

# GROW SMART

Third Edition 2019

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# DEAR GROWSMARTER

Welcome to the final edition of the Growsmart newspaper for 2019. We hope you've been enjoying the stories and activities from start to finish. But before you slow down and start dreaming of December holidays, we still have some work to do!

Become King of the Sums and practise your mathematics with more than 50 questions to answer. Complete the fun language activities too!

In the debating section, you'll find tips on how to debate like a rock star, as well as interesting motions to discuss. If you want to improve

as a debater, learn as much as you can about our wonderful world. Having good general knowledge is a powerful tool in any debate!

Have you ever wondered what happens to your food once it enters your mouth? Read all about your digestive system on page 6. We go on a space adventure to discover all the junk floating around above our heads and an icy adventure to learn more about glaciers.

Struggling from writer's block? We share a few story ideas to help you get unstuck, including the seven basic

plots and elements of a story that will leave you sleeping with one eye open!

Professor Thandi has a fun experiment you can do at school. It's gross and gooey! Can you guess what it is?

If you play sports, you'll know that team work makes the dream work. This is true even in the animal world. Discover the best animal teams in the world and what we can learn from them. Have fun!

Until next time,

The Growsmart Team

## MATHEMATICS

ANSWER AS MANY AS POSSIBLE. DO NOT PAUSE IF YOU DO NOT KNOW THE ANSWER IMMEDIATELY.

- $120 + 100 + 100 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $20 - 20 + 20 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $125 - 6 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $1\,250 + 250 + 1 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $119 - 20 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $7\frac{1}{2} + 5\frac{3}{4} =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- Triple 130 = \_\_\_\_\_
- $299 + 2 - 3 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $300 \times 3 \times 30 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $999 \div 999 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $5\frac{5}{8} + \frac{8}{8} =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $450 \times 0 \times 2 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $90 \times 900 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $999 + 1 - 49 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $2\text{ million} + 7\text{ million} - 5\text{ million} =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $2\,000 \times 200 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- Half of 21 = \_\_\_\_\_
- 1 quarter of 1 000 = \_\_\_\_\_
- $0,1 + 0,01 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $25\frac{1}{2} - 26\frac{1}{2} =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $129 + 111 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $160 + 10 + 6 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $67 + 132 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $2\,100 + 1\,900 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $398 - 200 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- Triple 110 = \_\_\_\_\_
- $2010 \times 10 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $303 \div 3 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $179 \div 179 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $4\,500 \times 0 \times 2 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $15 \times 2 \times 2 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $775 + 25 + 10 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- Double 3 300 = \_\_\_\_\_
- $250 \times 4 + 1 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- Half of 13 = \_\_\_\_\_
- $2\,000 \div 40 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $13 \times 3 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- 1 quarter of 6 000 = \_\_\_\_\_
- The sum of 170 and 30 = \_\_\_\_\_
- $55 - 25 - 15 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $190 \div 2 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $15\,250 \times 2 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $5500 \times 3 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $0,5 + 0,5 + 0,5 =$  \_\_\_\_\_
- $19 - 6\frac{1}{2} =$  \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: 1. 320; 2. 20; 3. 119; 4. 1 501; 5. 99; 6. 13 ¼; 7. 390; 8. 298; 9. 27 000; 10. 1; 11. 6 ⅝; 12. 0; 13. 81 000; 14. 951; 15. 4 million; 16. 400 000; 17. 10 ½; 18. 250; 19. 0,11; 20. 52; 21. 240; 22. 176; 23. 199; 24. 4 000; 25. 198; 26. 330; 27. 20 100; 28. 101; 29. 1; 30. 0; 31. 60; 32. 810; 33. 6 600; 34. 1 001; 35. 6 ½; 36. 50; 37. 39; 38. 1 500; 39. 200; 40. 15; 41. 95; 42. 30 500; 43. 16 500; 44. 1,5; 45. 12 ½

# MATHEMATICS

CALCULATE THE FOLLOWING. YOU MAY USE ANY STRATEGY.

1.  $11\,001 + 110 - 10 - 1$  \_\_\_\_\_

2.  $19\,000 \times 20 + 20\,000$  \_\_\_\_\_

3.  $1\,298 + 2\,001 \times 2$  \_\_\_\_\_

4.  $52 \times 20 \times 20 + 1 + 200$  \_\_\_\_\_

5.  $25 \div 25 \times 100 - 100$  \_\_\_\_\_
6.  $9\,999 \div 3 \div 1$  \_\_\_\_\_

7.  $53\,200 + 77\,800 - 2\,000 + 7\,500$  \_\_\_\_\_

8.  $35\,347 \times 1 \div 1 + 250 + 20\,000$  \_\_\_\_\_

9.  $88\,888 \div 2 + 26\,000 \times 10$  \_\_\_\_\_

10.  $(6\,499 - 99) \div 4 + 53\,500$  \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: 1. 11 100; 2. 400 000; 3. 5 300; 4. 21 001; 5. 0; 6. 3 333; 7. 136 500; 8. 55 597; 9. 304 444; 10. 55 100

# MATHEMATICS

SOLVE EACH PROBLEM. YOU MAY USE ANY STRATEGY.

1. A calculator's packaging is 15 cm high, 10 cm wide and 3 cm deep. Which one of the following boxes will hold the most calculators?

