

What a disaster!

Disaster database

Here is a list of famous disasters.

Proper nouns are names given to particular things and must start with capitals.



When?	What?	Where?	How?
28 August 2005	New Orleans destroyed, 1800 people died	USA, North America	Hurricane Katrina
26 December 2004	Asian Tsunami	Indian Ocean	earthquake/flooding
1994	1 million Rwandans died	Central Africa	war/disease/famine
15 October 1970	Westgate Bridge collapsed	Melbourne, Australia	concrete pylon fell
14 April 1912	<i>SS Titanic</i> sank	Atlantic Ocean	struck an iceberg
18 April 1906	San Francisco earthquake and fire	USA, North America	earthquake/fire
1877–78	10 million people died	China, Asia	famine
1666	London destroyed	England, Europe	fire
13th century	Half Europe's people died	Europe	bubonic plague
AD 79	Pompeii was destroyed	Italy, Europe	Mount Vesuvius erupted

Use the table to find proper nouns that are related to the following common nouns.

- 1 earthquake/fire: _____
- 2 plague and famine: _____
- 3 shipping: _____
- 4 city: _____
- 5 bridge: _____
- 6 volcano: _____

Find out

What would the database tell you about the following disasters?
Write your answers in sentences, using correct punctuation.

- 1 famine: _____
- 2 earthquake: _____
- 3 fire: _____
- 4 disease: _____
- 5 volcanic eruption: _____

Remember to use capitals for sentence beginnings and proper nouns.



Major sentences about major disasters

Major sentences contain a **subject**, a **verb** and an **object**. The subject tells who or what the sentence is about. The verb tells what the subject does. The object tells what the subject did to someone or something else.

Use the disaster table to sort out the subjects, verbs and objects of these sentences.

Subject	Verb	Object
Cyclone Tracy	smothered	the side of the <i>Titanic</i> open.
Millions of Chinese	collapsed	onto the banks of the Yarra River.
Many Rwandan people	tore	during the great famine of 1877–78.
The Westgate Bridge	fled	the lovely city of Pompeii.
An iceberg	starved	Darwin on Christmas Eve.
Mount Vesuvius	destroyed	the war in their country.



Write your completed sentences on the lines below.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____

Don't panic!

Many words in the English language have their origins in the names of the Greek and Roman gods and from people and places mentioned in their myths. Complete the grid with words from the box.

Name	Origin	English word	Meaning
Pan	Greek forest god		wild fear
Vulcan	Roman god of fire		erupting mountain
Ceres	Roman goddess of crops		breakfast food
Olympus	Home of the Greek gods		world sports meeting

cereal
panic
Olympic Games
volcano

Moving on

Using books or the Internet, complete a When? What? Where? How? table (as shown on page 8), with information about three disasters you have researched.

Parts of speech: Common and proper noun relationships

Punctuation: Capitals for proper nouns

Sentence development: Major sentences

Word knowledge: Words from Roman and Greek gods

Enrichment: Disaster database

Dear diary ...

Darcy's diary is written in past tense – except for the last sentence, which is written in future tense.



Darcy's disappointment

Darcy has written diary entries for the past three days, but cannot decide which verbs to use. Help Darcy by circling the most suitable verbs from the brackets.

DAY 1: I wanted to (**get, got**) a basketball hoop for my birthday but all I (**get, got**) was a book on how to (**shear, shearing, sheared**) sheep. If you (**ask, asked**) me, they should have (**buy, buying, bought**) something I could (**play, playing, played**) with. I have been (**spend, spending, spent**) enough time (**round, rounding, rounded**) up the rotten sheep.

DAY 2: I (**go, gone, went**) off to school today. I (**hate, hating, hated**) having to go to school after my birthday. Everyone was (**want, wanting, wanted**) to know what presents I had been (**give, gave, given**). I'm afraid I did not (**tell, telling, told**) the truth. I (**say, saying, said**) that they (**give, gave, given**) me basketball cards.

DAY 3: I (**use, using, used**) the money I have (**save, saving, saved**) up to go out and (**buy, buying, bought**) a basketball hoop. At least now when my friends (**come, coming, came**) over, they will (**see, seeing, saw**) the hoop and (**think, thinking, thought**) that it was my birthday present.

