

## First, Second, Third Person

**There are three ways in which you can write:**

- first person
- second person
- third person

It is important to use the correct pronouns when writing in first, second or third person. A pronoun is a word or phrase that can be used instead of a noun or a noun phrase. Without them, we would have to repeat the noun, making our writing a little boring.

A possessive pronoun is a pronoun that indicates possession.

### **First person**

Writing in the first person, means that you are the one describing how you felt, what you were doing and is told from your point of view.

Pronouns 'I' and 'we'.

Possessive Pronoun: mine, ours

### **Second person**

Writing in the second person directly addresses the reader. It makes it feel personal to the reader.

Pronouns 'you'

Possessive Pronoun: your

### **Third person**

Writing in the third person means that you are writing about other people, not as yourself. When writing in the third person, think about using the characters' names.

Pronouns: he', 'she', 'they'.

Possessive Pronoun: his, hers, its, theirs.

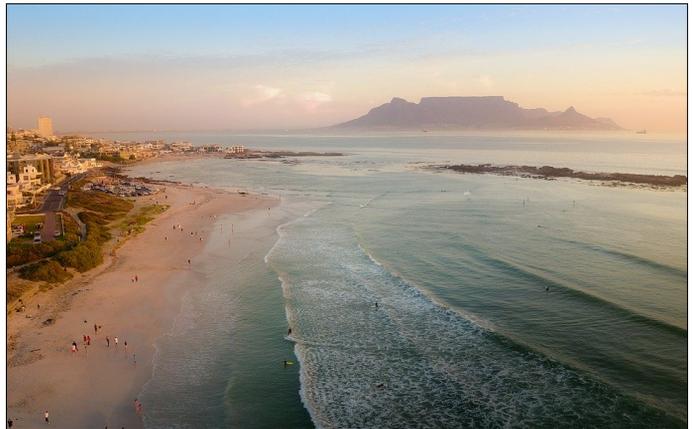
Read the third person passage below. Imagine that you are Tom and are writing home to your family. Change this account to first person.

Tom had arrived in Egypt and he couldn't wait to cycle towards the pyramids. On his way there, he cycled past the Suez Canal which was strange; he hadn't expected to see a canal in the middle of a desert!

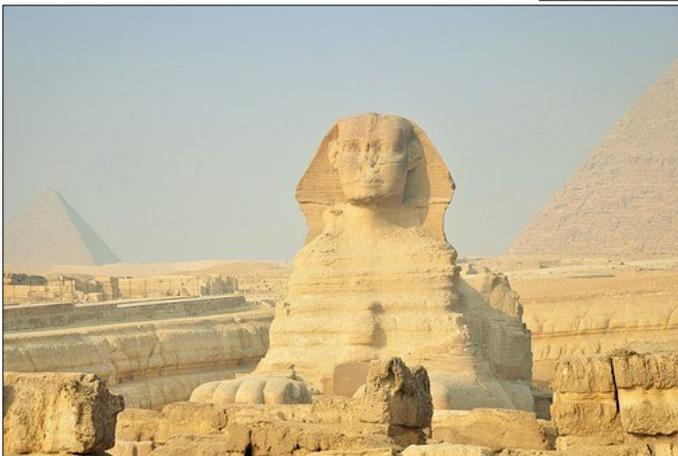
Tom cycled through the capital of Egypt – Cairo- and it was chaos. Cars beeped, there were endless traffic jams and even donkeys clogged up the roads. He was relieved to get out of the madness.

Tom was so excited to see the pyramids. He had only read about them at school but now he was here, at the site of one of the great Ancient Wonders of the World.

**Challenge:** using the last part of page 58 and page 59, read this section again. Can you add to your first person account, adding more details, written in first person, about these events?



**TBWBTW Part One: On the Road to Africa: Resource 3ai**



## Noun and Preposition Phrases

A noun phrase can be improved by expanding it though adding adjectives and preposition phrases. By doing this, we learn more information about the noun.

### Noun Phrases

- the pyramid
- the city
- his family

### Prepositional Phrases

When you are writing a description or a recount, these types of phrases can really improve your writing.