15 cm

3 cm

10 cm

90 cm

30 cm

15 cm

30 cm

30 cm

30 cm

75 cm

30 cm

12 cm

45 cm

30 cm

20 cm

45 cm

33 cm

20 cm

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

2. Find the 6th number in the sequence 8; 16; 32; 64; ...

a) 128

b) 258

c) 256

d) 126

e) 136

3. Which is the closest fraction to 0.4 from the choices below?

a)  $\frac{3}{4}$

b)  $\frac{1}{2}$

c)  $\frac{4}{6}$

d)  $\frac{1}{3}$

e)  $\frac{2}{5}$

4. I am thinking of two numbers. When I add them I get 27. When I subtract the one from the other, I get 9. What is the larger number of the two?

a) 25

b) 36

c) 32

d) 9

e) 18

5. Which of these numbers is closest to 8?

a) 7,93

b) 8,08

c) 7,87

d) 8,1

e) 7,9

6. Which of the numbers below is a prime number?

a) 37

b) 15

c) 21

d) 33

e) 35

7. The perimeter (length around) of a rectangle is 156cm. If the length of the rectangle is 45cm, what is its width?

a) 31cm

b) 62cm

c) 201cm

d) 33cm

e) 90cm

8. If the pattern in the table below is continued and the number reaches 20, what will its corresponding value be?

Number	1	2	3	4	...	20
Value	3	7	11	15	...	?

9. A fence is constructed around a square garden with length of one side 20m. How many fencing posts are required if there has to be a fencing post every 2m?

10. If 9 women can paint 9 walls in 9 hours, how many hours are needed for 27 women to paint 54 walls?

Answers: 1. A; 2. C; 3. E; 4. E; 5. A; 6. A; 7. D; 8. 79; 9. 40; 10. 18 hours

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# 10 REASONS WHY DEBATING ROCKS

Public speaking takes guts. While some of us need more courage than others, debating offers many advantages that will help you face whatever life throws at you. With confidence, of course! Here are 10 reasons why you should put your fears aside and join the debate team.

## 1. YOUR CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS WILL BE NEXT LEVEL

Debating helps to develop your critical thinking skills. This is the ability to form an opinion based on logic and to question the evidence behind your friend's argument that studying is for losers or that veganism is bad for the planet. While you won't debate every day, you will come across different opinions and disagreements. Instead of arguing, you can diffuse the situation by speaking in a calm voice and choosing your words carefully. Critical thinking also teaches you that you can't win every argument!

## 2. YOU'LL THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK

Ever had words tumble out of your mouth like a raging waterfall? Debating will teach you how to structure your thoughts and produce a sharp argument, instead of a verbal vomit. You will learn how to explain a variety of topics – from global warming to the plotline of your favourite movie – in the right tone of voice and in a way that makes sense to your audience.

## 3. THINKING ON YOUR FEET WILL BECOME SECOND NATURE

You can prepare for many situations in life, like your upcoming test or the soccer game against

your rival school. But sometimes you face the unexpected and have to make a decision fast. In debating, you'll learn how to think on your feet and respond to questions without hesitating.

## 4. YOUR EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE (EQ) WILL IMPROVE

Empathy is one of the five pillars of emotional intelligence and an important life skill that helps you understand and respect the beliefs of others. A successful speaker will always maintain a degree of empathy during a debate – whether she agrees with the opponent's argument or not. Outside of a debate, empathy will help you form meaningful relationships.

## 5. YOU'LL LEARN HOW TO CONTROL YOUR EMOTIONS

Shouting and screaming in a debate will win you no points. As a speaker, you have to keep your emotions in check and calmly respond to your opponent's argument. The ability to manage your emotions in every area of life will stand you in good stead.

## 6. YOU'LL HAVE A BETTER GRASP OF COMPLEX SITUATIONS

From world peace to nuclear energy, debating will expose you to fascinating subjects. You'll have to do a fair amount of research to construct your argument for a debate, which means you'll get the opportunity to learn more about these complex topics. The more you know about a variety of subjects, the better you'll be at finding innovative solutions for complex problems.

## 7. ORALS WILL BE A BREEZE

Good presentation skills will take you far in life. Debating will teach you how to best present yourself – speaking slowly and clearly with consideration for your words.

## 8. YOUR CONFIDENCE WILL GET A BOOST

The more you speak in front of an audience, the more confident you'll be. Confidence will help you shine in any situation, no matter how challenging.

## 9. YOU'LL FIND IT EASIER TO CONNECT WITH ANYONE WHO COMES ACROSS YOUR PATH

To become a successful speaker, you need to be aware of political and social affairs. (Read the article on how to improve your general knowledge on Page 5.) In a debate, you will address a variety of viewpoints. This social awareness will help you to connect with people from all walks of life.

## 10. YOU'LL LEARN HOW TO BE A GOOD SPORT

You can't always win – both in debating and everyday life. A successful debater knows how to lose with grace and good sportsmanship. Use criticism to become a more polished and proficient speaker.

Source: [studyinternational.com](http://studyinternational.com)

# THE DO'S AND DON'TS OF DEBATING

Debating can be fun and enriching, but if it's your first time, it might seem a bit overwhelming. Don't worry! Even the best speakers started where you are now. Here are a few tips you can use to become a better debater.

Always remain calm. There is nothing wrong with feeling passionate about your point, but stay in control of your emotions and present your argument in a calm and reasonable voice.

Support your argument with facts. The

audience and judges can disagree with your personal opinion, but no one can refute solid evidence. Use surveys, statistics and quotes to strengthen your points.

Use logic. Make sure one idea follows another in a way that is easy to understand.

Listen carefully. Instead of focusing on your next point, listen to your opponent's argument. Can you spot any weaknesses and flaws? Use this information in your rebuttal.

Don't get personal. Focus on the motion, not the person. Avoid any attacks on your opponent's integrity and honesty.

Don't water down your argument with weak points. Only use your strongest points to win the audience over. Your opponent may use your weaker points to destroy your overall case.

