



WordFlyers

Tips for implementation

Tips for using WordFlyers in your classroom, for homework and as a part of your whole-school literacy strategy



www.3plearning.com/wordflyers



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1 Homework

Advantages of using WordFlyers for homework:

- ✓ Marking is automated.
- ✓ Easy-to-read and printable reports for all completed student activities.
- ✓ Content matches the requirements of the Australian Curriculum: English.
- ✓ WordFlyers is an ideal replacement for skills workbooks and photocopiable work sheets.
- ✓ Students are far more motivated to complete online activities.
- ✓ Using the website demonstrates an effective use of technology in your teaching program.

1a. Reinforce a classroom teaching point – specific aspects of language

Your class might be learning about types of persuasive techniques used in advertising. Use the Study Plan tool on the Teacher Dashboard to set a unit for class homework that reinforces or extends what you have been teaching in class.



Example: Language aspects 1

8.0.2 Perfect holiday with class is a persuasive exposition in the form of an online property advertisement. It contains persuasive language and evidence to explain why the house is a great deal and ideal to rent.

Set the four Reading comprehension and two Writing lessons for homework to help students learn more about how text and images are used to sell products.



Bookingsholidayhouses.com

HOME PROPERTIES REVIEWS TOP REGIONS DETAILS/BOOKINGS CONTACT US SEARCH

Perfect holiday home with class

Imagine waking up each morning, opening your bedroom door and walking only twenty metres to the beach for a swim. Well, this dream could be yours!

Our coastal property at 24 Wharf Street is now available for rent over summer. Built in the 1990s when Paradise Point first became popular with holiday-makers, this luxurious two-storey modern home is perfect for big families or groups of friends.

All four bedrooms have floor-to-ceiling windows with spectacular ocean views. The large open-plan living area is fantastic for entertaining. It also includes an open fire for those cold nights.

In addition to all this, there's a well-equipped games room downstairs with a pinball machine, snooker table, beanbags and boogie boards for when the surf's up!

A visitor last year said, "The house was perfect and so relaxing. We loved how close it was to the beach and local shops, and we settled in very quickly."

We're sure this amazing property won't be available for long. So complete our application form and spend your next holiday at Paradise Point's most desirable property!

ONLINE BOOKING TERMS : FAQs



Example: Language aspects 2

9.3.4 FIFO is good for families is an Exposition in the form of an advertorial. It presents the viewpoint of a mining company.

Set the four Reading comprehension and two Writing lessons for homework to reinforce the purpose of this advertorial and to show how an Exposition uses evidence to support the point of view being presented.

This text can be used in Geography classes to reinforce key ideas about industry and population.



FIFO is good for families

The mining industry shares this country's wealth around, and families are major beneficiaries – just ask the Dobsons. Sure, Lorraine, Stacey and Madison never look forward to Paul flying out, but boy, do they love it when he flies back in.

Paul's salary means the Dobsons have their dream home and the kids are getting a great education.

"Paul being a FIFO worker has brought us even closer together, and financially, we're streets ahead," Lorraine says.

Your family could reap the benefits too. Your precious breadwinner will work hard, but during downtime they can enjoy delicious meals, modern air-conditioned housing, licensed lounge, gym and swimming pool – all on us.

Meanwhile, your kids have the familiar comforts of home without any upheaval of changing schools or moving away from loved ones. In addition, when Dad or Mum returns, the kids get extended quality time with them, not just a few hours at the end of a busy day or a weekend crammed with household chores.

The FIFO lifestyle might not suit every family – but those who embrace and appreciate it share a lot more than just a slice of the nation's wealth.

You too can end up streets ahead. Just ask us how.

FIFO is an acronym for Fly-In-Fly-Out employment, involving travel to and from remote areas on a regular schedule. Information contained within this advertisement has been prepared on behalf of Santos International Mining and Development, UK and Asia Pacific Operations.

