

Writing: Year 5 – Summer 1 Week 2

	Day 1 Activity	Day 2 Activity	Day 3 Activity	Day 4 Activity	Day 5 Activity
Writing	<p>This week, you will write a biography about Benjamin Zephaniah.</p> <p>Learn about his life from his own autobiography</p> <p>Change the autobiography into a biography using the cycle of nouns to help you re-write pages 2-3 (From Jamaica to England) in the third person.</p>	<p>Read the example text about Benjamin Zephaniah.</p> <p>Write a list of the features of a biography text that you can identify.</p> <p>Now read the annotated example text.</p> <p>Write a list of the features you missed and read the 'remember to'.</p> <p>Tell an adult at home 3 things you have learned about Benjamin Zephaniah.</p>	<p>Research Benjamin Zephaniah using the sources listed in the research activity below.</p> <p>Make notes using the format in the example.</p> <p>Answer the questions given below in the comprehension activity using your research.</p>	<p>Use the planning format below to organise your research.</p> <p>Plan your introduction and conclusion for your biography using GSABC:</p> <p>G - General S - Specific A - Point one B - Point two C - Point three</p>	<p>Re-read the 'remember to' and the example text.</p> <p>Using your plan, write your own biography of Benjamin Zephaniah.</p> <p>Read your text to an adult at home or video yourself reading the text.</p>
Resources	Resource 1A – cycles of nouns and autobiography pages 2-3	Resource 2A – example text Resource 2B – annotated example text	Resource 3A – sources Resource 3B - comprehension	Resource 4A – planning format	



Reading: Year 5 – Summer 1 Week 2

		Day 1 Activity	Day 2 Activity	Day 3 Activity	Day 4 Activity	Day 5 Activity
Whole class		Introduction to Treasure Island Chapter 1 - The old sea dog at the 'Admiral Benbow'	Chapter 2 - Black dog appears and disappears	Chapter 3 - The black spot	Chapter 4 - The sea chest	Chapter 5 - The last of the blind man
I n d e p e n d e n t	*	Float and Sting Chapter 1	Float and Sting Chapter 2	Float and Sting Chapter 3	Float and Sting Chapter 4	Float and Sting Chapter 5
	*	The Zoo with the Empty Cage Chapters 1 and 2	The Zoo with the Empty Cage Chapters 3 and 4	The Zoo with the Empty Cage Chapters 5 and 6	The Zoo with the Empty Cage Chapters 7 and 8	The Zoo with the Empty Cage Chapters 9, 10 and 11
	*	Julius Caesar Pages 4-12	Julius Caesar Pages 12-20	Julius Caesar Pages 20-28	Julius Caesar Pages 28-36	Julius Caesar Pages 36-48
Spelling		Accommodate Accompany According Achieve Aggressive				



Resource 1A – cycles of nouns and autobiography pages 2-

3

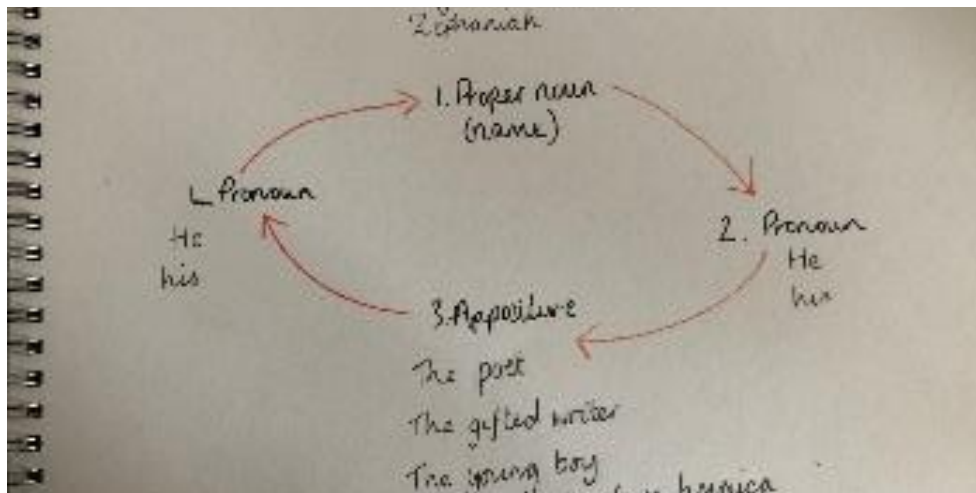
Step 1. Find all of the pronouns which show this is an autobiography (written in first person, e.g. my)

