to help the family • Formal letter to the family • Poem about the tiger • Limerick about story character • Diary entry for Cinnamon • Conversation between • Cinnamon and tiger • Own version mythical tale	• Letter to Lenny's dad • Conversation between Lenny and mum • Diary entry for Lenny • Letter home from Lenny • Description of the garden • Report to Headteacher • Instructions for leaving the house • Historical narrative	• Conversations between family members • Diary entry of greatgrandfather • Retelling section of story • Autobiography of three objects • Fact file of a landmark • Biography of the main • character
Purpose	Recount Describe Entertain	Persuade Inform Entertain Reflect	Inform Reflect Describe	Reflect Entertain Inform
Word	possessive apostrophe	similes	phoneme /u/ when spelt ou regular / irregular plurals * homophones in context Standard English verb forms	use forms of a or an * homophones
Sentence	conditional sentences – if * noun phrases expanded with preposition phrases conjunctions – because, sine, as	contrasting conjunctions cause and effect conjunctions noun phrases expanded with preposition phrases range of sentence types * expanded noun phrases multi-clause sentences	multi-clause sentences subordinating conjunctions noun phrases expanded with preposition phrases order of clauses * commands	modal verbs * subordinating conjunctions comparative conjunctions / adverbs range of sentence types * expanded noun phrases multi-clause sentences
Punctuation	inverted commas for speech	inverted commas for speech other speech punctuation	inverted commas for speech apostrophes for contraction* apostrophes for plural possession	inverted commas for speech other speech punctuation commas to separate clauses apostrophes for contraction*
Text	paragraphs to organise around a theme pronouns to avoid repetition	paragraphs to organise around a theme	present perfect tense * paragraphs to organise around a theme adverbials for cohesion *	paragraphs to organise around a theme conjunctions for cohesion * subheadings*

Writing Root Unit	The Baker by the Sea by Paula White	The Story of Tutankhamun by Patricia Cleveland	The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe by C. S. Lewis	Pride: The Story of Harvey Milk and the Rainbow Flag by Rob Sanders
Outcomes	Job applications Advertisements Setting descriptions (poetry) Letters in role Group speeches	Non-chronological reports Instructions Character descriptions Diary entries News report Warning poster	Poems Eyewitness reports Imaginary conversations Writing in role	Thought bubbles Speeches Simple leaflets
Main Outcome	Tourist brochure	Biography	Own version narrative	Biography
Audience/ Form	• Personal statement for job application • Job advert • Non-narrative poem – The Village by the Sea • Book blurb • Letter to the council leader • Shared group speech • Tourist brochure for the town	• Report on Egypt lifestyle • Instructions for mummification process • Character description of Howard Carter • Telegram to Lord Carnarvon • Diary of Howard Carter • News report about opening of tomb • Warning poster • Biography of Howard Carter	• Poems about sweets • Eyewitness reports • Conversation between Edmund and Aslan • Own version fantasy • narrative	• Thought bubble for Harvey Milk • Motivational speech • Leaflet about the Pride flag • Biography of Harvey Milk
Purpose	Describe Entertain Inform	Inform Instruct Describe Reflect Persuade	Entertain Inform	Reflect Persuade Inform
Word	imperative verbs * alliteration -ly suffix similes	imperative verbs * suffixes -ous, -able, -ent, -ive superlatives with -est *	-ture suffix figurative language rhyme	synonyms / antonyms
Sentence	subordinating conjunctions range of sentence types * expanded noun phrases fronted adverbials modal verbs *	modal verbs * multi-clause sentences cause and effect conjunctions adverbials of time noun phrases expanded with preposition phrases	relative clauses * modal verbs * expanded noun phrases questions * subordinating conjunctions	multi-clause sentences conjunctions to justify – because, as since abstract noun phrases time adverbials
Punctuation	question marks * exclamation marks * commas after fronted adverbials bullet points *	commas after fronted adverbials parenthesis*	commas for clauses * question marks * inverted commas for speech	commas for clauses exclamation marks *
Text	present perfect tense * paragraphs to organise around a theme subheadings *	present perfect tense * paragraphs to organise around a theme subheadings * pronouns for cohesion	paragraphs to organise around a theme	word families * subheadings * paragraphs to organise around a theme adverbials for cohesion *

*indicates coverage from a different year group