1b. Reinforce a classroom teaching point – literacy basics

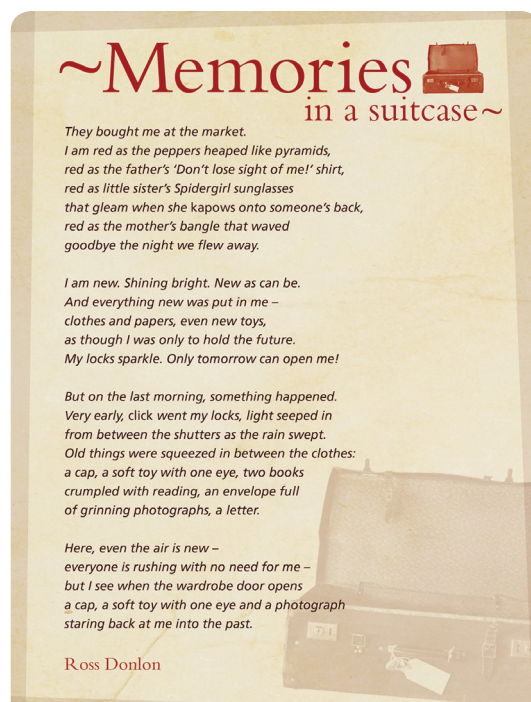
Students of all writing abilities can have poor punctuation skills that decrease the quality of their written expression. WordFlyers teaches and reinforces the aspects of spelling and punctuation that students need for the various forms of written communication.



Example: Literacy basics 1

Use an individual student or class Study Plan that focuses on a set of lessons to teach the use of possessive apostrophes. Each lesson provides clear rules for students to learn and opportunities to practise using this important punctuation mark.

- 7.1.1 Memories in a suitcase – Punctuation
- 7.3.2 The colour of our town – Punctuation
- 7.3.5 Caution, Papou's here! – Punctuation
- 8.1.6 Children need homes, not camps – Punctuation
- 9.1.1 Back alive – Punctuation
- 9.2.4 Fast-food chains deliver opportunities – Punctuation



~Memories in a suitcase~

They bought me at the market.
I am red as the peppers heaped like pyramids,
red as the father's 'Don't lose sight of me!' shirt,
red as little sister's Spidergirl sunglasses
that gleam when she kapovs onto someone's back,
red as the mother's bangle that waved
goodbye the night we flew away.

I am new. Shining bright. New as can be.
And everything new was put in me –
clothes and papers, even new toys,
as though I was only to hold the future.
My locks sparkle. Only tomorrow can open me!

But on the last morning, something happened.
Very early, click went my locks, light seeped in
from between the shutters as the rain swept.
Old things were squeezed in between the clothes:
a cap, a soft toy with one eye, two books
crumpled with reading, an envelope full
of grinning photographs, a letter.

Here, even the air is new –
everyone is rushing with no need for me –
but I see when the wardrobe door opens
a cap, a soft toy with one eye and a photograph
staring back at me into the past.

Ross Donlon

JOURNEY 1 – GATE 1

| LESSON | QUESTION | PASS (80%) | BONUS (100%) |
|-------------|----------|-------------|--------------|
| Punctuation | 1/3 | 1000 points | 500 points |

Read and listen to the tutorial about using apostrophes to show possession.

- To show that a **noun** owns or possesses something, we can use an apostrophe.
- For example: *her mother's bangle*. This shows that the mother owns the bangle. This saves us writing: *the bangle that belongs to her mother*.
- If the noun is a **singular noun**, such as *father*, put the apostrophe after the noun and then add a letter 's'. For example: *my father's shirt* means one father owns the shirt.
- Use the same rule for plural nouns that do not end in 's', such as *children*. For example: *the children's toys*.
- If the noun is a **plural noun** that already ends in a letter 's', such as *doors*, put the apostrophe after the 's' but **do not** add another letter 's'. For example: *the two doors' locks* means the locks of two doors.

