

Year 3 Literacy

Remote learning

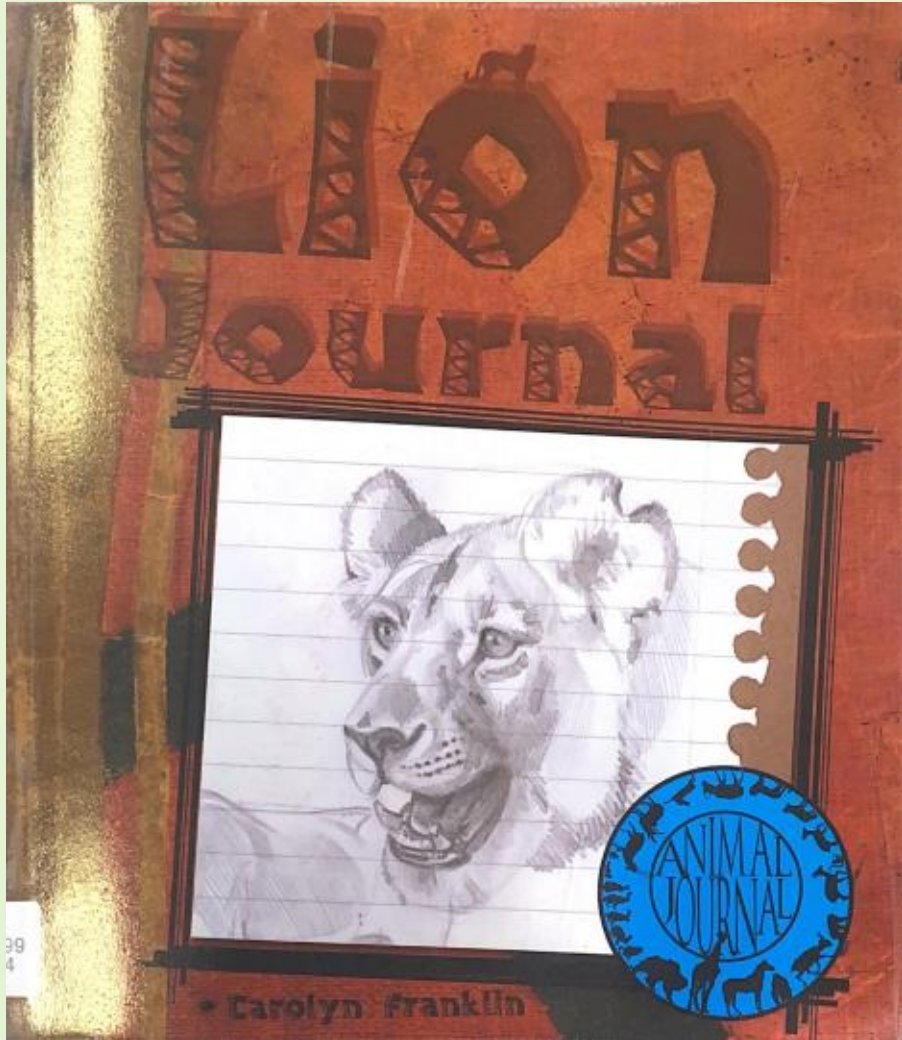
1.2.21-5.2.21

At the end of next week, we are going to be writing our own fact files about an African Elephant. These five lessons will build up the skills you will need to write your fact file.

Lesson 1

LO: To identify the features of a non-fiction text.

At the end of next week, you will be writing a fact file about an African Elephant. We are going to use the a range of text to help us and today we are looking at the book Lion Journal. Spend some time exploring the book. You don't have to read it all today.



The book is non-fiction.

What do you think 'non-fiction' means?

What is the difference between fiction and non-fiction?

Inside the book, there is a contents page, an index and a glossary.

Where would you expect to find these pages in a non-fiction book? Are they at the beginning, middle or end?

Do you know what a contents, index and glossary are used for?

See if you can find them in the book. Hint: the glossary in this book is called 'Words to Remember'.

You can look at the answers on the next page.

