Monday 22<sup>rd</sup> & Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2020

# A Roman Mystery Story

CRISIS PARAGRAPH

# Paragraph Checklist:

Re-read the first two paragraphs of your story so far. Use this checklist to check:

- Do they make sense?
- ► Do they flow well?
- Are they interesting?
- Have they got exciting language? (fronted adverbials, adjectives, subordinate conjunctions)

#### Monday 22nd June <mark>2020</mark>

### WALT: plan a crisis paragraph.

WILF

Plans for an interesting 'crisis';
Ideas on how your character will react;
Roman vocabulary.

Now we know who your character is and where they are, what's going to happen/go wrong?



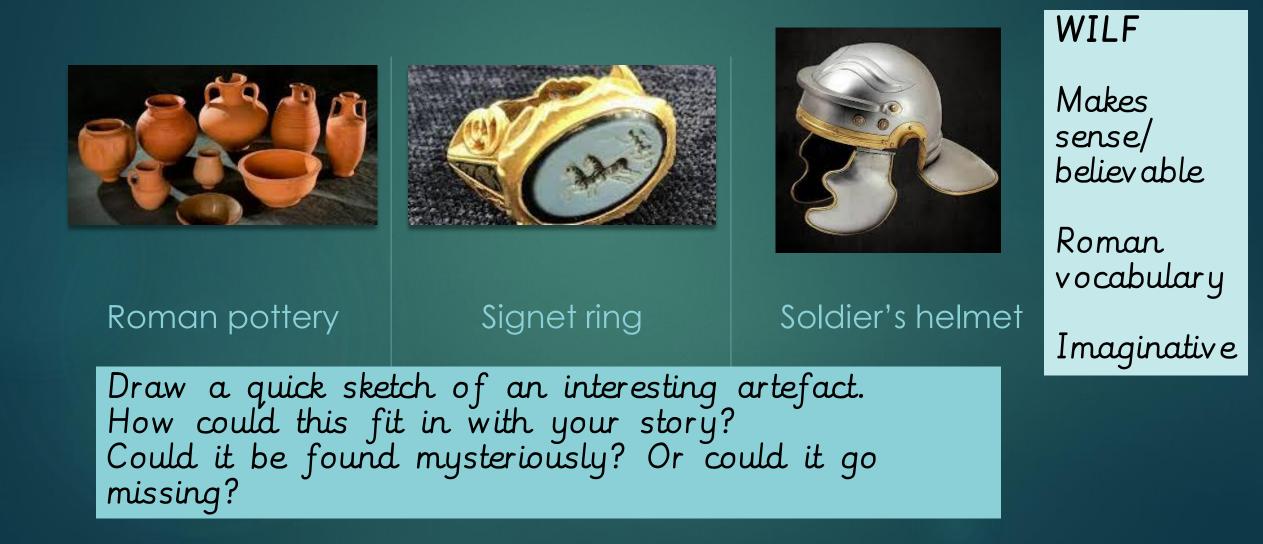
### Guess what I found when I dug in the field?

Who do you think would have held this coin?



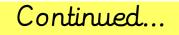
What might it have been used to buy?

## I also found lots of other Roman artefacts...



Famous author of the Roman Mystery stories, Caroline Lawrence, says that there are 7 great parts to any story.

- 1. PROBLEM Your hero has a problem he or she needs to fix. (e.g. Flavia's father has lost his signet ring.)
- 2. DESIRE Your main character wants something which she feels will help her solve her problem. (e.g. Flavia wants to find her father's ring.)
- 3. OPPONENT This is someone who wants the same thing as your main character, or who wants something which will bring them into direct conflict with your main character. This person is not necessarily a BAD guy. (e.g. the magpie from The Thieves of Ostia is not evil; he just likes shiny things!)
- 4. THE PLAN Your main character comes up with a plan of how to get what they want. (e.g. Flavia decides to leave her silver chain as 'bait' for the magpie.) In longer books, this plan doesn't work right away so the main character keeps trying. There is often a section where the main character undergoes 'training' of some sort or collects helpers and allies.



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5. THE BATTLE This is where your main character battles with the opponent. It doesn't have to be a physical fight, it can be an argument or other form of confrontation. (e.g. Flavia follows the magpie outside the town walls.

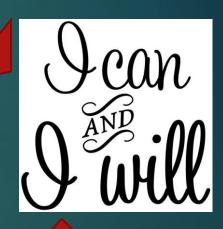
If the magpie reaches his nest without her finding it, then he wins. If Flavia discovers the location of the magpie's nest, then she wins.) In crime and mystery stories, the main plan is usually the opponent's: how to commit the crime. The hero's plan is then to find out the opponent's plan.

6. KNOWLEDGE In the course of this battle the main character gets some important information often about HERSELF and her deeper need - as she struggles to achieve her goal. (e.g. Flavia discovers she was right: her father's ring is in the magpie's nest.)

7. NEW LEVEL After the battle and the knowledge, the main character is on a higher or lower level. Put very simply, they are either happier or sadder than they were at the beginning. (e.g. Flavia is happy that she found her father's ring... but she doesn't have much time to enjoy her new level because she suddenly has a new PROBLEM, and the sequence starts all over again!)