A minor point

When people are writing diaries, they sometimes do not bother with writing major sentences all the time. They can use **minor sentences**, which we often use in our conversations. Minor sentences are short and are often used in replies. They do not always contain verbs.

Use some of the minor sentences listed, mixed with some major sentences, to make up a diary entry for a superhero.

What a day!	Goodness me.
One more problem.	Talk about surprised.
Easy come, easy go.	Why me?
Oh no!	And about time.
Sold my cape.	

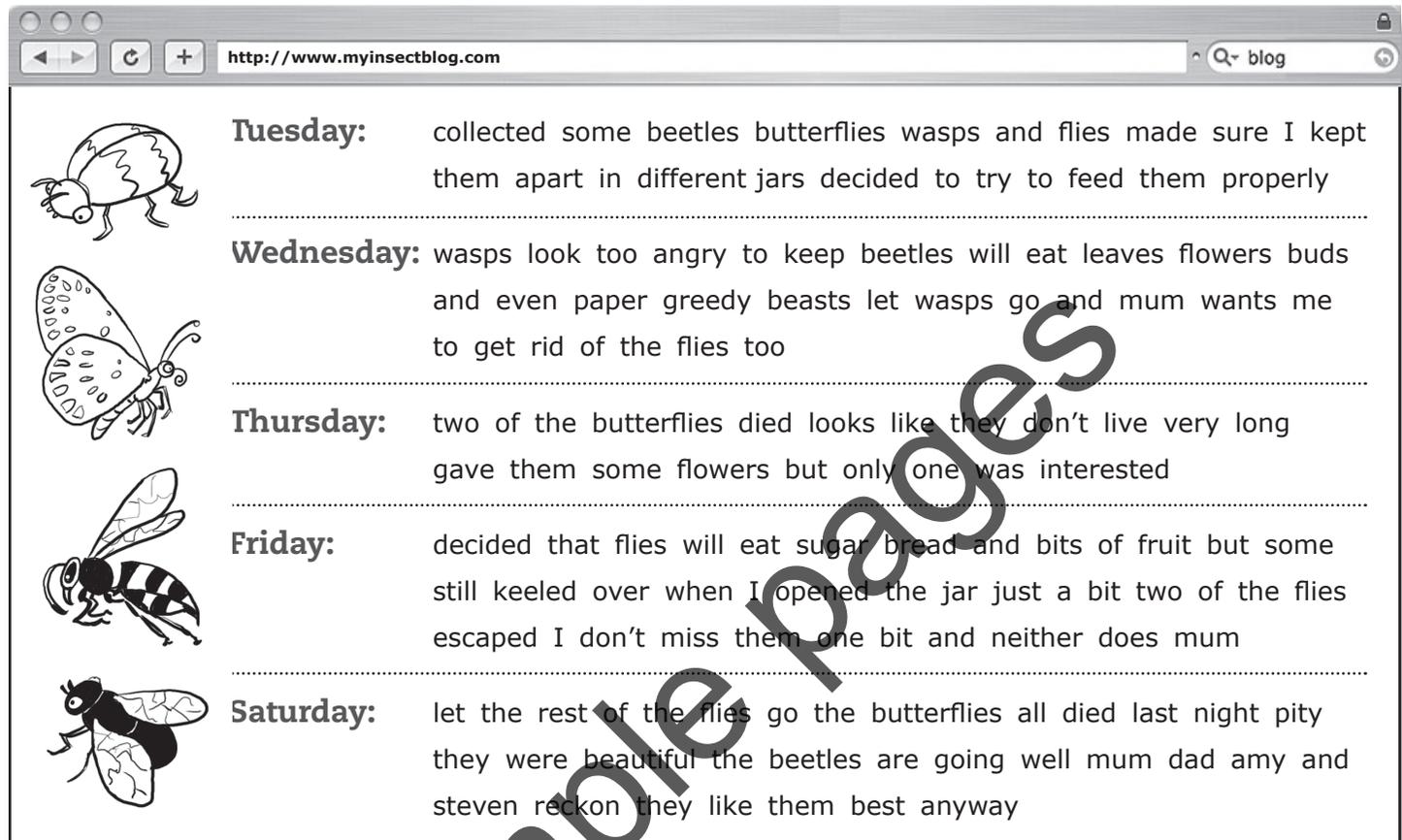
DAY 1: _____

DAY 2: _____

DAY 3: _____

Specialist blogs

A specialist blog can be kept if you have a special interest in something. You might be interested in a sport, collecting things or cooking. Here is an example of a specialist blog entry. Edit this blog by putting in the missing full stops, capital letters and commas.