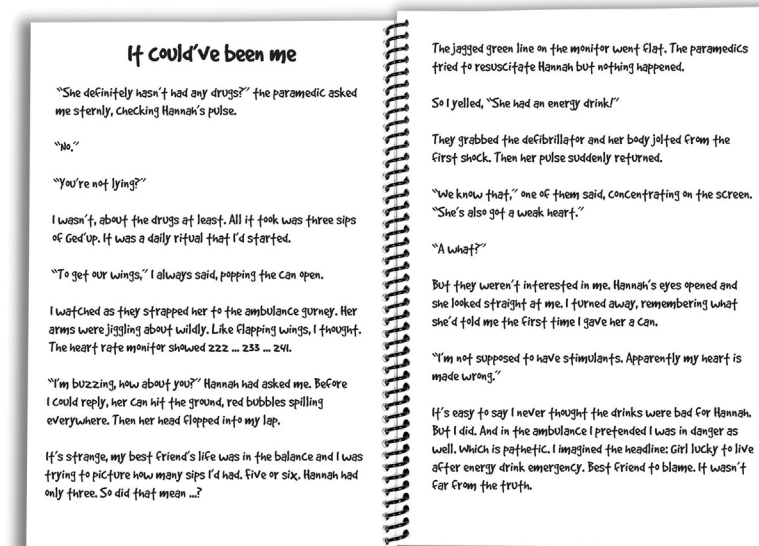
[Listen to the tutorial](#)



Example: Literacy basics 2

Students often overuse or misuse the exclamation mark in their formal writing. This set of lessons ensures students learn about its purpose and apply the rules correctly. Use an individual student or class Study Plan to set these Punctuation lessons as homework.

- 7.1.2 Breaking up, for the best – Punctuation
- 7.2.1 Ally's big break – Punctuation
- 7.3.4 Who brings a bike to a ski run? – Punctuation
- 8.1.8 The curtain falls on *The Voice* for now – Punctuation
- 9.0.8 Are politicians good or bad? – Punctuation
- 9.1.7 It could've been me – Punctuation



It could've been me

"She definitely hasn't had any drugs?" the paramedic asked me sternly, checking Hannah's pulse.

"No."

"You're not lying?"

I wasn't, about the drugs at least. All it took was three sips of God Up. It was a daily ritual that I'd started.

"To get our wings," I always said, popping the can open.

I watched as they strapped her to the ambulance gurney. Her arms were jiggling about wildly. Like flapping wings, I thought. The heart rate monitor showed 222 ... 233 ... 241.

"I'm buzzing, how about you?" Hannah had asked me. Before I could reply, her can hit the ground, red bubbles spilling everywhere. Then her head flopped into my lap.

It's strange, my best friend's life was in the balance and I was trying to picture how many sips I'd had. Five or six, Hannah had only three. So did that mean ...?

The jagged green line on the monitor went flat. The paramedics tried to resuscitate Hannah but nothing happened.

So I yelled, "She had an energy drink!"

They grabbed the defibrillator and her body jolted from the first shock. Then her pulse suddenly returned.

"We know that," one of them said, concentrating on the screen. "She's also got a weak heart."

"A what?"

But they weren't interested in me. Hannah's eyes opened and she looked straight at me. I turned away, remembering what she'd told me the first time I gave her a can.

"I'm not supposed to have stimulants. Apparently my heart is made wrong."

It's easy to say I never thought the drinks were bad for Hannah. But I did. And in the ambulance I pretended I was in danger as well. Which is pathetic. I imagined the headline: Girl lucky to live after energy drink emergency. Best friend to blame. It wasn't far from the truth.

This text is ideal for use in Health classes as it explores the misuse of substances like energy drinks.

1c. Extend students' understanding of a theme explored in class

Your class might be using a theme, such as *Identity*, to study a range of text types and to inspire students to develop their writing portfolios.

