Keeping Skills Sharp

Week 1

Extended Writing

Write a short story about getting lost whilst on holiday. In your story, you should include the following:

- A conversation between yourself and a new friend.
- A dangerous encounter.
- Your experience on the journey.
- What type of food you ate.
- How you escaped from danger.
- How your parents reacted when you returned home.

OK..let’s break this down…First of all you must include all of the ideas mentioned above!

Second, the markers will be looking for the kind of vocabulary we’ve been working on all year;

- Detailed description
- Similes or metaphors
- Fronted adverbials
- Personification
- Mixture of long and short sentences
- Accurate punctuation

Here’s my first draft, can you identify all of the key features?

"Are you sure about this, It looks a bit dangerous".
"It'll be fine", said Megan, "It's going to be great fun, and we'll be back soon". Megan and Joe were on holiday with their parents, staying in a cosy cottage in Cornwall. The cottage belonged to one of their mums' friends and Mum had jumped at the chance to get away for a couple of weeks by the coast. It was alright at first, the grown-ups had loved the cottage, Megan kept hearing "picturesque" and "idyllic" every time Dad spoke about it. All Megan knew was that there was no Wi-Fi signal, so she couldn't even to Charli and Evie, her best mates from school. It was O.K. for Joe, he had his Nintendo DS to keep him occupied..."Stupid kids games", Megan kept saying, (mainly because Joe refused to let her have a go).
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After the first couple of days, Mum and Dad had finally decided to take them to the beach..."Smugglers' Cove", Dad had called it, doing his best pirate impression.

The children had wandered along the beach, letting the surf splash over their bare feet. It was Joe who'd spotted the man first, sitting by an old boat, twisting some faded cords into an old net.

"Hey look, it's a pirate", he'd whispered pointing to the tanned figure as they approached.

"Yeah right", mocked Megan as they got nearer. "Mind you, he does kind of look a bit like a pirate", she thought to herself...stripey top, patched trousers that stopped just below his knees...even a gold earring glinting in the sunshine!

"You kids staying around here are ya?"... smiled the 'pirate' as they got alongside him.

"Yeah", said Joe, jumping forward eagerly..."We're stopping at a cottage with my Mum and Dad..."

"Joe!"... interrupted Megan before her brother could blurt out any more... "You shouldn't be giving out all your personal stuff like that to strangers!"

"I'm Joe and this is my sister Megan", continued Joe eagerly. "Why do I even bother", sighed Megan.

"Well, I'm Toby, and your sister's right...be careful who you talk to...never know who's around", laughed the man.

"There's not a lot for you guys to do round 'ere - unless you like fishing - or you can always go into the town".

Megan decided that Toby wasn't a pirate after all but she was eager to get going..."Well, we're just going to explore along the beach and have a look at those cliffs and stuff".

"Sure", smiled Toby, "just be careful and don't go too far into the rocks, some of those caves can be quite tricky". He waved a hand at them and went back to his net, whistling quietly to himself.
"Come on", urged Megan, "Don't be such a scaredy cat". Anxiously, Joe peered into the gloom, seeing the sharp rocks going deeper and deeper into the cliffs. He tried to look casual, when actually he felt quite nervous inside, but he couldn't let his sister get the better of him, after all, she was only one year older than him at twelve, so who made her boss?

Holding his breath, Joe followed Megan into the cave, he could see the sandy path twisting and turning as they ventured further into the gloom.

"It's cool in here", whispered Megan. She was turning around on the spot, watching the patches of sunlight reflecting on the rocks as the broke through cracks in the walls.

"D'you think we'll find treasure?"

"Well, if we do, I get first pick of the biggest diamonds", laughed Megan as she leapt across a small rock pool and squeezed into another opening in the cliff wall.

"Hey, wait up, not so fast", moaned Joe as he hurried after Megan.

Within a few minutes they had gone quite a way without realising just how far they'd walked. The sun wasn't reaching every part of the walls but there was still enough light to see where they were going.

"Is it tea time yet", asked Joe, "I'm starving...got anything to eat in your bag Meg?"

Megan hadn't realised until now that she was also feeling quite peckish.

"Em, I've got a couple of chocolate bars and a bottle of diet coke", she mumbled, scrabbling around inside her backpack. "Why didn't you bring your own chocolate anyway?"

"I ate mine this morning for breakfast", sighed Joe as he quickly snatched one of the bars and peeled the wrapper.

"Huh, typical", muttered Megan as she sat down on a rock and unwrapped her own snack, "You're a right greedy-guts".

"Whatever", replied Joe, "pass me the coke then"...
"Yeah, right...like I'm going to let you swig it all down in one go...you can wait for me", laughed Megan as she slowly nibbled her own chocolate bar. "That'll teach him not to be so greedy", she thought to herself.

