

Pioneer Primary School Principal's Briefing



Writing Skills

**2 February 2018
Friday**

Whenever they hear “Today we are going to write a composition about ...”



What is Writing Anxiety?

THE NEUROBIOLOGY OF WRITING



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

There are two ways to become a better writer: write a lot and read a lot.

1. Reading and listening are input skills.
2. Speaking and writing are output skills.

Use the stories as mentor texts for ideas, good vocabulary, and style.

To learn a language, you must see it, hear it, say it and then write it.

Part 2: Continuous Writing (40 marks)

Write a composition of at least 150 words about **being greedy**.

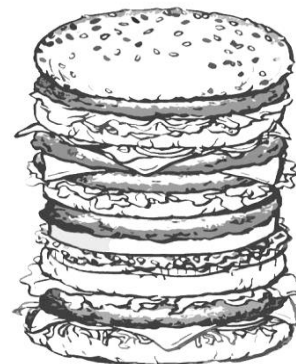
The pictures are provided to help you think about this topic.

Your composition should be based on one or more of these pictures.

Consider the following points when you plan your composition.

- Who was/were greedy?
- Why was/were the person/people greedy?

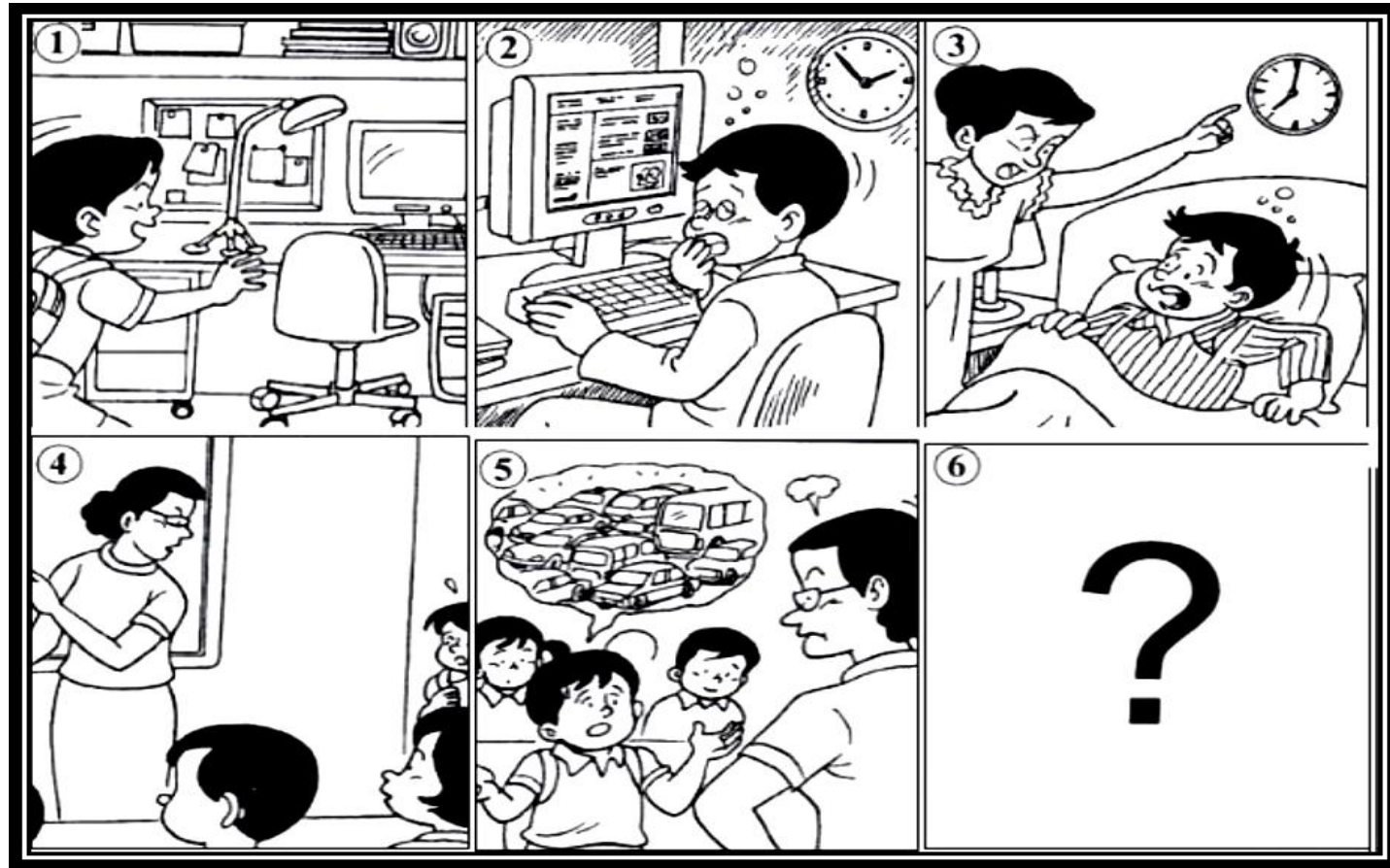
You may use the points in any order and include other relevant points as well.



40 marks: Question 1: Theme / Topic

E.g. An incident that made me realise the importance of teamwork.

40 marks: Question 2:



6 Traits of Writing

Six Traits Writing Board Posters and Strategy Cards



Ideas

- I choose a strong topic.
- I use strong details to make my writing interesting.
- I stick to the topic so my writing is clear and makes sense.

Organization

- My writing has a strong beginning.
- I put things in order so my writing makes sense.
- My writing has a strong ending.

Word Choice

- I choose words carefully.
- I use strong words to paint a picture in the reader's mind.
- I use juicy words to make my writing sparkle.

Voice

- My writing has a style.
- My writing sounds like me.
- My personality shines through my writing.

Conventions

- I use capital letters.
- I use periods, exclamation points, and question marks.
- I leave spaces between words.
- I check my spelling.

Sentence Fluency

- My writing flows smoothly and is easy to read.
- I start each sentence differently.
- I have long and short sentences.

Graphics by Scrappin Doodles
Digital art by BaBaPuff

Created by The Teacher Wears Prada

How to support our children with writing?

What we can do:

You can create a conducive environment for your child to learn the target language.

- Motivate: discuss authentic materials (brochures, pamphlets, letters, advertisements, instructional manuals etc.)
- Make writing fun (Word puzzles & Word games).
- Make writing purposeful.(Notes, shopping list, SMS)
- Encourage reading (different text-types)
- Praise their work. Don't pick on the language errors. Focus on their message. **Boys and girls have different preference.*

What they can do:

- Free Writing
- Journals

Additional Resources:

1. How to Write A Narrative – Jeremy Thompson

- My composition should have 5 parts.
- Introduction
- Trigger(s)
- Climax
- Falling Actions
- Conclusion

2. Show, don't tell – Julie Freeman

April was nervous.

F: Worry was written all over her face.

B: The moment she stood in front of her audience, she started shaking like a leaf.

T: "I...I...am going to share with you a...about writing," she stammered.

3. Six Traits of Narrative Writing – Beverly Scott