A preposition usually comes before a noun and usually describe the position of something, the time when something happens or the way in which something is done. A preposition phrase includes a preposition but also include an adjective or an adverb.

Examples:

- In the shadow of the looming pyramid...

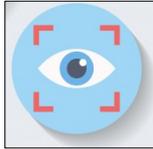
*Preposition*                      *adjective*

- Quickly towards....

*Adverb*                      *preposition*

Preposition phrase	Adjectives	Noun phrase
Against the wind	Colossal	His sister
Up the steep street	Chaotic	Tom
Near the city centre	Golden	The meal
In the heat	Ancient	A donkey
Towards the desert	Dilapidated	The canal
During the day	Vast	
Between the streets	Narrow	
	Shimmering	

Today you are going to choose one of the images of Africa to write a description using third person. Remember to improve your sentences by using adjectives and preposition phrases to improve your noun phrases. Remember to use a range of senses.



<b>Challenges</b>	
<b>Words/phrases to describe landscapes</b>	
<b>Highlights</b>	
<b>People encountered</b>	
<b>Emotions</b>	

## What to include in a diary entry

	Achieved
Written in first person	
Describes a range of feelings and emotions	
Describes events in chronological order	
Interesting sentences/a range of sentences	
Own Challenge?	

## Impersonal Writing Prompt Sheet

Impersonal sentences don't use personal pronouns such as: I, me, we, our, he, his, she, her.

Often (but not always) impersonal sentences start in the following ways:

- It is believed that
- It is commonly known
- Many thought that
- It is said that

***Can you think of any of your own?***

If you need to change a personal sentence into an impersonal one, think about finding the personal pronoun and changing this. Use the ideas above to help you:

**I** think that going out in the cold weather is a bad idea.

**We** weren't sure about letting him go.

**He** found out that eating with the wrong hand is rude in Ethiopia.

An impersonal style is good to use in formal writing, particularly in non-fiction genres, to support opinions or to state facts.

An impersonal style makes statements that could be generally true for most people rather than for an individual or small group of people.

Change these sentences, written in a personal style, into an impersonal style. Here are some sentence starts to help, but remember that there are lots of other ones you can use:

It is believed that...      It is commonly known...      Many thought that...

It is said that...      It is known that...

Remember that impersonal sentences should not include personal pronouns.

1. I think that that Sudan is a dry and dusty place.
2. You can see nothing but sand and desert for miles around.
3. I know that it would be hot and tiring to cycle through this landscape.
4. I think that because it is a wilderness, I would miss signs of human life.
5. It would be exhausting and tiring to my legs to cycle through sand!
6. However, I would like to experience the silence and the challenge of surviving in this landscape.
7. We know that Ethiopia is a mountainous country.
8. You will encounter more people on this stretch of the journey.
9. Children ran beside Tom as he cycled; they believe that he is mad to be cycling the world!
10. They wanted to ask Tom so many questions.
11. I think that it must have been comforting for him to be invited for a family meal. .

This passage has been written in a personal style. Your task is to rewrite it into an impersonal style. Highlight anything that you feel you may need to change and make annotations on this sheet before starting.

If you want to travel the world by bicycle, there are many things that you will need to think about before beginning your journey.

Firstly it is a good idea if you plan out your journey in steps. Think about using plans and annotating these will the places that you want to visit. It is always a good idea if you familiarise yourself with customs so that you don't offend local people. For example, did you know that it is rude to eat with your left hand in Ethiopia? You don't want your journey to be all hard work! Think about buying guide books to find out about world heritage sites of famous landmarks that you may want to visit.

Remember that you may be cycling for days through places with no signs of life. You are also advised to stock up on essential supplies; but remember – you are on a bike! The last thing that you want is to be weighed down by too many items. Take the essentials! Fresh fruit, a change of clothes, a tent and sleeping bag and a puncture repair kit should all fit into a set of panniers. It is recommended that you think carefully about the weight of items. Cycling the world will be tiring enough without dragging a heavy load behind you.