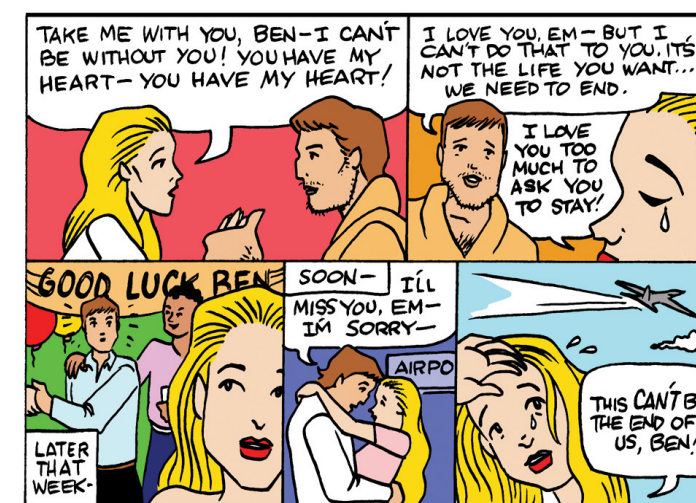
Use the Study Plan tool on the Teacher Dashboard to set a unit of work that shows other writers' responses to the same theme. Students will analyse aspects of each text in detail over the 12 unit lessons.



Examples: Using a theme

- 7.1.1 Breaking up for the best (a set of cartoon images that explore a relationship breakup).
- 9.1.2 Skin deep (a slam poem on society's expectations about body image)
- 9.3.1 So many directions (a photo story about life as a journey)

This text is ideal for Health classes as it explores relationships and their impact on wellbeing.



TAKE ME WITH YOU, BEN-I CAN'T BE WITHOUT YOU! YOU HAVE MY HEART- YOU HAVE MY HEART!

I LOVE YOU, EM- BUT I CAN'T DO THAT TO YOU. IT'S NOT THE LIFE YOU WANT... WE NEED TO END.

I LOVE YOU TOO MUCH TO ASK YOU TO STAY!

GOOD LUCK BEN

SOON- I'LL MISS YOU, EM- I'M SORRY-

AIRPO

LATER THAT WEEK-

THIS CAN'T BE THE END OF US, BEN!

2 Revision for the NAPLAN Language Conventions and Reading tests

WordFlyers is an effective practice resource to ensure students are well prepared for the format of the national literacy tests.

- ✓ Each WordFlyers unit includes 20 Language Conventions questions and 10 Reading questions about a text.
- ✓ The Language Conventions set includes questions about punctuation, grammar, vocabulary and spelling.
- ✓ The Reading set includes both literal and inferential questions.

Use the Study Plan tool on the Teacher Dashboard to create a set of units about the specific text categories: Imaginative, Persuasive and Informative.

Examples: literacy tests

Imaginative

- 71.1 Breaking up, for the best (Narrative / comic strip)
- 71.5 Good bugs, bad bugs (Poetry / bacteria in the human body)
- 72.1 Ally's big break (Narrative / short story)

Persuasive

- 91.4 Would you buy a kidney? (Discussion / newspaper survey)
- 91.6 The 'new' slaves of a global economy (Exposition / short essay)
- 91.8 Review: *Star Pioneers* (Text Response / online game review)

Informative

- 73.3 How to create your own mehndi (Procedure / web page instructions)
- 81.3 If it's good enough for astronauts ... (Report / feature article)
- 81.5 How sapphires are formed (Explanation / textbook)

Would you buy a kidney?

How desperate do you have to be to sell one of your own body parts? Sadly, this grisly question is being asked all too often. Take Pavle and Daniella Mircov of Serbia. The parents of two teenagers, they have been hard-hit by the financial crisis currently sweeping Europe. Out of work and unable to put food on the table, the couple recently advertised their organs for sale on the internet. They are not alone.

The sale of body parts is illegal in this country and most other parts of the world. Given the shortfall of organ donation and the increasing number of willing sellers, it is time to rethink the issue. Public opinion is divided. Would you buy or sell a kidney?



STACEY, 32, HAIRDRESSER
"I don't see anything wrong with it. The bottom line is that more lives will be saved. If I had the choice between buying a kidney and dying, I certainly know which I'd choose!"



KOSTA, 55, ACCOUNTANT
"My concern is the potential for abuse. People living in poverty might be exploited by others looking to make big bucks. If this became legal, we would need regulations to protect the vulnerable."