Step 2. Change these for nouns or pronouns which mean the writing is in the third person (e.g. Benjamin Zephaniah, his) and copy the new version into your book. Use the cycle of pronouns and appositives to help you

Here is an example to help you:

My parents came to England in 1954. → Benjamin Zephaniah's parents came to England in 1954.

Challenge: do the same for the other people Zephaniah is discussing from his life e.g. his mother



From Jamaica to England

My parents came to England in 1954. It was at a time when there were a lot of jobs – road sweeping, driving buses and stuff like that. My mum and her sister were walking down the street in Jamaica one day and they saw this poster saying, “Come to the mother country, where the streets are paved with gold, there are jobs **galore**.”

My mum wanted to go, she wanted to do something with her life. She thought that Jamaica was a small island and Britain was a big place with **opportunities**.

England in the 1940s and 1950s

She didn't want to be stuck in St Elizabeth picking potatoes all her life. So my uncle gave her the money for the fare, which was only about £20, and she got on a ship and came.

When she got here she mentioned to somebody that she'd like to do nursing, and they told her to go to Birmingham, so that's what she did.



Resource 2A – example text

Benjamin Zephaniah

Benjamin Zephaniah, who left school at only thirteen years old, has helped prime ministers and presidents and written best-selling books on poetry sold all over the world. How did his life unfold? This biography will provide you with the fascinating story of his incredible life.

Childhood

Zephaniah was born in Birmingham on 15th April 1958. His mother, who was a nurse, had moved from Jamaica in the 1950s. Zephaniah was the oldest of his seven brothers and sisters. As a young child, he was always the boss- even making them go to 'school' in the holidays, with Zephaniah being the teacher.

When he was a young, his family did not have very much money. This meant that he had to share a bed with his brothers and sisters. As he was the eldest, he chose who he slept next to by deciding who had the least smelly feet! They only had one comb in the house and when it went missing, his mother would have to comb everyone's hair with a fork! If they ever got holes in the soles of their shoes, their dad would cut out pieces of cardboard to stick to the bottom of their shoes. Zephaniah hated when it rained as it made his feet soggy. He also tried to walk without lifting his feet up, so other children would not notice the cardboard.

Poetry

In 1971, when Zephaniah was only 13, he left school. From a young age, he loved playing with words and poetry. By the time he was 15, he was a well-known 'dub poet' in Birmingham. (Dub poetry is when a poet speaks over a musical track, usually about something political, like people's rights.) He loved performing on stage and meeting other performers.

By the age of 20, Benjamin Zephaniah was living in London. He was determined to get his poems published but it was very difficult. He was delighted when, in 1980, his first book called 'Pen Rhythm' was published.

Later life

Zephaniah's poetry began to get increasingly famous. People loved how he wrote about real things, like the pain of racism and animal cruelty and fun things like dancing and rapping. He travelled all over the world and Nelson Mandela even thanked him for the poetry he wrote about Mandela being imprisoned. 'I couldn't believe Nelson Mandela thanked *me!*' said a shocked Zephaniah at the time.

He is currently still writing poetry and performing all over the world. "What we really need is a culture of peace," he said in a recent interview. He inspires people with his messages of love and peace and we hope that one day, everyone in the world will learn this powerful message.

Resource 2B – annotated example text

Benjamin Zephaniah - Title

Benjamin Zephaniah, who left school at only thirteen years old, has helped prime ministers and presidents and written best-selling books on poetry sold all over the world. **How did his life unfold? (rhetorical question)** This biography will provide you with the fascinating story of his incredible life. **GSABC**

Childhood - Sub-heading

Zephaniah **was (past tense)** born in Birmingham on 15th April 1958. His mother, **who was a nurse (relative clause)**, had moved from Jamaica in the 1950s. Zephaniah was the oldest of his seven brothers and sisters. As a young child, he was always the boss- even making them go to 'school' in the holidays, with Zephaniah being the teacher.