#### Today we will be focusing on these key parts:

- I. PROBLEM Your hero has a problem he or she needs to fix.
- 2. DESIRE Your main character wants something which she feels will help her solve her problem.
- 3. OPPONENT This is someone who wants the same thing as your main character, or who wants something which will bring them into direct conflict with your main character. This person is not necessarily a BAD guy.



# Something is about to go wrong in your story...





What could your mystery be?





Remember – it will have to be solved! Try to think of some ideas for your story:

#### Ideas for crisis/ solutions

Here are some ideas to get your started. Remember to think about the solution for later!

Character gets lost in the market.

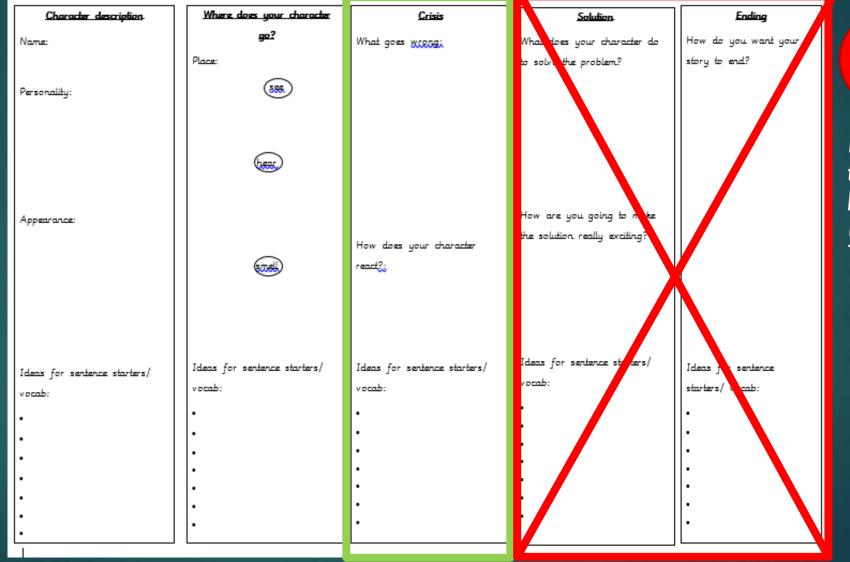
Meets map seller and has adventures getting home.

Ideas for crisis/ solutions Character loses master's signet ring when they are in the Roman baths.\_\_

A mischievous magpie has taken the ring back to its nest.

Character finds a roman soldier helmet left alone outside colosseum. Finds young, distressed soldier who was worried they'd be punished. Become friends and soldier offers character lifelong protection.

#### Complete the crisis box on your plan.



Don't fill in the other boxes just yet!

#### Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2020

### WALT: write a crisis paragraph.

WILF
▶ Full sentences;
▶ Past tense writing;
★ Speech punctuation;
★ Rhetorical question.

Over the coming weeks, we are going to be writing a Roman adventure or mystery story.

Today we're going to write a paragraph about what goes wrong in your story.



Check back through your plan from yesterday carefully. If possible, talk through these points with someone else.

- Is your crisis exciting/adventurous?
- Have you thought about how your character will react?
- Who or what is acting as the opponent in your story?
  Do you know how your problem will be solved?

Use the following web page to find out about how you could include speech punctuation in your writing today:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zvwwxnb/ar ticles/ztcp97h

Practise writing one sentence of speech which you will include.

#### WILF:

Full sentences;

Past tense writing;

Speech punctuation; Rhetorical question.

#### WALT: write a crisis paragraph.

You could use these sentence starts to get you started:

Suddenly, ..... noticed ...

Feeling confused, ... searched around for ...

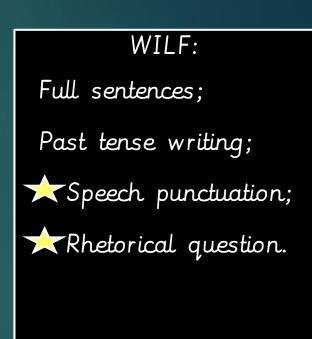
Thoughts raced through his mind, ...

without wasting any time, ...

WILF: Full sentences; Past tense writing; Speech punctuation; Rhetorical question.

# What A Good One Looks Like

Matthias realised that he must've been daydreaming for a long time when a loud splash brought his attention back to the room. Suddenly, he noticed that some of the items he was supposed to be holding for his master had vanished! Feeling confused, he searched around for the missing signet ring and golden robe belt but there was no sign of either item. Thoughts raced through his mind, "how could I let this happen?" Matthias panicked, "I'm sure to be punished for this!" Without wasting any time, Matthias began his frantic search. Looking down low between the tiles and in the drains and glaring high above the walls of the bath ...





Remember to read back through your work carefully!

Check for:

- ► CL and .
- Your use of conjunctions (FANBOYS and ISAWAWABUB)
- Sentence starters (e.g. fronted adverbials)

Star Challenge:

- Speech punctuation