Source: [lifehack.org](http://lifehack.org)



# LEARN ABOUT THE WORLD AROUND YOU

We live in a wonderful world. Debating gives you a golden opportunity to improve your general knowledge and learn more about every aspect of human life – from current affairs and arts to fashion and sciences. Here are a few tips to follow if you want to expand your horizons.

**Read a book.** Whether fiction or non-fiction, books are an excellent source to learn more about the world around you. Try to make reading part of your daily routine – even if you can only squeeze in half an hour on the bus or before bed time. Mix up your genres and subject matters. Join the library for a wide variety of free books. Or visit second hand bookstores for bargains.

**Browse through a magazine.** You'll find a magazine for almost any topic under the sun! Visit your local library or page through the latest editions while your parents shop for food.

**Listen to your elders.** They have been around the block and are usually more than happy to share their knowledge with you. Your friends may also be a source of new ideas, perspectives and understandings. When you get together, discuss anything new you learned or ask questions about things you want to learn about.

**Watch television.** Of course, there is plenty of viewing content you should rather avoid. Stick to newsworthy programmes and documentaries. Since watching television is a passive exercise, you should try and limit your time in front of the box to 1 hour per day.

**Use Google.** The internet provides a world of knowledge at your fingertips. Within seconds, Google can help you find the answer to any question. The internet can help you stay up to date with the latest news and trends.

**Play games that challenge your knowledge.** Crossword puzzles and board games like 30 Seconds are fun ways to learn new information.

**Read your Growsmart Newspaper from start to finish!** And complete all the fun activities.

Source: [wikihow.com](http://www.wikihow.com)

## AROUND THE DINNER TABLE

Tonight around the dinner table, while you tuck into your pap and vegetables, instead of the usual "how was school?", rather discuss one of these interesting topics with your family:

- Should children be allowed to have a cellphone at school?
- Should wild animals be kept in a zoo?
- Should cosmetic surgery be banned?
- Should parents be able to choose the sex of their children?
- Should beauty contests be banned?
- Should prisoners be allowed to vote?

These conversation topics are popular motions in a debate. Listen closely to the opinions around the table. Do they differ from yours? What can you learn from them? Make mental notes that you can use in your next debate.

## TRUE OR FALSE: CLASS ACTIVITY

Decide whether these statements about debating are true or false:

1. A proposition must deal with a controversial question or statement.
2. Cross-examination occurs after each speaker's rebuttal.
3. You may introduce new arguments in the rebuttals.
4. Affirmative supports the debate proposition.
5. Negative opposes the debate proposition.
6. The opposition begins and ends the debate.

Answers: 1. True; 2. True; 3. False; 4. True; 5. True; 6. False

# YOUR DIGESTIVE SYSTEM

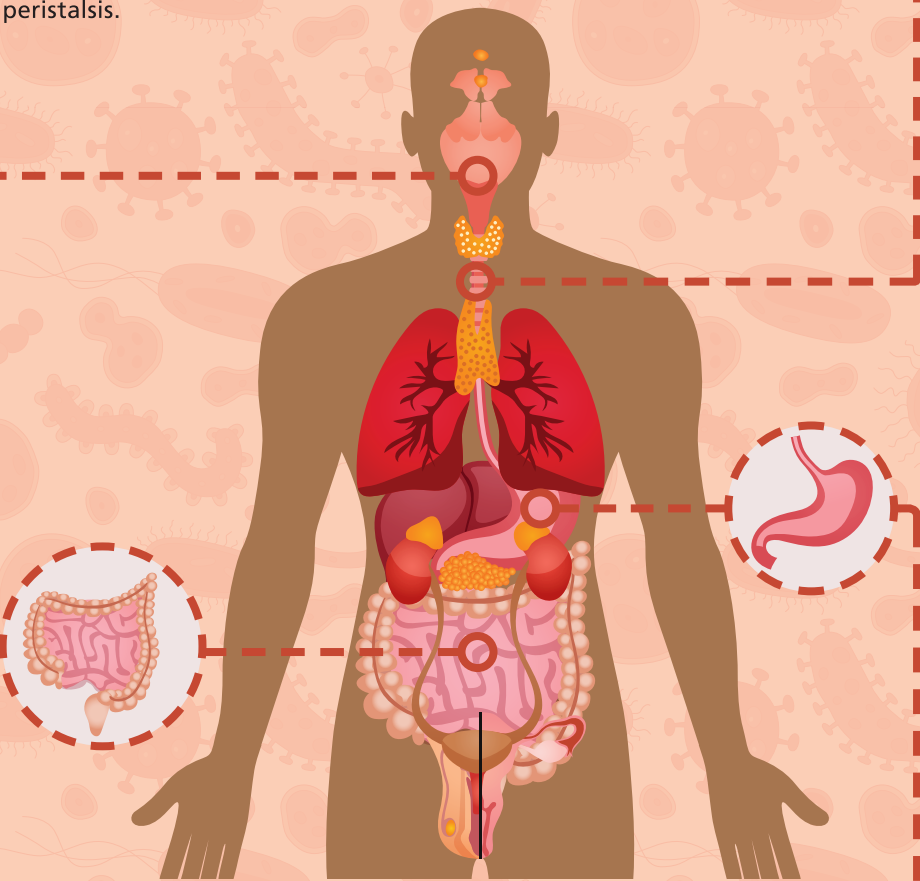
Your food often has to travel far before it ends up on your plate (thanks, Mom!). But what happens to the pap and stew once the yummy grub enters your mouth? Let's take a journey down your digestive system to find out!

## MOUTH

This is where the food journey kicks off! Up to 28 teeth break the food into pieces. The tongue helps by moving the bits around until they are small enough to swallow. Salivary glands create saliva that contains enzymes. These chemicals help to break down the food. Off to the oesophagus we go!