JASON, 23, SALESMAN
"It's not like selling a part for your car – removing organs is risky! Then again, we do lots of risky things. Like driving. We don't all stay off the roads just in case we're in a crash! I think if people understand the risks and they still want to go ahead, then they should be allowed to. It's a free world."



RACHEL, 19, STUDENT
"No way would I buy a kidney from someone online. It's a ridiculous idea. Who knows what diseases they have? You might end up with AIDS or something. I reckon it should be illegal."

MEHNDI DESIGNS

HOME | HAND DESIGNS | FEET DESIGNS | DESIGNS & MEANINGS | BRIDAL | FOR BEGINNERS

How to create your own mehndi

Looking for a different way to celebrate a special occasion? Try mehndi, the ancient tradition of decorating skin using natural henna dye.

Long practised by Indian brides before their weddings, this art form is catching on across the globe. Try it as a birthday alternative, or have a 'Henna Hen Party'. It's fun, creative and a great way to bond with friends! Plus, you'll learn about a beautiful cultural tradition.

Here's how:

Step 1: Prepare your equipment
You'll need:

- henna paste – see [How to make your own](#)
- cones to apply the paste – see [How to make cones](#)
- stainless-steel mixing bowls
- lemon juice and sugar mixed into a paste
- paper and markers.

Step 2: Practise your design on paper

- Mehndi are usually drawn on the hands and lower arms. Photocopy some hand outlines to practise on, or work out how large a design you need for a 'temporary tattoo' on the lower arm or ankle.
- Try traditional mehndi lace and paisley patterns – or create something completely original. See [Sample designs](#).

Step 3: Create your mehndi

- When you are ready, fill a cone with henna paste and squeeze your design gently onto the skin. See [Tips on applying henna](#).
- Let the henna dry a little. Next, cover it with the lemon and sugar paste to help it set.
- Wait 2-6 hours, then gently scrape off the paste using your hands or a spatula.

Step 4: Look after your mehndi

- Henna paste leaves a deep red stain on the skin that darkens over 24 hours. It lasts for 1-3 weeks.
- See [Tips on making your mehndi last longer](#).

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3 As a part of a whole-class lesson

Many teachers use the WordFlyers website on an interactive whiteboard as a part of a whole-class lesson.

- ✓ Each unit text ensures that learning is contextualised.
- ✓ Students share knowledge and show what they have learned.
- ✓ Texts are highly suitable for large-screen projection.

3a. Exploring a text form

If you are teaching a class about the common features of a text form, such as Procedure, show the text on the whiteboard and ask individual students questions about it.

Example: Text form

8.1.2 Cage your cat!

- What is the purpose of the text?
- Where would you see this type of text?
- What features of the text indicate it is a Procedure?
- Why do you think 'The purr-fect place for your feline friend!' text is placed at the top of the page?

3b. Defining technical language

Use the whiteboard tools to highlight examples of a concept revised in class.

Example: Technical language

8.1.5 How sapphires are formed

Ask students to underline or circle examples of technical language in a text and explain their reasons for selecting them.

How sapphires are formed

Sapphires are highly-prized gemstones of rare beauty that are found naturally, and can be produced in a laboratory. They are a variety of the aluminium oxide-based mineral corundum. The hardness of sapphires is second only to the hardness of diamonds, and this is what makes them so highly valued.

Tiny quantities of elements like iron, titanium, chromium, copper or magnesium make them appear different colours – from blue, purple and pink to orange, yellow and green. Red sapphire has always been known as ruby.

Sapphires occur in igneous or metamorphic rock and are mostly retrieved from alluvial deposits.

Formation in nature
Heat and pressure deep in the lithosphere. Deep in the lithosphere, heat and pressure form hexagonally-shaped corundum crystals or sapphires.

Brought to the surface
Most sapphires are carried by magma flow towards the surface.

Alluvial deposits
Because of their hardness, when rock is eroded by water flow, sapphires remain intact in alluvial sediments.

Formation in the laboratory
The Verneuil furnace
Aluminium oxide powder, or alumina, is added to an oxyhydrogen flame.

Boule formation
Alumina in the flame slowly forms a teardrop shape of corundum, which is called a boule.