Finally, do consider the risks and dangers you may encounter. For example, consider weather conditions in certain parts of the world and do your research about the best times to visit specific countries/continents. It is always advisable to set a time or day when you will be contacting your loved ones back home. This way, if they don't hear from you at an allocated time, they will know to contact local authorities. Do consider learning useful words and phrases for the countries you visit. A good idea is to make cards with local phrases that you can show people in order to help you. This is particularly useful in those countries which use a different writing system to our own.

Above all, have fun and revel in all of the adventures that you're bound to have!

## How to fix a Bike Puncture

A puncture in your bicycle tyre can ruin a trip or make your bicycle unusable. By following these simple instructions, you'll never become stranded again!

### Equipment

- a bucket
- flat head screw driver
- an air pump
- a piece of chalk or tape
- a patch
- a wrench
- a small piece of sandpaper.

**Step One:** Take off the bike chain so that it is easier to remove the wheel. Turning the bike upside down will make this easier. Push the chain to one side with one hand and pedal the bike with your other hand. This will allow the chain to become loose.

**Step Two:** Remove the wheel. Do this by using the wrench to remove the bolts on each side of the wheel. Turning the wrench towards the left will loosen the bolts.

**Step Three:** The inner tube in a tyre keeps it inflated. This needs to be taken out from inside of the tyre. Use a flat headed screwdriver (or even the end of a spoon) to loosen the tyre from the frame by gently digging in around the edge of the tyre. Remove the inner tube.

**Step Four:** Fill a bucket of water and then inflate the inner tube. Submerge the inner tube into the water. Move it around until air bubbles begin to appear in the water from the tube. Look at where the bubbles are appearing from the tube and this will show you the puncture. Dry off this section and use sandpaper to make this section rough so that the patch adheres.

**Step Five:** Mark the puncture hole with a piece of tape or chalk and apply the patch to cover the hole. Most patches come with their own adhesive but some require glue. Simply place the glue on top of the puncture and then apply the patch. Press on the patch firmly and allow this to dry thoroughly.

**Step Six:** Place the inner tube back into the rim. Ensure that you insert the valve into the hole that is located somewhere around the rim. After this has been done, tuck the tube, all the way around, into the rim. Insert the tyre over the tube and rim by keeping the tyre place with the rim. Use the flat headed screw driver to place the tyre back in place

**Step Seven:** Use the air pump to inflate the tyre. Make sure that no air is escaping – if it is, there may be more punctures or the patch may have been placed incorrectly. Once happy, screw the tyre back onto the bike and rehook the chain into place.

Cut out each of the instructions and organise them so that they are in the correct order, explaining how to fix a puncture on a bicycle tyre.

Can you add an equipment list?

Once the wheel is removed, the inner tube needs to be taken out from inside of the tyre. Use something flat like the end of a spoon to gently dig in and loosen the tyre from the frame. Remove the inner tube.

Finally, use the air pump to inflate the tyre. Make sure that no air is escaping – if it is, there may be more punctures or the patch may have been placed incorrectly. Once happy, screw the tyre back onto the bike and rehook the chain into place

Next place the inner tube back into the rim. Ensure that you insert the valve into the hole that is located somewhere around the rim.

Now that the puncture hole has been located, mark it with a piece of tape or a chalk mark. Apply a patch over the hole. Press the patch firmly down and allow the glue to dry.

First remove the wheel. Use the wrench to remove the bolts. Turning the wrench towards the left will loosen the bolts.

Submerge the now removed inner tube into a bucket of water. When air bubbles appear, look at where on the inner tube they are coming from – these bubbles will indicate where the puncture is.

## How to Survive in Arctic Conditions

The Arctic is one of the most inhospitable places on planet Earth. The climate of the Arctic can be described as having long, cold winters and short, cool summers. Some parts of the Arctic are covered by ice or snow all year-round. Countries which include part of the Arctic are the area north of the Arctic circle and include parts of Canada, Greenland and parts of Scandinavia.

### **Diet**

Although it may not seem obvious, drinking plenty of water to stay hydrated in cold temperatures is crucial. Being well-hydrated means that the human body has enough blood volume to keep pumping blood to the extremities of the body such as noses, fingers and toes.