## OESOPHAGUS

This stretchy pipe is about 25 centimetres long and connects the throat and stomach. To help your food move along, the muscles in the walls of the oesophagus squeeze and produce a slimy mucus. This process is called peristalsis.



## STOMACH

Next stop, the stomach. About the size of your fist, your stomach can become as big as a rugby ball to store a large meal. Hydrochloric acid and other digestive juices in the stomach help to break down the food even more. These secretions also kill harmful bacteria. When the food has turned into a sloppy soup, it's ready for the next destination.

## INTESTINES

The small intestine is an impressive 6.5 metres long, but only 3 centimetres wide. The process of digestion is completed in the first part of the intestine – then it soaks up all the nutrients in the mushy food and passes them on to the blood. Once all the good stuff is gone, the remaining slop travels to the large intestine. Only 1.5 metres long but more than twice as wide as the small intestine, the large intestine absorbs all the water, minerals and salt. The leftover waste becomes harder and harder as it moves along until it forms a solid stool. This stays in the rectum until it's time to go to the loo!

As you can see, your digestive system is a crucial part of your body because it ensures you receive the nutrients you need to grow and stay healthy. To help your digestive system, make sure you drink water and eat high fibre foods such as whole grain bread, fruits and vegetables.

Source: natgeokids.com

## DID YOU KNOW?

From start to finish, it takes about 24 hours for your food to move down the 9-metre long digestive tract.

# DO YOU KNOW THESE IDIOMS?

1. Head in the \_\_\_\_\_  
(Meaning: To be daydreaming or absentminded)
2. Kick the \_\_\_\_\_ down the road.  
(Meaning: To avoid dealing with a problem in the hope that it becomes someone else's problem)
3. Like a \_\_\_\_\_ out of hell.  
(Meaning: Moving very fast)
4. Get the wrong end of the \_\_\_\_\_  
(Meaning: To understand something in the wrong way)
5. Mind your own \_\_\_\_\_  
(Meaning: Don't interfere in other people's affairs)
6. Make a mountain out of a \_\_\_\_\_  
(Meaning: Make a big deal out of something small)
7. Going against the \_\_\_\_\_  
(Meaning: Doing something in an unusual manner)
8. All that glitters is not \_\_\_\_\_  
(Meaning: Not everything that appears to be good, turns out to be good)
9. A \_\_\_\_\_ in time saves nine.  
(Meaning: It's better to find a solution for a problem now before it gets worse)
10. A slip of the \_\_\_\_\_  
(Meaning: A mistake in speech or writing)

Answers: 1. clouds; 2. can; 3. bat; 4. stick; 5. business; 6. molehill; 7. grain; 8. gold; 9. stitch; 10. tongue

# HOW MANY WORDS?

See how many four-letter words you can make from the word MEDICAL.

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# DO YOU KNOW WHAT THESE WORDS MEAN?

hypothesis

adulation

furniture

chauffeur

menagerie

souvenir

allergy

inflorescence

repartee

changeable

aerodynamics

memorabilia

amalgamate

orphanage

championship

fortification

allegiance

remittance

characteristic

altruism

persevere

infomercial

ambivalent

endorsement

gymnasium

aggressive

endeavour

fungicide

individualism

chicanery

turbulence

advocate

mediterranean

inconvenience

perennial

emulsify

centipede

fugitive

aeronautics

merest

enigmatic

incongruous

bureaucracy

chameleon

encyclopaedia

slumber

fundamental

alliteration

liquorice

cessation

endure

dreadful

oxymoron

aluminium

incoherent

ostentation

ambience

enclose

chirrup

amateur

sovereign

trousseau

encircle

incorporate

skirmish

renaissance

frenetic

centennial

incinerate

melodramatic

formidable

remnant

perpetrate

emphasise

vulnerable

chaperone

recuperate

ordinarily

nourishment

trapezium

orchestra

meticulous

perpetuate

frequent

perforation

nutritious

indigenous

perspective

mercury

encounter

choreograph

reminisce

dutifully

redemption

enjambment

fortuitous

guarantee

tuberculosis

recusant

tortoise

sincere

mediocrity

reincarnation

permissible

incessant

tribulation

indomitable

pernicious

infectious

melancholy

thesaurus

solitaire

knuckle

transgress

listeriosis

nuisance

transparent

shriek

regurgitate

traumatise

sorghum

meteorologist

tournament

relinquish

tranquil

opulent

loincloth

somnambulism

thyroid

repercussion

permeate

slippery

overturn

luxuriant

sesquicentenary

perplex

solemn

thorough

sordid

## WORD PUZZLE

Find the following words hidden in the squares. The words may be found left to right, back to front, upside down or diagonally across.

J	E	B	D	U	N	H	B	H	A	L	A	Y	N
I	N	F	I	R	O	I	K	T	B	J	G	G	H
M	I	E	H	R	M	P	L	Q	B	A	P	E	A
P	P	F	N	K	O	P	I	C	G	C	S	L	T
A	U	F	O	K	N	O	P	Z	S	K	B	E	E
L	C	A	O	R	G	P	S	V	E	A	Z	P	E
A	R	R	B	A	O	O	P	K	N	L	Q	H	H
V	O	I	A	V	O	T	R	J	Q	K	W	A	C
G	P	G	B	D	S	A	I	V	U	K	X	N	G
L	T	B	N	R	E	M	N	K	A	N	X	T	G
Q	Y	X	T	A	R	U	G	A	M	O	U	D	H
E	S	O	M	A	G	S	E	M	M	Q	E	H	R
V	H	W	I	M	U	G	R	V	Y	B	Z	P	D
Q	N	Z	M	G	P	P	G	Z	V	I	X	S	L

Aardvark  
Baboon  
Cheetah

Elephant  
Giraffe  
Hippopotamus

Impala  
Jackal  
Klipspringer

Mongoose  
Nyala  
Porcupine

## ANIMAL IDIOMS

Match the idiom on the left with its meaning on the right.