Tuesday: collected some beetles butterflies wasps and flies made sure I kept them apart in different jars decided to try to feed them properly

Wednesday: wasps look too angry to keep beetles will eat leaves flowers buds and even paper greedy beasts let wasps go and mum wants me to get rid of the flies too

Thursday: two of the butterflies died looks like they don't live very long gave them some flowers but only one was interested

Friday: decided that flies will eat sugar bread and bits of fruit but some still keeled over when I opened the jar just a bit two of the flies escaped I don't miss them one bit and neither does mum

Saturday: let the rest of the flies go the butterflies all died last night pity they were beautiful the beetles are going well mum dad amy and steven reckon they like them best anyway

Dated abbreviations

Diaries are often written in a hurry. Describing her trip to Queensland, Jessica has abbreviated some of her words. Write them as complete words.

- | | | | |
|------------|-------|----------|-------|
| 1 Mon. | _____ | 7 hwy | _____ |
| 2 Qld | _____ | 8 Thurs. | _____ |
| 3 Fri. | _____ | 9 Tues. | _____ |
| 4 Tweed R. | _____ | 10 Bris. | _____ |
| 5 Aug. | _____ | 11 Wed. | _____ |
| 6 Sept. | _____ | 12 Sat. | _____ |

Moving on

Start a one-week blog or journal on a special interest you might have, e.g. card collecting, a pet, a favourite sport, a news event, dancing.

TV guide

Underline all the proper nouns you can find in the TV Guide.

MONSTER TV Sunday March 28

6:00am	Monster Mash Two hours of monstrous music to make your ears wiggle.	11:00	Monster Sports Sunday Your host Max Cyclops brings you three hours of sport from around the world of monsters.
8:00	Funny Business Ralph Grunge and Melinda Minotaur review the week in business. This week: Peoplescare Inc. and how they have captured the market.	2:00pm	Gorgons vs Godzillas Clash of the season between the two great rivals for the Frankenstein Cup.
9:00	Little Monsters Plug Ugly entertains the youngsters with an hour of fun. Cartoons, competitions and lots more to keep them out of your fur.	5:00	Wrex Horrible Fishing Show Wrex takes you into the depths of a volcano where you can catch some fiery dragons.
10:00	Talk to the Monstrosities Monster vet talks about your pet griffin, tells how to feed your sea serpent properly and how to stop your gegasaurian treading on the garden.	6:00	Monster News Presented by Clem Clumsy and Felicity Fangs.
		6.30	Our World Travel series Tonight – <i>The Unsightly Humans</i> . Travel to the world of the ugliest creatures on Earth and their strange habits.

Alliteration is when you use words that begin with the same letter. They are interesting ways of describing what certain characters do, e.g. Gorgons gorge greedily. (Noun – verb – adverb)

Complete the noun, verb and adverb alliterations, and then include them in sentences.



Adverbs are words that describe verbs; they tell you how something is done.

- 1 mummies _____
- 2 vampires _____
- 3 dragons _____
- 4 gorillas _____
- 5 sea serpents _____
- 6 dinosaurs _____

Pause, then continue

A comma is used to mark a pause in a sentence.

The first part of these sentences is already written, showing where the pause must be taken.

You must continue the sentences.

- 1 Leaning over the monster, _____.
- 2 Being the strongest monster in the sea, _____.
- 3 In this fearful story, _____.
- 4 Having a large head with rows of terrible teeth, _____.

While on the subject

The **subject** tells who or what the sentence is about. The **verb** tells what the subject does.

The **object** tells what the subject did to someone or something else.

Subject Verb Object

.....

Example: Mandy watched TV every night.

Label the subject, verb and object in the following sentences.

- 1 The Gorgons defeated the Godzillas easily.
- 2 Over the hill came the terrible wailing banshees.
- 3 Slowly the monster began to move its horrible head.