For example, *Mama Panya's Pancakes* and *My Brother is a Runner* are both fiction. They are stories. *Lion Journal* is non-fiction because it tells you information and facts.

Contents	
What to take	4
Time to go!	5
Arriving at camp	8
First sighting	12
Close encounter	14
The savannah	16
Family groups	18
Mothers and cubs	20
Lean cubs	22
Hunting	24
Lion behaviour	26
Lion habitat	28
Are lions in danger?	30
What can we do?	31
Words to remember	32
Index	

Lioness and her cubs

[illegible]

Words to remember

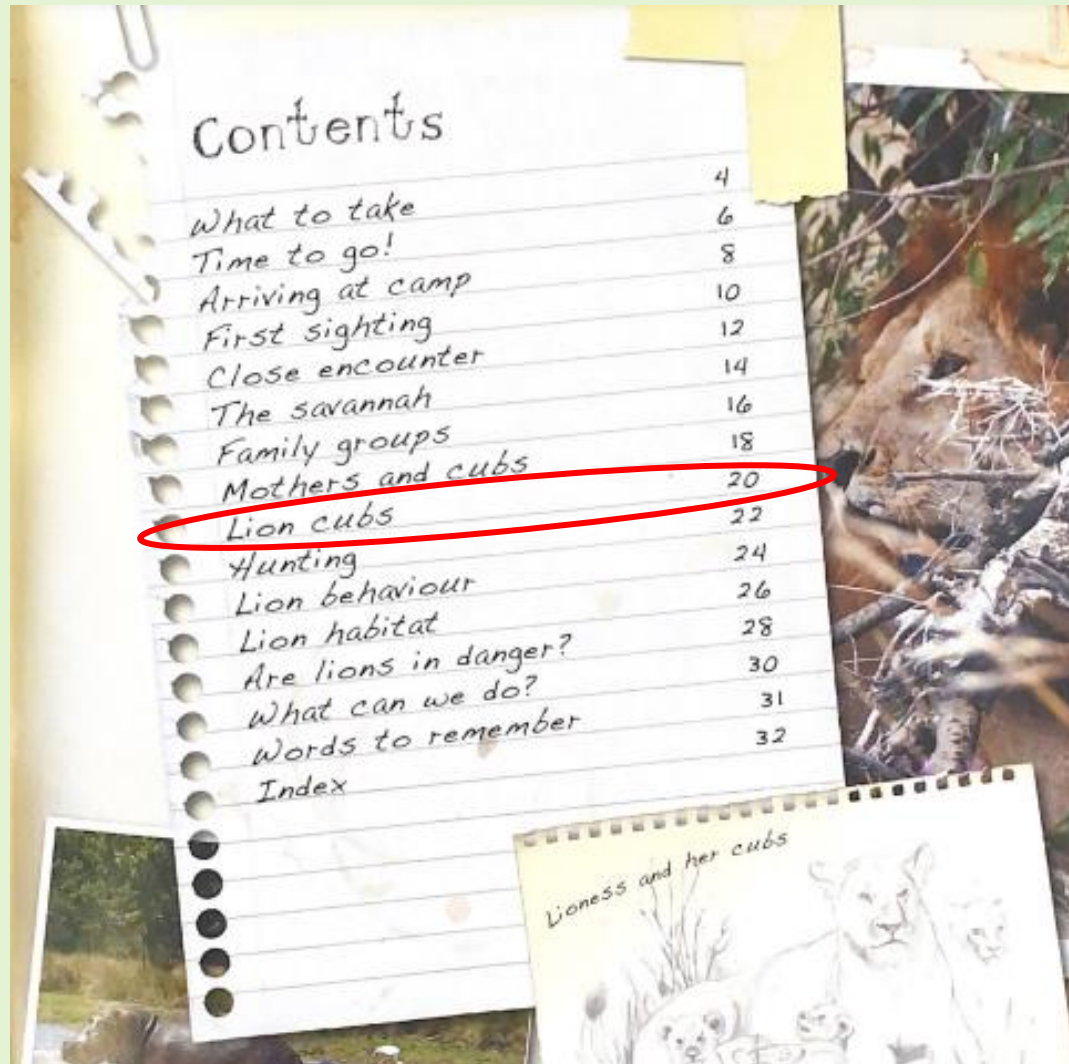
Concealing: The meetings and coverings on an animal's coat that allow it to blend in with its surroundings.	Maned: A maned-blond animal which has hair on its face. Female animals produce milk to feed their young.
Disorient: When the wind direction breaks the sound of an object or animal away from it. Lion's sand disoriented of their prey so that they will not detect the lion's sand.	Roaching: The illegal practice of filling animals for meat, often at temples.
End game: When animals anticipate with long, spiraling horns and then initiate sparring/duels.	Pride: A group of lions.
Game reserve: An area of land set aside for wildlife to allow it to thrive.	Savannah: A large, grassy plain, often dotted with trees.
Grazing: Feeding on plants such as grass.	Scavenger: An animal that feeds on other dead animals.
Wade: The place in which a plant or animal naturally belongs.	Stalking: Stalking prey by moving silently and stealthily towards it or by waiting in ambush.
	Succulent: When a mammal feeds her young with her own milk.
	Territory: The area that an animal defends against intruders of its own species.