1. Ants in your pants
  2. Get the lion's share
  3. Hold your horses
  4. An eager beaver
  5. In the dog house
  6. Kill two birds with one stone
  7. Make a beeline
  8. A nest egg
  9. The rat race
  10. From the horse's mouth
- A. The biggest part or portion of something
  - B. Get two things done at once
  - C. Money saved for the future
  - D. In trouble with another person
  - E. Go straight for something
  - F. Wait a moment
  - G. In competition for power
  - H. Someone who is excited about doing something
  - I. A message directly from the original source
  - J. Unable to sit down

Answers: 1. J; 2. A; 3. F; 4. H; 5. D; 6. B; 7. E; 8. C; 9. G; 10. I



# 7 Types of Stories

Every story – whether it’s a novel, movie or play – is based on one or a combination of seven basic plots. You will even recognise these plots in your own life. Have you ever gone through a difficult time and found an ally to help you overcome the obstacle? Or do you know someone who triumphed against all odds? These seven plots exist because they are relevant and audiences can relate to them.

## Overcoming the Monster

The heroine faces an evil force that threatens to destroy mankind/the world/everyone she loves. She has to fight her way through many challenges. In the end she tastes victory and receives a reward. The monster doesn’t have to be an actual monster. It could be any obstacle, such as an illness, a group of bullies or terrible parents.

Examples: *Dracula*, *King Kong*, *Matilda*

## Rags to Riches

The hero is a plain/unattractive/downtrodden character dismissed by everyone. But something happens. The hero gets an opportunity to showcase his natural talents and he becomes

successful, happy and loved by all.

Examples: *Aladdin*, *Superman*, *The Ugly Duckling*

## The Quest

The hero embarks on a long and dangerous journey, accompanied by sidekicks. Together, they have to fight monsters and overcome obstacles to reach the priceless treasure. In the end, they triumph.

Examples: *Moana*, *Harry Potter*

## Comedy

This type of story is built around a series of funny events, which the hero must resolve in the end. These events usually involve some confusion – a mistaken identity or misunderstanding – that leads to chaos.

Examples: *Fantastic Mr Fox*, *Mrs Doubtfire*, *Rango*

## Tragedy

In this story type, our hero is not so lucky. There is no happy ending, but rather loss or death.

Examples: *Romeo and Juliet*, *Macbeth*

## Voyage and Return

Although this story type is also based on a journey, it differs from The Quest. The hero is a normal guy who gets thrust into a strange world where he encounters weird characters and unusual experiences. In the end, the hero escapes and reaches home safely.

Examples: *Alice in Wonderland*, *Gulliver’s Travels*, *Finding Nemo*

## Rebirth

Something threatening overshadows this story. The hero goes through a series of events that leads to redemption and rebirth. And eventually a happy ending.

Examples: *The Grinch*, *Shrek*, *Beauty and the Beast*

Can you identify the story type in your favourite novel? Write down the name of the book and your answer in the space below.

Source: [socialmediatoday.com](http://socialmediatoday.com)

# STUCK WITH WRITER’S BLOCK?

It happens to the best of writers. They have all been faced with a blank page and no words to write down. *Nada*. It’s called writer’s block. The famous American writer, Kurt Vonnegut, said: “When I write, I feel like an armless, legless man with a crayon in his mouth.” Do you know the feeling?

You can’t edit a blank page. But you can edit a bad first draft. So, if you find yourself staring into space thinking about lunch instead of

ideas for the story you should be writing, use these story prompts to get the first words on paper.

1. A giant box is delivered to your front door with your name on it. What’s inside and what happens when you open it?
2. Who is your favourite person in the world? Why?
3. What do you want to be when you grow up and why?

4. You wake up one morning with a mermaid tale. How do you deal with your new discovery?
5. Write about what it would be like if you had a crocodile as a pet.
6. You win R10 000 in the Lotto. What will you buy with your money and why?
7. You have a secret power. What is it and what do you do with it?

8. Write a story using these 5 words: orange, aeroplane, giraffe, wood, piano.
9. You can travel to one place anywhere in the world. Where would you go and why?
10. Write about the best day in your life. What happened and why did you choose this day?

Source: [thinkwritten.com](http://thinkwritten.com)

## VERBS

Complete each sentence below with the correct form of the verb in parenthesis.

1. We \_\_\_\_\_ shopping last week. (go)
2. It \_\_\_\_\_ last night. (rain)
3. Last week the school \_\_\_\_\_ a sport’s day. (hold)
4. It \_\_\_\_\_ a freezing morning today. (be)
5. She \_\_\_\_\_ the letter last month. (send)

Answers: 1. went; 2. rained; 3. held; 4. was; 5. sent

## KNOW YOUR NOUNS

An abstract noun refers to things that cannot be seen or touched, like qualities, ideas and conditions. Underline the abstract noun in each sentence below.

1. We believe that Johnny is telling the truth.
2. Despite the heavy rains, Loyiso was in no immediate danger.
3. Her happiness depends on his actions.
4. Thandi and Terence share a precious friendship.
5. Dominique has a dark sense of humour.