Complete the following sentences with a subject that is best suited to the verb and object.

- 4 _____ began to flicker as the plane passed overhead.
- 5 By 7:30 pm _____ had finished.

When the subject comes first,
the sentence is in the active voice.
When the object comes first,
the sentence is in the passive voice.



Tele-words

When John Logie Baird invented television, he put together a Greek **root word** *tele*, meaning 'far off' and a Latin (Roman) word *visio*, meaning 'I see'.

Attach these words to **tele-** and describe their meanings.

scope (Gk *skopos*) = look at **phone** (Gk *phonos*) = voice **cast** = last part of broadcast

- 1 tele _____
- 2 tele _____
- 3 tele _____



Moving on

Your turn

Now it is your turn to write a TV evening's program for Channel 8 Piravision. Make up some programs from 6:00 pm until 10:30 pm, e.g. 6:00 Corsair (Cartoon) Captain Corsair and his crazy crew attempt to catch Otto Octopus.

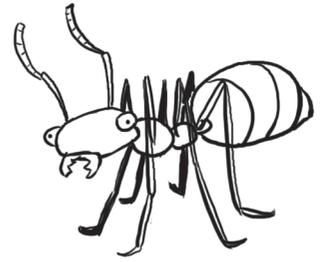
The creatures that rule the world

Multiplying insects

With some plural words we simply add **s** to the singular. Where the singular ends in **y**, change the **y** to **i** and add **es**, e.g. baby – babies; singulars ending with **o** add **es**; singular words ending with **s** or **ch** add **es**.

What are the plurals for the following insects?

- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1 ant _____ | 4 butterfly _____ | 7 fly _____ |
| 2 beetle _____ | 5 cockroach _____ | 8 mantis _____ |
| 3 cicada _____ | 6 mosquito _____ | 9 termite _____ |



Change the names of the insects to plurals and make any other changes that might be necessary.

10 The cockroach ate all of its meal of flour.

11 A mantis waits patiently for the insects to arrive.

12 The beetle is protected by hard shells over its wings.

13 We were bothered by a mosquito buzzing around our beds.

14 A fly can survive massive doses of radiation but it can give birth to deformed larvae.

15 The cicada made such a loud noise that we could not bear to listen to it.

Insect facts

Complete the following insect facts by adding any missing **apostrophes** to the underlined words.

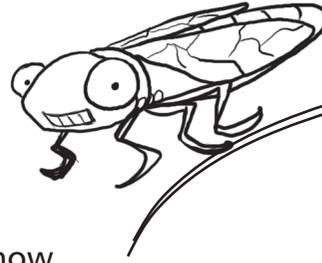
- The gentle lacewings larva becomes the ferocious ant-lion.
- A European wasps sting, unlike the bees sting, can be used over and over again.
- Termites mounds in Northern Australia are always lined up north and south.
- Mosquitoes stings spread malaria and are responsible for more deaths in the world every year than any other insect.
- The butterflys wings fold vertically over the insects back when it is at rest.
- Ants ability to survive is helped by their ability to store food.

Possessive apostrophes come after the name of the owner. e.g. one owner's thing, but two owners' things.



Cicadas rock!

Dani wants to know about cicadas and Robbie is answering. Punctuate their conversation with quotation marks.



- 1 Why do cicadas make that loud noise? asked Dani.
- 2 They are trying to attract a mate, replied Robbie.
- 3 But how do they make the noise? Dani wanted to know
- 4 The males have a kind of drum in their abdomen, said Robbie patiently.
- 5 Do they beat them with a drumstick? wondered Dani.
- 6 Of course not! answered Robbie. They vibrate them with powerful muscles.
- 7 What a noise! exclaimed Dani. Thank goodness it's only in summer!
- 8 That's because they hatch out only when it is hot, said Robbie, then die after mating and laying eggs.
- 9 Why do they shed their skins? asked Dani.
- 10 Young cicadas burrow into the ground. When they emerge as adults, they shed their skins, explained Robbie.

Insectarium

Complete the sentences with words from the box. Each word is derived from an insect name.