Growing the crystal
Heat increases as more powder enters the flame, hitting the boule, melting the crystallising into a solid. When the sapphire is a suitable size, it is removed.

The Verneuil process (simplified version)

Crater, lava flow, side vent, vent, lithosphere, lava, pipe, magma, magma chamber

hammer, oxygen, filter, hydrogen, 2220 °C flame, aluminium oxide powder, boule

Multicoloured sapphire crystals, Blue sapphires

Cage your cat!

Assembly guide

The Cat Cube – "The purr-fect place for your feline friend!"

Inside the completed Cat Cube, your cat will be safe from any unwanted guests or bad weather, while still enjoying its morning play and long afternoon snooze.

Component checklist

- 1 collapsible base
- 4 steel poles (1 hook on each)
- 4 steel poles (with rectangular ends)
- 3 metres highly durable mesh netting
- 1 carpeted play tunnel
- 1 carpeted play tower
- 1 fibreglass curved roof

Assembly steps

- First, unfold the collapsible base onto a dry, flat surface.
- Take the four steel poles with hooks and place them vertically into the circular grooves at each corner of the base, ensuring the hooks face outward.
- Now, take the four remaining steel poles and slot each rectangular end into the top of a vertical pole to complete the cube frame.
- Unroll the mesh netting and then wrap it around the frame, ensuring netting "catches" on every hook.
- Position the carpeted play tunnel and tower, leaving enough room for your cat's favourite bedding.
- Finally, place the curved roof on top of the frame so that the ridges rest against the horizontal poles. The lid can be removed to allow easy access.

◀ This text is ideal for use in the Science classroom to improve students' knowledge of important science language.

3c. Reinforcing a concept – inferential questions

Students can find answering inferential questions about texts challenging.

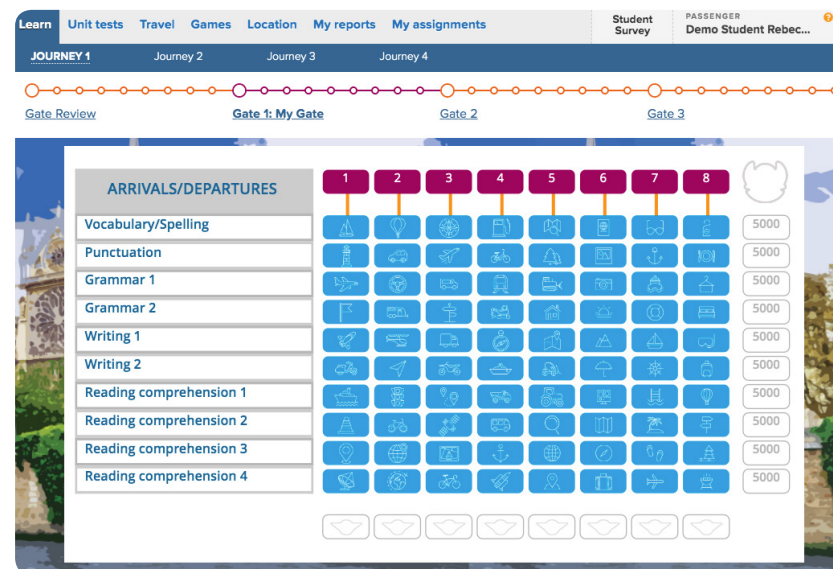
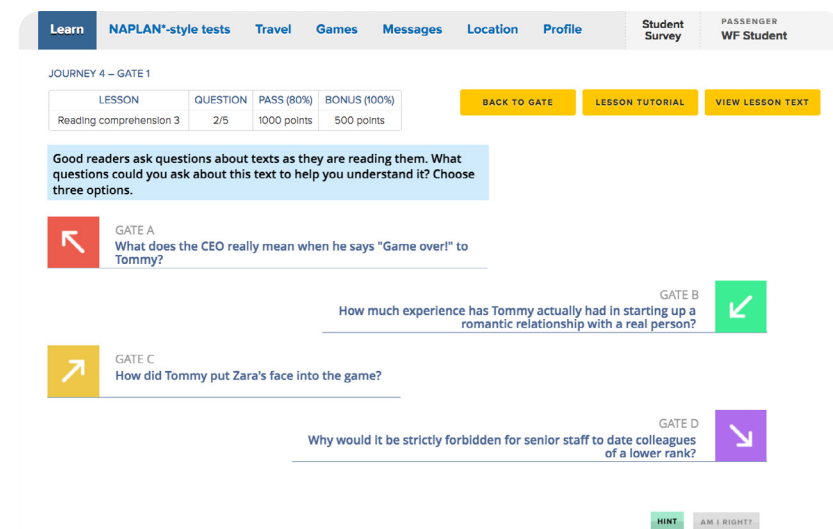
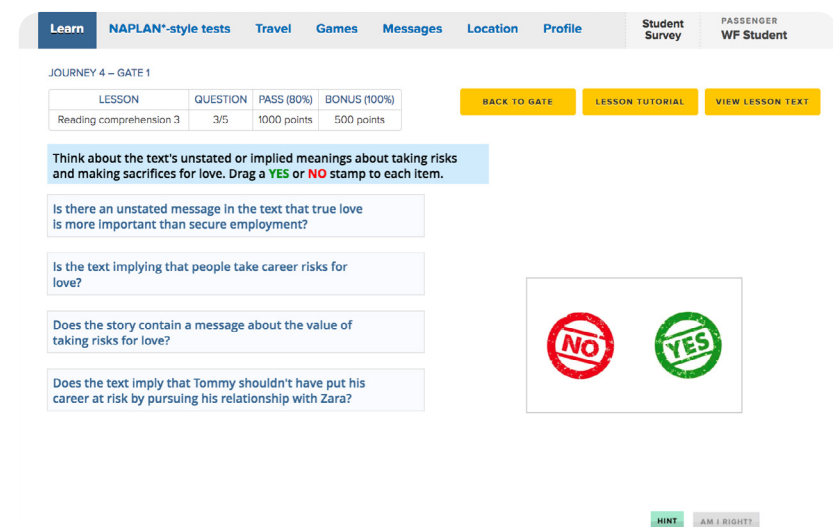
Select a WordFlyers unit, and as a class focus on only the inferential questions in the lesson Reading comprehension 3 (interpret and analyse content).