Answers: 1. truth; 2. danger; 3. happiness; 4. friendship; 5. humour

# THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER

## A VUYO AND GEMMA STORY

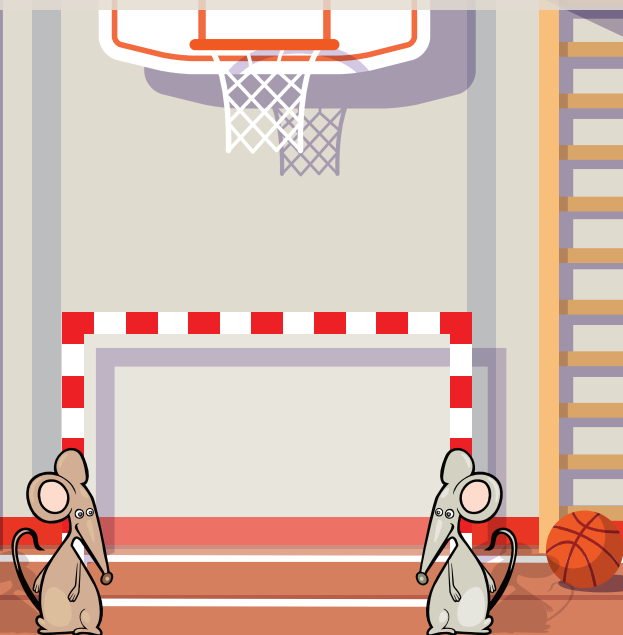
Emma and Violetta have been besties since birth. They took their first steps together, share a birthday and are inseparable. The folks in Mouseville call them “two peas in a pod”, which means they are very similar. They are also both talented netball players.

As the new netball season kicked off, Emma was confident that she was going to be named captain of the first team. She practised throughout the summer to improve her goal defence skills. Confident about her leadership abilities, she believed she could lead her team to victory at interschools.

But after the first practice, Emma left the netball court fuming. Violetta was chosen as the captain of the team. Emma was so angry that she didn’t even join in to congratulate her best friend. She felt she deserved to be captain.

Violetta jumped with joy at the announcement until she saw Emma storm off. This was supposed to feel like her best day ever, but she could see that Emma was upset. And this made her sad. However, Violetta had bigger fish to fry. The interschools competition was in eight weeks and she had a team to motivate.

They started training in earnest. Everyone but Emma. She was still green with envy and ignored Violetta’s instructions. After all, Emma knew best! The rest of the team noticed the rift between the two friends. It was affecting everyone’s performance and they were on a losing streak. But Emma wasn’t bothered. To her, this just proved that she was meant to lead the team.



On match day Violetta tried to motivate her team to give their best. Deep down she knew Emma was going to play as she pleased, but she could only be gentle with her friend. “Emma, you’re our best player, but please follow my instructions. I only want the best for our team and I’m sure you want the same,” she said. Emma nodded her head reluctantly, thinking “I’m more experienced than you, so don’t tell me what to do”.

Halfway through the match, the Mouseketeers were two goals behind. Violetta had a game plan, which she shared with her team. But as usual, Emma thought she had the upper hand and played the second half her way. When the final whistle blew, their rivals were the ones high-fiving each other. The Mouseketeers lost with five points.

Violetta ran to their coach. Emma was certain she was going to blame their dismal performance on her. Five minutes later the coach called Emma. She said: “Emma, your captain Violetta wants you to take over from her. She says you’re the best mouse for the job. And certainly the best player in the team!”

Emma was speechless. She realised that the green-eyed monster made her blind to her own faults. While Emma was so jealous of all her efforts, Violetta was prepared to sacrifice her captain post so the team could win.

Who do you think deserves to be captain of the team?

# BE AFRAID... BE VERY AFRAID!

Do you enjoy a good ghost story? Then you should try and write your own. Ghost stories follow the same pattern as other stories with one big difference: they make you want to sleep with one eye open! Here are a few tips, so you can scare your friends with a terrifying tale:

## FIND YOUR OWN FEARS

Imagine coming face to face with a ghost. What scares you the most about the ghost’s appearance? What about the situation is most chilling? How do you feel? Use this fear as inspiration for your story. You can also get your thoughts going by reading other ghost stories.

## IMAGINE THE CREEPIEST PLACE ON EARTH

A scary ghost needs a scary setting. Think of a place that makes you feel uncomfortable. Is it dark and dingy? Is it isolated? Create suspense by placing your main characters in a situation where no one can help them.



## PLAN YOUR STORY

You can use the following guidelines as a starting point:

- Introduce your characters in their normal, everyday setting.
- Create an event that acts as a trigger and takes your hero out of his comfort zone.
- Set your hero on a quest to reach a specific goal.
- The middle part of your story can focus on the events that take place along the way.
- Place your hero in front of a difficult decision. His choice should reflect his character.
- Build up to a climax – the most dramatic part of your story.
- Reveal the consequences of your hero’s critical choice.
- In the end, offer a resolution – your hero returns to normality, but the experience has changed his life.

## BUILD SUSPENSE

Don’t rush to reveal your climax. Build up to the confrontation by slowly adding more weird events and characters. You can increase the tempo as you get closer to the climax. Let the reader realise something is up without giving everything away.

Source: [wikihow.com](https://www.wikihow.com/Write-a-Ghost-Story)





# HOW DO PLANES FLY?

Jump up in the air. What happens? You come back down to earth almost instantly. Throw a ball in the air. The same thing happens. This is because an invisible force called gravity pulls objects toward earth. Otherwise, everything including you would be floating in the air! But how does an aeroplane, weighing almost 600 tonnes, escape the pull of gravity to fly through the clouds above? Four forces – lift, weight, drag and thrust – work together to keep the plane in the air.

During flight, an aeroplane has to overcome two forces: weight and drag. **Weight** is gravity that pulls the aeroplane towards the ground. When the aeroplane is in motion, the wings generate a force called **lift**. The wings push air down, while the air pushes the wings up. Lift causes the aeroplane to rise into the air and stay there.