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The glossary is also at the back of a non-fiction book. It tells you the meaning of topic words in the book or any words you might not know the meaning of.

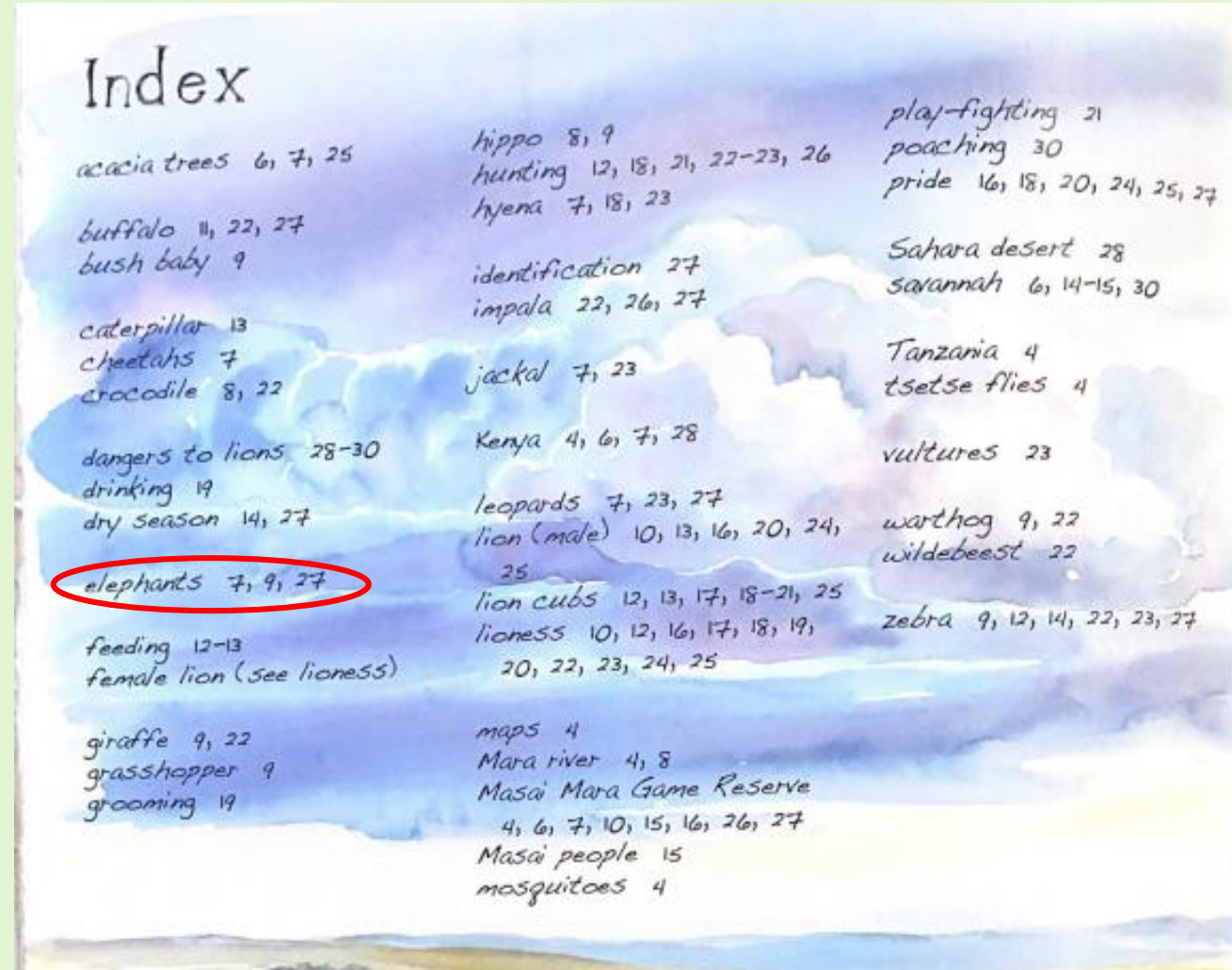
On the contents page, I can find out which page a certain chapter is on.
For example if I wanted to read the pages about 'Lion Cubs' I would turn to page 20.