Examples: Inferential questions

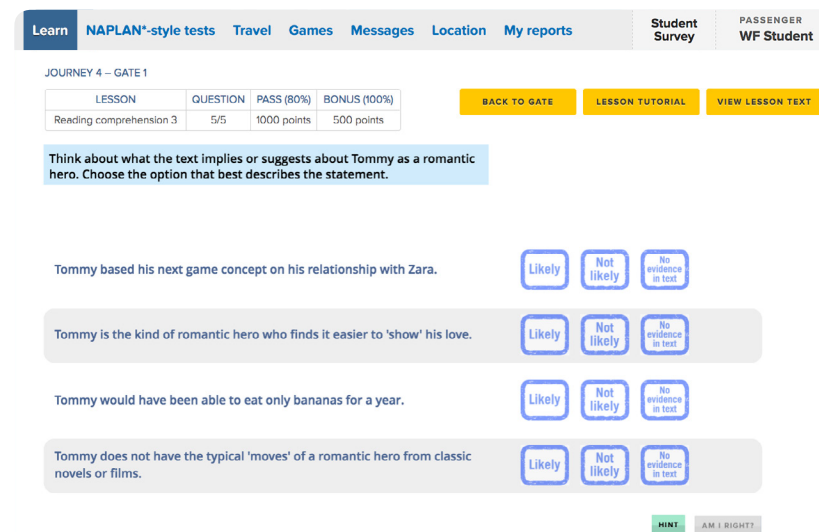
10.1.1 Love is a two-player game
(Narrative / short story)

Reading comprehension 3, activity 2

Reading comprehension 3, activity 3

Reading comprehension 3, activity 5



4 Differentiated lessons for class or homework

WordFlyers has been designed so that teachers can deliver a differentiated curriculum that suits the literacy requirements of each student in their class.