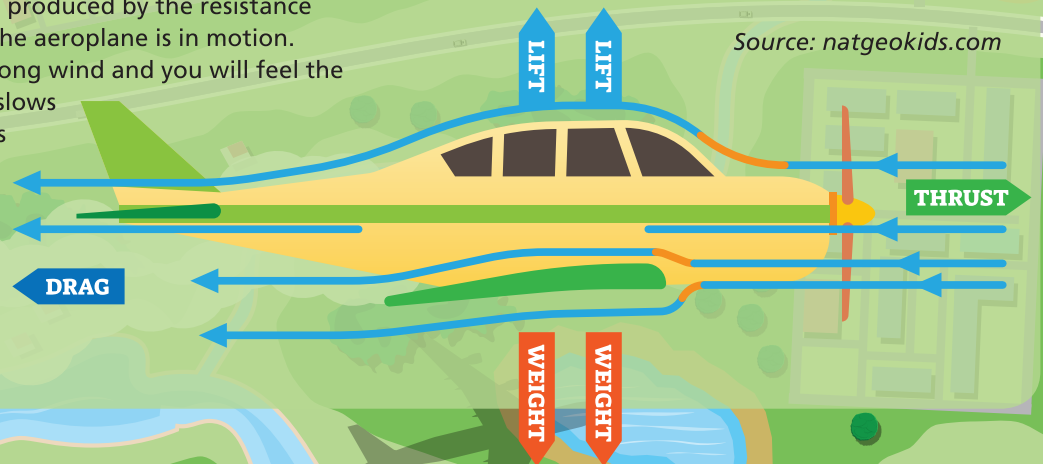
The force that moves the aeroplane forward is called **thrust**. Propellers or jet engines are responsible for this motion. The Airbus A380 is the world's largest passenger airliner and it needs four engines to generate thrust.

**Drag** is the force produced by the resistance of the air when the aeroplane is in motion. Run against a strong wind and you will feel the resistance. Drag slows you down. Planes move with ease because they are designed to let the air pass around them with minimal drag.

## PROFESSOR THANDI SAYS

Newton's Third Law of Motion is a scientific theory that explains an aeroplane's ability to fly. The law states that 'for every action, there is an equal, but opposite, reaction'.

Source: natgeokids.com



# AN ICY ADVENTURE

Freeze! Are you ready for five brrrrrrlliant facts about glaciers? Let's go!

**1** Glaciers are massive chunks of ice that form over hundreds of years from fallen snow that doesn't melt. Once enough snow has built up, it compresses and turns into solid ice. Most glaciers are found in the North and South Poles. They also exist in mountain ranges, like the Himalayas in Asia and the Andes in South America.

**2** Glaciers might look like stationary heaps of ice, but they are actually moving, albeit at a slow pace. The speed varies from a few metres a year to several metres per day.

**3** 75% of Earth's fresh water is stored in glaciers, which makes them the largest reservoir of fresh water in the world!

Source: natgeokids.com

**4** During the last ice age, glaciers covered 32% of land on Earth. Today, glaciers cover only 10% of land. This is a result of global warming. Earth is getting warmer, which means there is less snow and ice to form glaciers.

**5** Scientists estimate that if the Antarctic ice sheet – the largest single mass of ice on Earth – melts entirely, sea levels would rise by 65 metres and London would be underwater!

# LOST IN SPACE

The sky is full of stars and space junk. These earthly objects that orbit our planet include leftovers from space missions, items sent up into space and souvenirs left behind by astronauts. Let's take a closer look at the weird and wonderful things lost in space.

## RODDENBERRY'S ASHES

The creator of Star Trek was so passionate about space that he had a portion of his ashes sent into the atmosphere after his death in 1991. The rest of his ashes, along with those of his wife, were launched into space in 2016.

## DEAD ANIMALS

Between 1940 and 1960, animal testing extended to space missions. Before astronauts went into space, animals were sent up into the atmosphere to test whether it was safe for humans. Sadly, not all the animals made the journey back home, including Laika, the first dog in space and about 30 monkeys called Albert.

## FAMILY PHOTO

On the Apollo 16 mission, astronaut Charles Duke left behind a family portrait of him, his wife and their two sons as he explored the moon's Descartes Highlands. He wrote the following on the back of

the photograph: "This is the family of astronaut Charlie Duke from planet Earth who landed on the moon on April 20, 1972." Do you think he wanted to alert aliens that there is life on Earth?!

## PIZZA

Good news for future Martians and lovers of pizza! In 2001, Russian cosmonaut Yuri Usachov ordered a salami pizza from Pizza Hut while on a space mission. At R14 million, this was probably the most expensive takeaway ever! Fortunately, Pizza Hut footed the bill for the privilege of delivering the first pizza in space.

Source: natgeokids.com



# BRAIN BUSTERS

1. What is the name of the biggest part of the human brain?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What is the closest planet to the sun?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. The common cold is caused by a virus. True or false?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Can frogs live in salt water?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. A single piece of coiled DNA is known as a \_\_\_\_\_?
6. What is the name of the process plants use to convert sunlight into food?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Which famous scientist introduced the idea of natural selection?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What is the name of the force that holds us to Earth?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Animals that eat both plants and other animals are known as what?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. What is the name of the first satellite sent into space?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Answers: 1. Cerebrum; 2. Mercury; 3. True; 4. No; 5. Chromosome; 6. Photosynthesis; 7. Charles Darwin; 8. Gravity; 9. Omnivores; 10. Sputnik

## TEST YOUR GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

See if you can score 10 out of 10! Write your answers in the space provided.

