


Friday

WALT: Write a biography

Today we will be writing our biography using all the features we have looked at and practised this week.





# DR SEUSS

(1904-1991)

Theodor Seuss's father owned a brewery that produced over 300,000 barrels of beer every year. Unfortunately for him, the American government banned alcohol in 1920, and the brewery was forced to close.

Instead, he was put in charge of the parks in the area, which included Springfield Zoo. Often he would take Theodor there to observe the animals, and Theodor would bring along his sketchpad. With the encouragement of his mother, he filled the walls of his bedroom with drawings, while she made up rhymes about pie flavours to make him laugh.

Theodor went to college at Dartmouth, where he made his closest friends and worked tirelessly on the school's humour magazine. Whenever they shook hands, Theodor and his friends would jokingly say, 'Oh, the places you'll go! The people you'll meet!'


As the Second World War plunged the world into darkness, Theodor joined the army as part of Frank Capra's wartime film-making unit. They were tasked with raising the spirits of the troops and of the people waiting back home.

The war ended and Theodor moved to California. After finding out how many American kids were struggling to learn how to read, Theodor wanted to help. He knew the books they used in schools could be boring and he wanted to create something fun that children actually enjoyed reading.

The result was *The Cat in the Hat*, which Theodor published under the name Dr. Seuss. The book is a bizarre rhyming tale that captivated millions of children, teaching them how to read, while making them fall about laughing at the same time.

Under the name Dr. Seuss, Theodor went on to write many books that introduced kids to the thrill of reading, including *Green Eggs and Ham*, *Horton Hears a Who!*, and *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*.

*Oh, the Places You'll Go!* was the last book he wrote before he died. His stories are still read with delight by kids and parents everywhere.



# JOHN BOYEGA

(BORN 1992)

John was in the bottom set for every subject at school. He wasn't interested in sports either. All he wanted to do was daydream about his favourite films, like *Star Wars*, and the parts he would one day play in them.

The first time he'd acted was as a leopard in his school play. After that, he knew performing was what he wanted to do. He enrolled in a local theatre school to learn ballet, tap, and modern dance. It didn't make him popular on his estate in Peckham. Kids would pick on him for being different. His dad tried to get involved but there was nothing he could do.

While still at school, John got a role in a film called *Attack the Block*, about a group of teenagers living on an estate in London who have to defend themselves when aliens attack.

Because of his captivating performance, John was cast as the first black Stormtrooper in the new incarnation of *Star Wars*. His character, Finn, leaves the First Order after realizing they're evil, and sides with the resistance in the fight to gain control of the galaxy. Alongside Rey, Han Solo, and Chewbacca, he flies the Millennium Falcon to the ice planet, Starkiller Base.

When the trailer came out, there was a fuss. Why? Because John is black. Some people spoke out against the idea of a black Stormtrooper for no reason other than sheer racism.

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'What does best son in He'd moves they'd rent he'd bough John's days

WALT Create a plan for your biography.

Using the interview questionnaire from Tuesday's lesson make notes about what you will write in your biography in the boxes below.

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> Who is your biography about? Where were they born? Age? Where do they live now? • Jenny Page • 44 yrs old • Born in 1976	<b>THINGS THEY ARE BEST KNOWN FOR</b> Facts and stories about their main successes / what they are most proud of / how would someone describe them?
<b>EARLY LIFE</b> Interesting facts about their childhood / earliest memories / which infant school did they attend?	<b>FAMILY LIFE/EXTRA INTERESTS</b> Who do they live with? Do they have children? Pets? Hobbies? Afraid of anything? Who was the most influential person to them?
<b>EARLY CAREER</b> Facts and stories about them / any jobs they have/ successes	<b>CONCLUSION</b> Final statements about their future (which job would they like) or life highlights. /

Features of a Biography Checklist

1. Varied sentence starter (e.g. question to hook the reader)	
2. Interesting Introduction (to summarise the main events in the person's life)	
3. Written in past tense	
4. Used third person pronouns (he, she)	
5. Chronological order - Adverbs of Time	
6. Co-ordinating conjunctions	

Here are some helpful sentence starters you can use throughout

You will see these marked in red on the example to follow. This will show you how you can include them when writing your own biography.



- \* As a child...
- \* During his/her early years...
- \* At a young age...
- \* As a teenager he/she...

- \* Shortly after this...
- \* Soon afterwards...
- \* The time came for...
- \* Many years later...



- \* Even though...
- \* Although...
- \* Despite the fact that...
- \* In spite of...



- \* He/she will be remembered most for...
- \* His/her greatest achievement was...
- \* His/her life was...



- \* His/her lasting legacy is that...

# Albert Einstein

(1879-1955)

Have you ever thought why we have iPad or phones now? Well thanks to him we do.

Albert Einstein was born March 14, 1879 in Ulm, Germany. **During his early years** Albert got a compass from his dad at age five and it filled his mind with questions. **At the young age** of six he learned the violin from his teacher. He went to college in Switzerland. Albert loved to learn about what was around him, math, science, and physics.

Albert liked to question many facts about math in his books. It was really hard for him to take over his dad's business at age fifteen; and his love for building things made it a challenge.

**S:** He wanted to change the way how people think about the world.

Why is he famous? Albert changed the way we think about the universe.

**As a child**, he had a speech habit: whatever he said out loud he would say back to himself quietly. **Despite this fact** he grew out of it and became a public speaker. He also married two times and won the Nobel Prize, but sad to say, he died at age 76.

**Albert Einstein will be remembered** as he changed the way we think about the universe. Thanks to him we know more about the universe. But sad to say, he died April 18, 1955, in New Jersey. **His lasting legacy** changed our lives, there is no doubt about that.



## Jenny Page (1976-)

Have you ever wondered why Jenny Page has a biography written about her? This lady may not have been a name you have heard of and her story might begin to sound like many others but she has a story to tell and it is unique to her and those who know her - that is what makes it special.

**INTRODUCTION** Who is your biography about? Where were they born? Age? Where do they live now?

- ✓ Jenny Page  
44 yrs old
- ✓ Born in 1976  
Lives in Worthing

Linked

**EARLY LIFE** Interesting facts about their childhood / earliest memories / which infant school did they attend?

Born in Devon- always loved the sea  
Earliest memory - age 3 waiting in the hospital for her sister to be born.  
Infant school - Broadhempston Primary

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Jenny Page was born on 15<sup>th</sup> March 1976 in Broadhempston, Devon, England. During her early years she spent most of her time at the beach which gave her a love of the outdoors but the thing she remembers the most is the smell of the salty sea air. Even though it was such a long time ago, before she started Broadhempston Primary school, her earliest memory was at the age of three waiting in the hospital for her sister to be born!

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3. Written in past tense	✓	wa
4. Used third person pronouns (he, she)	✓	sh
5. Chronological order - Adverbs of Time	✓	15 <sup>th</sup> Mar
6. Co-ordinating conjunctions	✓	but








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