- 1 He was wearing a scruffy, _____ jacket.
- 2 The _____ devoured the whole ant colony in one meal.
- 3 Disastrously the _____ on the tank had been damaged by the shell.
- 4 I was able to capture many insects with my _____.
- 5 In the tropics, a _____ is essential at night.
- 6 We made a _____ for the nearest bakery.
- 7 Kaz reached for the can of _____.
- 8 An old _____ dog lay sprawled by the door.

flyspray
caterpillar track
butterfly net
flea-bitten
moth-eaten
beeline
anteater
mosquito net

Moving on

Using books or the Internet, find out about a type of insect and make a poster which tells of its life cycle, food, habitat and usefulness.

Australian heroes

Underline each of the adjectives used in the following passage.

In September 1876, young Grace Bussell and her Aboriginal friend Garrnara were riding their horses along the beach on lonely Cape Leeuwin, Western Australia. Suddenly, they caught sight of a ship that had run aground on the treacherous rocks. They could see there were people clinging to the ship. If something were not done for them, they would surely be drowned in the boiling surf.

Grace and Garrnara knew that they would have to do something immediately, because the only other help was miles away. Urging their horses into the sea, they struggled through the waves to the stricken ship. One by one, the survivors clung to the horses' saddles while Grace and Garrnara took them to the safety of the shore.

After four hours, they had succeeded in rescuing all the survivors. Still there was more to be done. Leaving the people with Garrnara, Grace rode the eight miles to her parents' house to get food, blankets and shelter before the darkness came. The Bussell family managed to get together all the people needed. The following day, all the survivors were taken to Mr Bussell's house. On the 8th of January 1878, Grace and Garrnara were given the Royal Humane Society's medal for bravery.



Adjectives are words that describe nouns. For example, monstrous waves.



Giving directives

Direct speech is the words actually used by a speaker. **Indirect speech** is a description of what someone has said,

e.g. The captain urged, "Keep calm everyone."

The captain urged everyone to keep calm.

Change the direct speech used below to indirect speech.

- 1 "Pass the youngest ones first," shouted Grace.

- 2 "Please help us!" pleaded the woman in the green dress.

- 3 Garrnara said calmly, "Take hold of the saddle."

- 4 "Keep hold of the reins," advised Grace, "or you'll be swept away."

- 5 "I'll ride for help," Grace told Garrnara. "You wait here with these people."

Please help!

Directives are sentences that instruct someone to do something for us. Some of the most common directives we use in our speech are warning, pleading and requesting,

e.g. **warning:** Watch out for that rock! **pleading:** Help me! **requesting:** Please get up.

Write whether the following directives are warning (W), pleading (P) or requesting (R).

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 1 Please find my husband. (<u>P</u>) | 4 Don't be away too long. (____) |
| 2 Don't let go of the saddle! (____) | 5 Could you load the buggy now? (____) |
| 3 Don't let me drown! (____) | 6 Watch out for that wave! (____) |

More help

Now make up some of your own directives to describe some of the things the people involved in the rescue might have said.

- 1 warning: _____
- 2 pleading: _____
- 3 requesting: _____

Move things with verbs

It's much more exciting when you use verbs to describe the action. Verbs such as **urging**, **struggled** and **clinging** help to paint a better picture for the reader.

Try to improve the following sentences about famous women by selecting the best verb.

- 1 Quentin Bryce was the first female Australian Governor-General _____.
- 2 Stephanie Rice _____ that she was an outstanding swimmer at the Beijing Olympics.
- 3 Dr Fiona Woods _____ a spray on skin for burns victims.
- 4 Even as a young girl, Joan Sutherland _____ that she was able to become a great opera singer.
- 5 The pilot Amy Johnson showed that she was able to _____ the distance from England to Australia in record time.
- 6 Australian Saint, Sister Mary McKillop, was a person who _____ the poor in any way she could.

assisted
demonstrated
appointed
showed
cover
invented

Moving on

Honour roll

Build up an honour roll of these famous women, putting them in alphabetical order by family name: Dawn Fraser – swimming; Dame Margot Fonteyn – ballet; Indira Ghandi – politics; Mary Shelley – writing; Cleopatra – Queen of Egypt; Elizabeth Blackwell – first woman doctor; Evonne Goolagong – tennis.