- ✓ Students can work on activities that are age and literacy level appropriate.
- ✓ All the units at any year level are open for students to choose from.

4a. Assisting students who have grammar skills at a primary school level

Sometimes students in secondary schools lack core literacy skills. As teenagers, they do not want to use primary school-type resources. Create a Study Plan for individual students that focus on only level 5 and 6 grammar skills.

Examples: Grammar skills

| | |
|---|--|
| 7.1.4 Wind energy – what's your take? | Auxiliary verbs (tense), complex sentences |
| 7.1.5 Good bugs, bad bugs | Action verbs; sentence fragments |
| 7.1.6 Training diary of an elite athlete | Sensing verbs and relating verbs, compound sentences |
| 7.1.7 Alone, cold and 14 tomorrow | Adjectives, compound sentences |
| 7.1.8 Hope and adventure in <i>Finding Nemo</i> | Adjectival phrases, complex sentences |

4b. Extending capable students – cross-curriculum concepts

Students can work on units higher than their current year level's literacy standard, but are still age-appropriate. Choose a focused group of units and create a Study Plan that also reinforces other subject level content they are passionate about, such as Science or Geography.



Example: Cross-curriculum concepts

Study Plan with a science focus for a year 8 student:

9.2.2 More than meets the ice (how energy is transferred)

9.2.7 To spray or not to spray? (antibacterial products in domestic contexts)

9.3.6 The value and danger of stem-cell research

10.1.3 The 'Sleeping Beauty' syndrome (neurological disorders)

10.3.1 Companion 3000 (artificial intelligence)



5 A reward for completed classwork and early finishers

Many teachers find that their students are highly motivated to complete regular classroom activities if they are rewarded with time on WordFlyers.



Example: Setting units as a reward

- ✓ Set aside 20 minutes a week for students to work on WordFlyers activities.
- ✓ Use the units on WordFlyers as work to complete if you are unexpectedly absent from class.
- ✓ Set classroom goals such as the first student to collect a souvenir from five northern-hemisphere destinations.
- ✓ Challenge students to feature on the WordFlyers leaderboards – in the top 10 on the Top scoring WordFlyers or Most destinations visited leaderboards.



6 Teach literacy skills across English, Science, History, Geography, Health and Physical Education

Teaching students literacy skills is the responsibility of all teachers in a school community. But some teachers lack the time or expertise to do this. WordFlyers contains more than 50 units that specifically address content in subject areas other than English:

- ✓ Spelling and Vocabulary lessons that teach and reinforce technical language specific to Science
- ✓ Comprehension questions that enable students to read Science texts critically
- ✓ Texts that explore Health and Geography concepts with everyday examples
- ✓ Units that teach Australian, Indigenous and Asia Pacific history.



6a. Example: Science

Use and influence of science (ACSHE120)

7.1.4 Wind energy – what's your take? (alternative energy forms)



6b. Example: Geography

Environmental change and management (ACHGK070)

10.3.4 Water for the future (sustainability and resource management)



6c. Example: History

Japan under the Shoguns (c.794 – 1867) (ACDSEH063)

8.1.4 Toyotomi Hideyoshi: an unlikely but powerful ruler (representations of historical figures)



6d. Example: Health

Participate in physical activities that develop health-related and skill-related fitness components, and create and monitor personal fitness plans (ACPMPO83)

10.0.6 Stretching after a workout (why you should stretch after exercise)



Transcript



This is the transcript of a speech given by a fitness instructor, Glenn Parker, during an information session at the gym.

Stretching after a workout

It's a great feeling when you've finished exercising. Your body feels strong and your mind sharp. But people often ask me if you need to stretch after your workout. My answer is 'absolutely'.

In some ways, it's the most important part of exercising. Why? Because stretching gets rid of lactic acid that builds up in your muscles during exercise. It does this by increasing your body's blood flow.

Stretching for as little as five minutes after exercise helps reduce cramping and pain. It also helps sore muscles and assists with recovery, so you can start the next day feeling fresh!



WordFlyers

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