Minutes later, as she slowly put her empty wrapper into her bag, Megan took a long drink of her coke.

"Come on", moaned Joe, "hand it over".

After gulping down nearly half the bottle, Megan finally threw the bottle across to where her brother was leaning against a rocky wall.

"Ahh, you idiot", moaned Joe, "now it's gone into the water!"

Curiously, Megan stood up..."What water, what are you going on about?"

As she looked at Joe, he was pulling the half empty bottle out of a soggy puddle of sand...

"Joe", cried Megan, "the water...it's coming in...where's it coming from".

Now Joe was standing up, staring around...the water really was coming in, he could see a little stream running along the floor where they'd walked a little while ago!

"Meg, the tide's coming in...we'll be trapped...we have to go back out".

Panicking, Megan stared around, "We can't go back, the water's too deep already". She could see the frothy, white surf bubbling across the floor towards them..."Quick, we have to try and go higher up".

Grabbing her brother by his sleeve, Megan pulled him over to the side of the cave and pushed him onto a rock that was sticking out of the side. Another step was just above that and the children both quickly stepped up onto it.

Megan was trying hard to be calm although her heart was pounding and her chest felt like it was being squeezed.

"Can we..get any higher up" gasped Joe, "I think we need to get higher".
Anxiously, Megan looked to the side and saw another ledge with a patch of sunlight streaming through it..."Up there, quick", she urged, pushing her brother forward.

As Joe climbed, he heard a sudden scream and turned to see Megan laying between two of the rocks that they'd used as stepping stones...

"Oww...my leg", she cried "I think I broke my ankle Joe, it really hurts!"

Joe scrambled down again and reached for his sister's hand..."Come on Meg, we've got to get up higher and see if we can climb out".

Limping, and with her face screwed up in pain, Megan managed to stand on the rocks and drag herself up onto the ledge that took them a metre above the splashing tide.

"HELP!", HELP us...we're stuck!" yelled Joe in a panic as he clung on to his sister's arm fiercely.

"Meg, we're trapped...what are we gonna do?" He sounded near to tears, and to be honest, Megan felt the same, her heart was pounding and her ankle felt like it was twice the normal size"...

"You kids need a hand?"

"Who?...who's that? ... Where are you?" cried an anxious Joe.

"Up here"

Looking up, the children saw a familiar face..brown and smiling, with a golden earring sparkling on one side".

"Toby, it's Toby Meg"...shouted Joe excitedly..."Toby, we're stuck and Megan's hurt her leg".

"Yeah", said Toby, "I can see...can you reach this?"

Joe stretched up as Toby lowered the net he'd been working on.
"Grab hold and wrap it around you", he urged as the boy grabbed the twisted ropes.

"You'll have to climb up and I'll pull you from up here", said the fisherman as Joe wrapped his arms around the strong net.

"Toby, I don't think I can climb", gasped Megan, "my ankle really hurts and I can't stand up".

"Well sort you out in a bit, let's get your brother up top first".

Taking the net in his hands, Toby braced himself as Joe started to jump up towards the crack.

"That's it Joe, Just hang on and use your feet to climb up".

Joe took a huge breath as his head appeared above the top of the rock and he felt the sun shining into his face.

"O.K. now Megan", smiled Toby as he lowered the net back down, "You'll have to wrap the net around your waist and tie it and I'll pull you up as best I can".

Megan gasped in pain as she tried to stand up and had to lean on the wall for support.

"I can't climb", she said as she stared up at their rescuer...

"It's ok, you just hang on tight and do the best you can, I reckon me and Joe can lift you up between us - what about it Joe?"

Wiping his eyes quickly, Joe grabbed hold of the net and began to pull.

"Careful, not too quick", said Toby gently, "nice and slowly so Megan can use her hands to help.

After what seemed like an age, Megan too felt the sun shining on her and felt the cool breeze blowing into her face.

"Meg, Meg, you're safe...we got you", mumbled Joe excitedly as he grabbed his sister in both arms.
"Thank you", winced Megan as she tried to put her swollen foot down, "how did you know where to find us?"

"I figured you'd be the exploring type, people are always going into these caves, likely looking for pirate treasure and the like", Toby smiled as he picked Megan up.

"Reckon I'd better carry you if you can't walk", he said, "we'd better get you back to your parents so someone can take a look at that leg of yours".

Megan felt a little awkward and Joe felt a lot silly with all the talk of pirates and hidden treasure…

"People are always trying to wander around those rocks...It's a wonder they don't put signs up...y'know...'Be Careful - No Treasure Here'." laughed Toby gently as he carried one child with another bouncing along excitedly beside him.

In minutes, two figures appeared, running anxiously towards the group.

