## Mrs Collins' Helpful Hints and Resources

### **War of Words Text**

The wind, like a fierce howling beast, ripped its way through the open marshland. In the bitter, distant air, birds screeched. Alone, a small boy, ignoring the birds' desperate cries, ran towards the graveyard. Cautiously, yet effortlessly, he climbed over the wall that encased the crooked church and the graves it held within. With every step the boy took towards the grave, the trees groaned and creaked. The ice cold winds whispered their warnings, the trees trembled and the birds' eager cries could be heard once more. Looming like a distorted torso, an old oak tree stared into the boy's very soul. With his heart pounding, suddenly desperate to leave this place, the boy fled.

"Aaaghhh!"

Grasping his throat and stifling his screams, a pale hand tightened its grip on the boy.

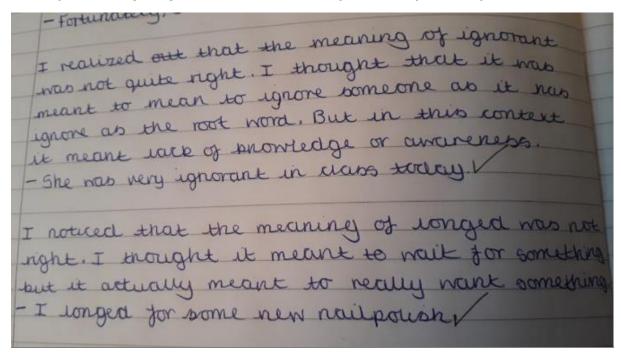
## **Monday:**

## **Completed Definitions and Synonyms Grid**

Word	Definition	Synonyms
Screeched (verb)	To screech- to give a loud, harsh piercing cry	shrieked, howled, yelped. squawked, bawled, squealed, yelled
Fierce (adjective)	Having or displaying a violent or ferocious aggressiveness	ferocious, savage, vicious, wild, aggressive, cruel, brutal, menacing, murderous, terrible
desperate (adjective)	Feeling or showing a hopeless sense that a situation is so bad as to be impossible to deal with	despairing, hopeless, anguished, distressed, wretched, forlorn, distraught, fraught
Cautiously (adverb)	In a way that avoids potential problems or dangers	tentatively, carefully, slowly, guardedly, gingerly, hesitantly, reluctantly
Grasping (verb)	To seize and hold firmly	gripping, clutching, holding, clenching, seizing, grabbing, grappling
Encased (verb)	To enclose or cover in a case or close-fitting surround	enclosed, contained, enfolded, confined, encircled, enveloped, shrouded
Distorted (verb)	To be pulled or twisted out of shape	twisted, warped, contorted, buckled, misshaped, disfigured, crooked, bent
Groaned (verb)	To make a deep sound showing pain or despair	moaned, whimpered, murmured, whined, howled, wailed, sobbed, cried
Eager (adjective)	Strongly wanting to do or have something	anxious, impatient, yearning, hopeful, desperate
Trembled (verb)	To shake involuntarily as a result of anxiety, excitement or frailty	shook, quivered, twitched, tremored, wavered
Fled (verb)	To run away from a place or situation of danger	ran, sprinted, bolted, took flight, escaped, absconded, scarpered, skedaddled
Stifling (verb)	To make (someone) unable to breathe properly/ to stop something	suppressing, smothering, withholding, silencing, containing, restraining, choking back, muffling
Torso (noun)	The trunk of the human body	form, shape, body, figure, frame, embodiment
Looming (verb)	Appear large or threatening	emerging, appearing, towering, soaring, overlooking, dominating, overshadowing
Pounding (verb)	Rhythmical beating or throbbing	thumping, pulsating, thudding, racing, pumping, drumming

An example of definitions and synonyms evaluation:

Thank you Minal (6CW) for the excellent example from a previous piece of work!



The Dice Game Grid is on the next page- I am going to roll a dice and have a go...

This is my attempt: I got picture number 2...I have highlighted the War of Words and any synonyms used



The sun glistened, and its warmth shone through the elegant tangle of branches. Summer holidays had always been fun so I assumed that this year would be like any other. How wrong could I have been...

Skipping ahead of my parents, I was **eager** to explore this enchanted forest that opened up so beautifully in front of me.

"Don't go too far on your own!" warned my Mum from somewhere behind me. I didn't intend to. I always listened to my parents. I always did as I was told. I continued to skip through the trees, weaving in and out, **grasping** the leaves of plants and letting them brush through my fingers as I went.

I wasn't at all sure what made me stop or what made me suddenly aware that I was alone. I turned. I turned again and searched in every possible direction. The **pounding** in my chest seemed to fill my **torso**, **stifling** every **desperate** breath I tried to take. My parents had gone. Only a few moments ago, this magical forest had filled

me with wonder but now, **looming** over me, the **distorted** shapes of the trees reached out and threatened to harm me. Two towering trunks leaned across the pathway that waited ahead of me and wrapped their branches around each other, as if 'high-fiving' in the victory of my capture.