In addition to this, consuming plenty of foods high in fat and calories will ensure survival. Exerting a lot of energy in cold climates will burn a lot of energy to produce body heat therefore it is recommended that around 5000 calories per day should be consumed. Consider foods such as butter and those rich in fats.

### **Protection from the cold**

Icy winds blow across the Arctic which can cause wind chills and temperatures which appear much colder than they are. In temperatures well below 0, exposed skin will freeze in under five minutes. Protective clothing is a necessity; items such as good quality windproof and waterproof jackets are essential, as well as many layers and fur lined, thick hoods, hats and neck attire. It is important to insulate the body. Opt for thick insulations so that your layers of clothing trap more air and keep the body warmer.

On especially bad weather days, take shelter. Even turning away from the wind can make a difference.

### **Ice**

Ice can be hazardous to human life. With changing climates and warmer weather, ice can begin to melt or become weak. Beware of crossing ice that appears to be moving or cracking. In the event of falling through ice, swim out and roll in the snow to get rid of as much water as possible. Change immediately into dry clothing.

## How does the Baobab Tree survive in the African Savannah ?



The Baobab tree is known as the tree of life in African **savannah** areas, providing both humans and animals with food, water, clothing and shelter.

These incredible trees can live for many years, with one in South African said to be over 6,000 years old. The tree can reach heights of 5-30 metres with its trunk having a diameter of 7-11 metres. For much of the year, the tree does not grow leaves making it look upside down (as if its roots are in the air)!

In a land where even small trees or shrubs struggle to survive, just how does this giant tree survive and flourish? The answer lies in how it has adapted over time.

### **Bark**

The bark of this incredible tree is sponge-like. This means that it is able to absorb moisture and water like a sponge. It can then store this for times of water shortage or drought.

The outer layer of bark is also shiny allowing it to reflect heat and light which keeps it cool. It also protects the tree from wildfires.

### **Flowers**

Although the white flowers of the baobab tree may look attractive, don't get too close! These flowers emit a smell similar to rotten meat! However, this stench attracts creatures such as fruit bats, flies, ants and moths who all help to spread its pollen from tree to tree, allowing it to **pollinate** and reproduce.

### **Stems**

The stems of the Baobab tree have adapted to catch as much water as possible. These stems look like a 'u' shape funnel. Water collects in these 'u' shapes so it can be used by the tree but also birds and humans too!

### **Glossary**

pollinate:: depositing pollen to fertilize

savannah: tropical grassland with warm temperatures all year round

## Explanation Texts

An explanation text is a type of non-fiction text that explains a process such as **how** something works or **why** something happens.

The main difference between instructional writing and explanation writing is that explanations are describing something whereas instructions are telling the reader what to do.

Explanation texts need to include the following things:

### Structure

- A title beginning with the words 'How' or 'Why'
- An opening paragraph introducing the topic to the reader
- A set of logical steps explaining why or how something happens.
- A concluding paragraph

### Language

- Written in present tense
- Use of conjunctions such as because, when, before, after, while, so
- Use of prepositional phrases such as next, during the day, before sunrise.
- Impersonal style (try not to use personal pronouns or the use of 'you'.

### Other points

- Think about subheadings to help the reader to locate information more easily.
- Consider a glossary to explain technical vocabulary.

Read each question and explanation carefully. Match the correct explanation to the correct questions.

Why are countries so hot in Africa

They have a thick coat to protect them from the daytime heat and keep them warm at night. Water and fat is stored in their humps to use when there is a shortage

How do camels survive in the desert?

It has adapted many features over many years to suit this warm climate.

Why is the Nile important the people of Egypt?

You need to remember five main points: save energy, find shelter, avoid dangerous animals, drink plenty of water, stay calm.

Why do bananas give you energy?

It is an important source of food and water for those who live near it.

How do you survive in the desert?

You need to eat these fruits to give you a good source of natural sugar. They are also rich in potassium and fibre that help slow sugar digestion which gives you energy.

How does the Baobab tree survive in the African Savannah?

The equator passes through Africa and those countries on the equator, have scorching daytime temperatures. They also have equal hours of day and night.

Now: do any of these answers have a personal response? Rewrite these onto into an impersonal style. Remember not to use personal pronouns or the word 'you'.

