

Nim's Island

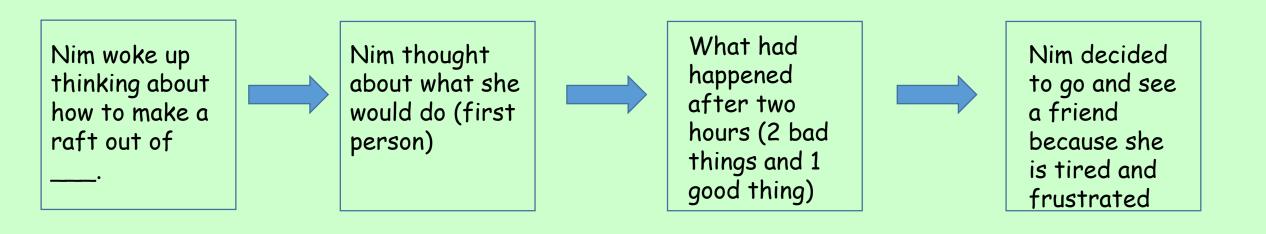
Monday 18th January

Before you start today's lesson, you need to make sure you have completed last week's work. You should have:

- Read the text extract
- Identified the writing techniques used
 - Practised those techniques yourself
 - Thought about the small changes you will make to the story

 Today we are going to write a draft of your version of the story. We will use all the techniques that Wendy Orr used in the original.

 Start by visualising your story idea. Imagine watching a DVD of your version of the story. It is important that you know exactly what happens before you start writing.



Let's start writing!

Today you will need to use imagination to ...

· You will need discipline to ...

· You can be resilient by ...

The first sentence in the original story is:

NIM WOKE UP thinking about Alex Rover's raft.

You could change the circled bits to create a different version with the same overall meaning. Here are some examples:

Nim started the day thinking about Alex Rover's raft.

Nim woke up considering Alex Rover's raft.

Nim woke up thinking about Alex Rover's enquiry.

Write your own version of the first sentence.

CHECK:

- Does it match how you visualised your version of the story?
- Is it clear that Nim woke up thinking about the raft?
- · Have you used a capital letter at the start of each name?
- Is there a full stop at the end of your sentence?
- Have you checked your spelling?
- Are there any words missing?

The second sentence is actually a new paragraph. This makes it clear that it is something different from the first sentence.

You can't hammer two coconuts together, she decided, but if I had a thin piece of board... and lined the coconuts in rows... I could hammer a nail through the board and into the coconuts.

To write your own version, you need to know what Nim is going to use to make the raft. In the following example, I have imagined that Nim is going to make the raft out of tree branches.

It will be difficult to nail the branches together, she thought, but if I used twine from the forest... and looked in Jack's book of knots... I could probably work out a way to tie them tightly.

This bit is especially tricky, because it changes back to the third person just for these two words!

Start a new paragraph and imagine you are Nim. Write your thoughts about how you will make your raft.

Something that will be difficult

Two words in the 3rd person that show Nim is thinking

Thinking about how to solve the problem in the 1st person, using ellipses to show gaps

You can't hammer two coconuts together, she decided, but if I had a thin piece of board... and lined the coconuts in rows... I could hammer a nail through the board and into the coconuts.

CHECK:

- Does it match how you visualised your version of the story?
- Have you started with a thought about what will be difficult?
- Have you included two words (with a comma before and after) that tell the reader Nim was thinking?
- Have you written your thoughts about how you will solve the problems?
- Is it all one sentence, with a capital at the start, commas to separate the third person bit, ellipses to show gaps and a full stop at the end?
- Have you checked your spelling and presentation?