1. Where in the human body is the occiput?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Which adventure classic was first published in 1851 under the title *The Whale*?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. According to the saying, all roads lead to which European city?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Which star is the closest to Earth?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Who was known as the 'Lady with the Lamp'?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. What is the capital of Vietnam?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Which country has a maple leaf on its national flag?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. What animal is Boulders Beach famous for?  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. The population of Johannesburg boomed after what was discovered there?  
\_\_\_\_\_
10. Nelson Mandela spent 18 years imprisoned on which island?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Answers: 1. Head; 2. Moby Dick; 3. Rome; 4. The Sun; 5. Florence Nightingale; 6. Hanoi; 7. Canada; 8. Penguin; 9. Gold; 10. Robben Island

## THE AMAZING ADVENTURES OF NEIL ARMSTRONG

1930 - 2012

Neil Armstrong, an astronaut from the United States, was the first person to set foot on the Moon. At the tender age of 6, Neil went on his first aeroplane ride and fell in love with aviation. He received his pilot's licence on his 16th birthday!

During his military service in the Korean War, his plane was shot down. Fortunately, Neil survived unscathed and was awarded three Air Medals. After completing his studies in aeronautical engineering, he joined NASA. On 16 July 1969, Neil and Buzz Aldrin left Earth in the Apollo 11

spacecraft. Four days later, Neil took the first steps on the Moon's dusty surface and said the following: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

Neil and Buzz explored the surface of the Moon for 21 hours and 36 minutes before they began the voyage back to Earth. Once they arrived, they had to spend 18 days in quarantine. Aliens must have lots of scary germs!

Source: [brittanica.com](http://brittanica.com)

# PROFESSOR THANDI'S FUN SCIENCE EXPERIMENT

## HOW TO MAKE FAKE SNOT

There is no need to create the real deal to gross out your friends. Follow the instructions below to create fake snot instead!

### YOU WILL NEED

- Boiling water
- A cup
- Gelatin
- Corn syrup
- A fork
- A teaspoon

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Add 125 ml of boiling water to your cup. Be careful!
2. Add 3 teaspoons of gelatine. Wait for the gelatine to soften.

3. Stir the mixture with a fork.
4. Add 62,5 ml of corn syrup to the cup.
5. Stir the mixture with your fork. Long strands of gunk should be forming.
6. Allow the mixture to cool down, adding small amounts of water at a time.

### RESULTS

Real snot or mucus is a combination of sugars and protein. Although this mixture is not the same as the real thing, it's also made up of sugar (corn syrup) and protein (gelatin).

The long strands of gunk you see when you stir your fake snot around are protein strands. These strands are responsible for the stickiness and stretchiness of snot. Eeeuw!

Source: [sciencekids.co.nz](http://sciencekids.co.nz)



## THE A-TEAM

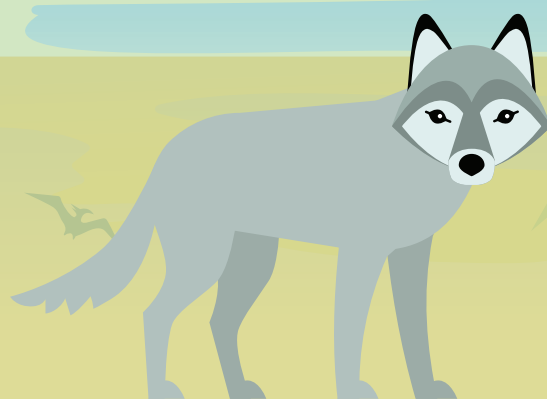
When you play soccer or hockey with your friends, you have to work together as a team to score a goal. Teamwork is also important in other areas of your life. For example, when you have to organise the school dance or complete a science project in a group. We can learn a lot about teamwork from the animal kingdom. Let's take a look at the best team players in the wild.

### MEERKATS

Small yet meaty, the meerkat is a popular snack for hungry predators that roam the African plains. To ensure their survival, one meerkat acts as a guard while the rest of the clan tucks into dinner. As soon as the guard spots danger, he alerts them. This alert can be the difference between life and death, so **trust** in the guard is vital.

### WOLVES

Excellent communicators, wolves pay close attention to every howl and eye movement made by their furry fellows. They



are so in tune with each other, they even notice small changes in behaviour. Misunderstandings are rare. From the wolves, we can learn that good **communication** leads to better teamwork.

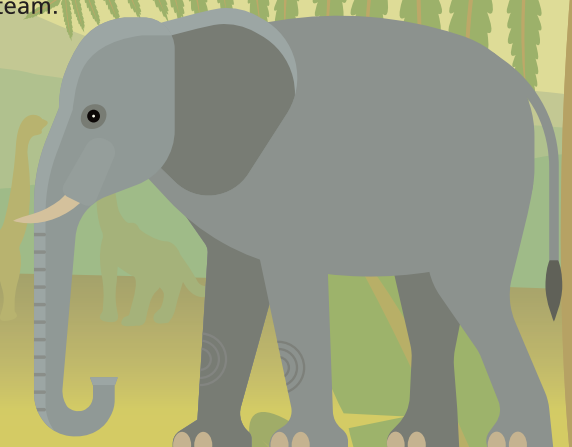
### KILLER WHALES

As the ocean's most deadliest predators, killer whales depend on teamwork to catch their prey. By **coordinating** their efforts, they can hunt whales double their size without ending up on the shore, which often happens to their counterparts.



### ELEPHANTS

Social and intelligent, elephants can teach us a thing or two about **empathy**, which is the ability to put yourself in someone else's shoes. When an elephant is sick or injured, the herd stays by its side. And if an elephant dies, the entire herd mourns for days. By making an effort to understand your teammate's joys and sorrows, you will form a stronger bond and make a better team.



**"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."** African proverb

Source: [entrepreneur.com](http://entrepreneur.com)