## How to ride a bicycle

A bicycle is a mode of transport made for travelling from place to place, for sport or simply for fun. Bicycles were first invented in the 1800s but looked very different to how they do nowadays. The first bikes had no pedals with larger front wheels, reaching almost 1.5 metres. It wasn't until approximately 1900, that bicycles began to look similar to those we know today.

There are many types of bicycle including mountain, racing and hybrid bikes, with each one suiting different surfaces or terrains. What they have in common is their structure. Most have two wheels. The main frame of the bike has a set of handlebars, a seat and two pedals.

### How do you ride a bicycle?

The first thing that the rider needs to do is to sit on the seat and place their feet on the pedals. By pushing down on these pedals, the back wheel will turn and propel the bicycle forwards. In order not to fall from the bike, the rider should hold onto the handlebars which can also be used to steer. By turning and leaning to the left or the right, the direction of travel can be changed.

The vast majority of bicycles have gears. These are usually numbered and they allow the rider to ride with more ease on different surfaces. The higher the gear, the harder the rider must pedal but it will allow the rider to go faster; the lower the gear the easier it is to pedal but the bike will travel more slowly. Lower gears are useful for pedalling up steep hills or inclines.

On the handlebars, a set of brakes can be located. These allow the rider to stop or slow down by squeezing them; the harder the squeeze, the faster the bike will stop or slow down.

<https://www.winfieldsoutdoors.co.uk/blog/how-to-survive-in-the-desert-a-guide-that-could-save-your-life/>

Use the website above to research how to survive in the desert. Use skimming and scanning techniques to make notes under the following headings to help you to organise your research.

Weather conditions

---

---

---

What to take

---

---

---

What to wear

---

---

---

Food and drink needed

---

---

---

Dangers

---

---

---

**Look at the two extracts below. Which version is the most appropriate to writing an explanation about desert survival? Discuss reasons for your choice with a partner.**

### **EXTRACT 1**

#### **How to survive in the desert**

It is very important that you make a thorough plan before travelling anywhere, especially in such a inhospitable place as the desert! You must find out as much as you can before setting off on your adventure such as how many kilometres it is possible for you to walk in such heat, and how many provisions you are likely to need on your expedition.

It is essential that you inform people of your intended route, when you expect to be at certain points and when you will contact them. This way, if they don't hear from you, they know that something has happened and when and where that they must look for you.

### **EXTRACT 2**

#### **How to survive in the desert**

It is very important that the traveller make a thorough plan before venturing anywhere, especially in such an inhospitable place as the desert! It is recommended that those wanting to travel to the desert must find out as much as possible before setting off on any adventure. Good research includes finding out facts such as how many kilometres it is possible to walk in extreme heat and how many provisions are likely to be needed for the course of the expedition.

It is essential that people are informed of the intended route, when the traveller is expected to be at certain points and when contact will be made. This way, if there is no contact, others will know exactly when and where to look for the missing person.

## Explanation Text Success Criteria

	What I think	What my teacher thinks
A title with beginning with the words 'How...' or 'Why...'		
An opening statement introduced the topic and speaks to the reader.		
A series of logical steps explaining how or why something happens: think about subheadings		
A concluding paragraph		
Written in present tense		
Uses conjunctions such as because, when, before, after, while, so, while		
Think about use of adverbs and prepositional phrases: therefore, next, during day, before sunrise		
A glossary to explain technical language		

## How to survive in a desert?

A desert is a landscape where there is little rain and living conditions for plant and animal life is harsh. Although temperatures in African deserts, such as The Sahara, can be scorching in daytime, temperatures can fall dramatically during the evening, making them extremely cold.

### Weather conditions

---

---

---

---

### What to take

---

---

---

---

### What to wear

---

---

---

---

### Food and drink needed

---

---

---

---

### Dangers

---

---

---

---

- DOWN IN THE DUMPS
- FEARFUL
- EXHAUSTED
- SAD
- CALM
- EXCITED
- ELATED

Tom announces that he is going to cycle the world.

Tom sets off on his adventure.

Reaching the end of Africa.

---