Contents	
What to take	4
Time to go!	6
Arriving at camp	8
First sighting	10
Close encounter	12
The savannah	14
Family groups	16
Mothers and cubs	18
Lion cubs	20
Hunting	22
Lion behaviour	24
Lion habitat	26
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What can we do?	30
Words to remember	31
Index	32



On the index page, I can find out which page or pages to turn to for a particular piece of information.
For example if I wanted to read about elephants, I would turn to pages 7, 9 or 27.

Index	
acacia trees 6, 7, 25	hippo 8, 9
buffalo 11, 22, 27	hunting 12, 18, 21, 22-23, 26
bush baby 9	hyena 7, 18, 23
caterpillar 13	identification 27
cheetahs 7	impala 22, 26, 27
crocodile 8, 22	jackal 7, 23
dangers to lions 28-30	Kenya 4, 6, 7, 28
drinking 19	leopards 7, 23, 27
dry season 14, 27	lion (male) 10, 13, 16, 20, 24, 25
elephants 7, 9, 27	lion cubs 12, 13, 17, 18-21, 25
feeding 12-13	lioness 10, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25
female lion (see lioness)	maps 4
giraffe 9, 22	Mara river 4, 8
grasshopper 9	Masai Mara Game Reserve 4, 6, 7, 10, 15, 16, 26, 27
grooming 19	Masai people 15
	mosquitoes 4
	play-fighting 21
	poaching 30
	pride 16, 18, 20, 24, 25, 27
	Sahara desert 28
	savannah 6, 14-15, 30
	Tanzania 4
	tsetse flies 4
	vultures 23
	warthog 9, 22
	wildebeest 22
	zebra 9, 12, 14, 22, 23, 27



Find the contents page in Lion Journal and answer these questions:

What page would you turn to if you wanted to read about hunting?

What page would you turn to if you wanted to find out about The Savannah?

Now find the index page and answer these questions:

On which page would you find information about maps?

Which page will give you information about cheetahs?

How many pages could you read to find information about zebras?

Now turn to the glossary and have a go at these questions:

What is a pride?

What does it mean if an animal is grazing?

What is a scavenger?



and



Find the contents page in Lion Journal and answer these questions:

What page would you turn to if you wanted to read about hunting?

What page would you turn to if you wanted to find out about The Savannah?

Now find the index to help you answer these questions:

On which page would you find information about maps?

How many pages could you read to find information about zebras?

In the book, find a piece of information about play-fighting.

Find a piece of information about the dry season.

Now turn to the glossary and have a go at these questions:

What is a pride?

What does it mean if an animal is grazing?

What is a scavenger?

Can you find examples of these words in the book?



Lesson 2
LO: To find features of a non-fiction text.

Today we are going to look at another example of a non-fiction text and we are going to learn about more features.

Most non fiction texts have these features:

heading
introduction
subheadings
photograph or picture
caption
fact box or 'Did you know?' box

Have you heard of any of these features before?