When he was a young, his family did not have very much money. This meant that he had to share a bed with his brothers and sisters. As he was the eldest, he chose who he slept next to by deciding who had the least smelly feet! They only had one comb in the house and when it went missing, his mother would have to comb everyone's hair with a fork! If they ever got holes in the soles of their shoes, their dad would cut out pieces of cardboard to stick to the bottom of their shoes. Zephaniah hated when it rained as it made his feet soggy. **He also tried to walk without lifting his feet up, so other children would not notice the cardboard. (anecdotal stories rather than basic information)**

Poetry

In **1971 (important dates)**, when Zephaniah was only 13, he left school. From a young age, he loved playing with words and poetry. By the time he was 15, he was a well-known 'dub poet' in Birmingham. **(Dub poetry is when a poet speaks over a musical track, usually about something political, like people's rights.) (brackets for parenthesis or 'extra information')** He loved performing on stage and meeting other performers.

By the age of 20, Benjamin Zephaniah was living in London. He was determined to get his poems published but it was very difficult. He was delighted when, in 1980, his first book called 'Pen Rhythm' was published.

Later life

Zephaniah's poetry began to get increasingly famous. People loved how he wrote about real things, like the pain of racism and animal cruelty and fun things like dancing and rapping. He travelled all over the world and Nelson Mandela even thanked him for the poetry he wrote about Mandela being imprisoned. **"I couldn't believe Nelson Mandela thanked me!" (speech)** said a shocked Zephaniah at the time.

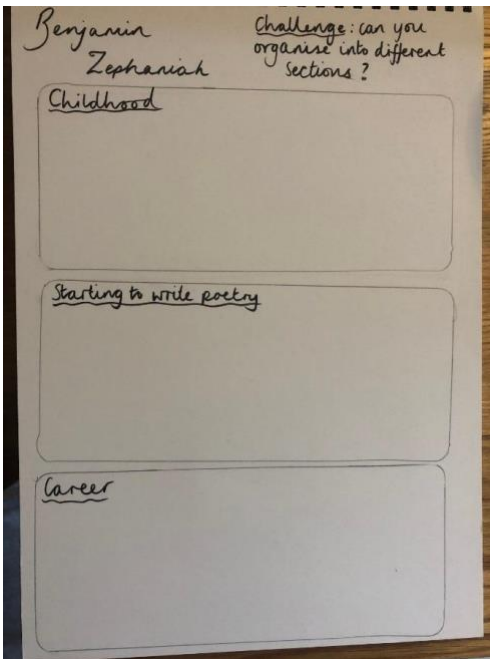
He is currently still writing poetry and performing all over the world. "What we really need is a culture of peace," he said in a recent interview. **He inspires people with his messages of love and peace and we hope that one day, everyone in the world will learn this powerful message. (conclusion)**

Resource 2C – remember to

Remember to...	Have you used it?
Use biographical text features e.g. subheadings	
Write in past tense	
Write in third person using pronouns	
Use a range of appositives	

Resource 3A – sources

You could take your notes like this. Try and get at least 5 points for each:



List of sources to get your information about Zephaniah from:

The model examples

Extracts from *Benjamin Zephaniah: My story*

[Benjamin Zephaniah](#)

[Benjamin Zephaniah books and biography](#)

Resource 3B – comprehension

Using your own research, answer the following questions:

1. What was the cost of travelling to Jamaica from England?
2. Why wasn't there much privacy at home when he was growing up?
3. Was Benjamin Zephaniah rich or poor?
4. How is dub poetry different to other forms of poetry?
5. Why did Benjamin Zephaniah go back to school as an adult?
6. Why do you think Benjamin Zephaniah feels privileged as an adult?

Resource 4A – planning format

Detail Grid	Fact/feeling	Explain why	Speech
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Introduction	General
	Specific
	Point A Point B Point C

Paragraph 1	
Detail	
Detail	
Paragraph 2	
Detail	

Detail	
Paragraph 3	
Detail	
Detail	
Conclusion	

Conclusion	Point A
	Point B
	Point C
	Specific
	General