As the sun burned **fierce**ly above, burning the back of my neck, sweat dripped down and began to soak into my t-shirt. **Anxious** to find my parents I knew I had to move but my feet were rooted firmly to the forest floor. My insides **screeched** and **groaned** but no sound could be heard in the terrifying silence of the forest. In the middle of this summer holiday nightmare, **encased** by the twisted tree roots and endless foliage, I **trembled** in fear and despair.

Like a timid rabbit about to be caught by its hunter, I knew I had only one choice. Suddenly I found the courage and every inch of me realised the need for survival. With determination, slowly I released my feet from the powerful grip of the forest floor and **fled**.

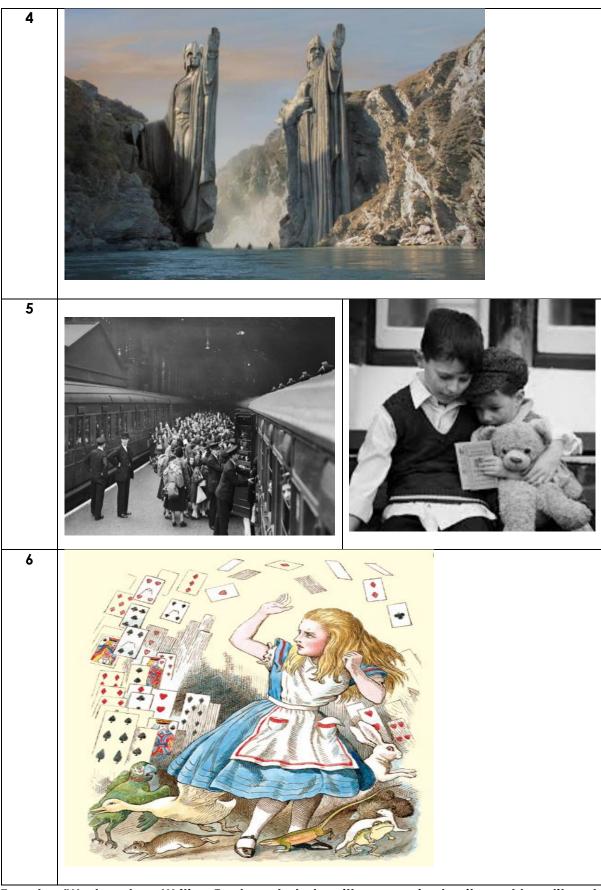
I ran for what seemed like hours and had no idea where I was going. Tears streamed down my face; being separated from my parents was too painful to think about. How could I have been so foolish? Why hadn't I listened? What was it about this place? These thoughts raced in and out of my brain and my head **pulsated** as if it might explode.

From the edge of the forest, came a familiar sound. A sound so musical, like a sweet lullaby that the thumping inside my head stopped-cured by this sweet sound that hugged me. I **sprinted** towards the lullaby-like sound. Sobbing with relief and thankful for this moment, I wrapped my arms tightly around the source of this wonderful, most magical music.

"Mum! Mum, I'm so sorry I ran off. I'll never do it again!"

My Mum didn't shout. She didn't tell me off. We both knew it wouldn't happen again. We turned and made our way, together, towards the car. The forest watched. This time it had let me go. The sun glistened, and its warmth shone through the elegant tangle of branches. Summer holidays had always be fun, assuming that this year would be like any other was my first mistake...





Tuesday/Wednesday- Writing Features to help with your paired write and to edit and improve

## **Expanded Noun Phrases**

### Precise verb choices

An elegant bird tweeted as it fluttered its beautiful wings and soared across the clear blue sky.

An elegant bird with beautiful wings that fluttered tweeted as it soared across the clear blue sky.

### Personification

#### **Similes**

The clear blue sky welcomed this elegant creature and was delighted by the bird's elegance. Like a magnificent firework, the bird continued to fly through the air with impressive speed.

Fronted Adverbials- adverbials give us more information about the verb. They tell us how, when or where.

**ISPACE**- can help us remember different ways to start sentences. This will help our writing to link and flow.

- I 'ing' Sitting on the cold steps, the small girl cried.
- S- simile Sadder than a rainy day, the lonely girl sobbed.
- P- preposition- Next to the towering buildings, the small girl sat and sobbed.
- A- adverb- Quietly, the girl sobbed and could not stop her tears.
- C- conjunction- As the lonely girl sobbed, the bright sunshine meant nothing to her.
- E- 'ed' Dejected and lonely, the small girl sat on the cold steps and ACTIVATE WINDOWS

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## Spelling:

A vowel is... a e i o u (and sometimes 'y')

# A consonant is... all the other letters of the alphabet!

Check words with double or single consonant such as 'daddy' and 'baby'

• Double consonant means there will be a short vowel sound:

daddy There are 2 'dd's in daddy. These are consonants.

The **vowel** is the letter 'a' and because there are 2 **consonants** (the dd's) after the 'a' it has a short sound.

Try these words- they are the same. The double consonant makes the 'a' sound short

ladder	nanny	tapping
Sammy	manners	banner

# Compare daddy and baby

- Say the words
- What do you notice about the sound the 'a' makes?
- Look at how many consonants follow the vowel
- Now look and compare the words below