"Joe, Megan, what happened, where have you been?" the children's mum grabbed Joe in her arms before kneeling down as Toby carefully lowered Megan to the ground.

"Where have you been...what happened to your foot?"

This time it was their dad who was anxiously talking as he stared from one to another ...

"They had a bit of a mishap in the rocks", explained Toby as he turned to the parents, "nothing too serious, Megan needs her ankle looked at, I think it's just sprained and Joe's just a little bit excited".

"My name's Toby...Toby Wren, I'm one of the coast guards for this area..."

"Toby saved us", explained Megan as she limped into her dad's arms..."we got stuck and he rescued us and....."

"Yeah, he's a hero", shouted Joe excitedly...we nearly drowned!"
“Don't know about that”, laughed Toby to the horrified parents, “probably would’ve just got a little soggy maybe”.

“Anyway, no more pirate treasure seeking for you guys for a while eh?.”

Now you have a go at writing your own version.

**Maths**

Answer the following multiple choice questions. Use the space around the questions for your working out. Remember to circle the correct answer.

**Question 1.**
16.09 + 5.43 =

A 21.52    B 22.56    C 23.45    D 22.10

**Question 2.**
A bag of sugar has 1,262 g remaining in it.
How much is this in kg?

A 17.89 kg    B 1.262 kg    C 1.364 kg    D 12.62 kg

**Question 3.**
The area of a tile is 5 cm × 5 cm = 25 cm².
What is this area written in mm²?

A 1,320 mm²    B 2,500 mm²    C 250 mm²    D 2,200 mm²

**Question 4.**
What is a third of £96?

A £34    B £32    C £38    D £37
Question 5.  
41 × 230 =  
A 9,203  B 9,888  C 7,893  D 9,430

A     B     C     D

Question 6.  
A pair of shorts that originally cost £30.00 are reduced in the sale by £12.00. What percentage discount has been applied?  

A 40%  B 30%  C 60%  D 20%

A     B     C     D

Question 7.  
144 ÷ 9 =  
A 15  B 16  C 17  D 18

A     B     C     D

Question 8.  
18 ÷ 0.3 =  
A 22  B 78  C 70  D 60

A     B     C     D

Question 9.  
72 + 177 = 259  
A 6  B 2  C 3  D 8

A     B     C     D

Question 10.  
0.4? - 0.13 = 0.29  
A 3  B 7  C 2  D 5

A     B     C     D
Question 11.
Femi is hosting a competition to raise money for charity. He sells raffle tickets at his school with values from 1 to 40. The winning ticket will receive a prize.
Millie buys 2 tickets. What is the probability of her winning the prize?

A 1/62    B 2/20    C 1/20    D 1/40

Question 12.
Calculate 25% of £96.

A £27     B £22      C £28      D £24

Question 13.
60.5 ÷ 5.\? = 11

A 2      B 1      C 8      D 5

Question 14.
2\?- 29 = –6

A 8      B 2       C 5         D 3

Question 15. A sunflower grows to 1,023 mm tall.
How tall is this in cm?

A 0.1023 cm   B 1.023 cm   C 102.3 cm   D 10.23 cm
**Maths Answers**

**Q1.** A = 21.52  
Explanation = 16.09 + 5.43 = 21.52

**Q2.** B = 1.262 kg  
Explanation = There are 1,000 grams in a kilogram. Therefore, 1,262 g = 1.262 kg

**Q3.** B = 250 mm²  
Explanation = There are 10 millimetres in a centimetre. Therefore, 25 cm = 250 mm.

**Q4.** B = £32  
Explanation = $13 \times 96 = 32$

**Q5.** D = 9,430  
Explanation = 41 \times 230 = 9,430

**Q6.** A = 40%  
Explanation = 12 \div 30 = 0.4 \ 0.4 \times 100 = 40. Therefore, the answer is 40%.

**Q7.** B = 16  
Explanation = 144 \div 9 = 16

**Q8.** D = 60  
Explanation = 18 \div 0.3 = 60

**Q9.** D = 8  
Explanation = 259 - 72 = 187

**Q10.** C = 2  
Explanation = 0.29 + 0.13 = 0.42

**Q11.** C = 1/20  
Explanation = If there are 40 tickets, and Millie buys 2 of them, then she’ll have a 2/40 chance of winning. Simplified, this equals 1/20.

**Q12.** D = £24  
Explanation = 25% of 96 = 0.25 \ 0.25 \times 96 = 24
Q13. D = 5
Explanation = 11 × 5.5 = 60.5

Q14. D = 3
Explanation = -6 + 29 = 23

Q15. C = 102.3 cm
Explanation = There are 10 millimetres in a centimetre. Therefore, 1,023 mm = 102.3 cm.
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