Have a look on the next page to find out what they are.

heading	tells the reader what the text is about
introduction	a short paragraph to introduce the reader to the text
subheadings	tells the reader what the paragraph is about
photograph or picture	shows the reader what something looks like
caption	words underneath a picture or photograph to explain what it is about
fact box or 'Did you know?' box	gives the reader and extra fact or an interesting fact

Elephants

Elephants live in Africa and India and are the largest animals that live on land.

What do elephants look like?
Elephants have tough grey skin and large ears. They have a long nose called a trunk that they use to drink water. African elephants have bigger ears than Indian elephants. Elephants have tusks to protect them from other animals.

What do elephants eat?
Elephants are herbivores and eat bark and leaves from trees.

What do elephants do?
Elephants are usually very gentle but can get quite cross. Elephants are very clever and know how to find water even when it is far away. When they find water they like to swim.

Did you know?
A mother elephant is called a cow. The dad is a bull and a baby is called a calf!

heading

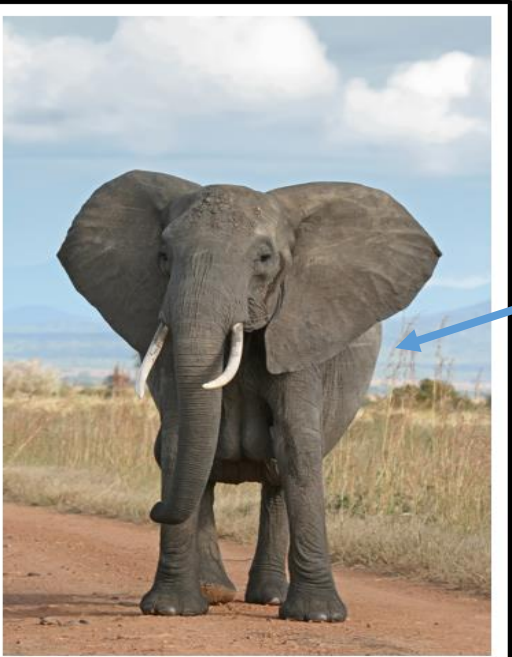
introduction

subheading

photo

caption

fact box



A bull elephant

Tigers

Tigers are a type of big cat that live in India and are very dangerous.

What do tigers look like?

Tigers have orange fur with black stripes so they can hide in tall grass.

What do tigers eat?

Tigers are carnivores. They hunt for their food.

What do tigers do?

Tigers live on their own. They like to hunt and are the only big cat who likes to swim.



A male tiger

Did you know?

Tigers are an endangered species. That means there are not many left in the wild.

Read this text and find the features

heading
introduction
subheadings
photograph or picture
caption
fact box or 'Did you know?' box



Remember you can look at the previous page if you need some hints 😊

Pandas

Pandas are the national animal of China. They are related to bears and have black eye patches.

What do pandas look like?

There are two different types of panda. The giant panda is the most well known but the red panda also lives in the mountains in China. The red panda has a long tail and is the same size as a cat. The giant panda is much bigger and has black and white fur. Both the red and giant pandas have long, sharp claws that they use to climb trees and strip bamboo.



What do pandas eat?

Pandas are very fussy eaters. Most pandas only eat bamboo, a type of grass. A giant panda will eat half their own weight in bamboo every day.



A giant panda eating bamboo.

What do pandas do?

Pandas spend most of their time eating or sleeping. Young pandas like to play with each other and can be very naughty

Did you know?

Pandas are endangered and if they are not looked after could become extinct.

Read this text and find the features

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introduction
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Read this text and find the features

heading

introduction

subheadings

photograph or picture

caption

fact box or 'Did you know?' box



Now see if you can find some examples of the same features in Lion Journal. You could also look at any non-fiction books you have at home and see if you can find the features.

Lesson 3

LO: To retrieve and record information.

Today we are going to start finding out some information that we could use in our elephant fact files. We are going to focus on **diet** (what they eat) and **habitat** (where they live).

On the website there is a document called 'African Elephant Fact Text' that you will need today. These will help us find some facts about elephant's diet and habitat.

Elephants

Elephants live in Africa and India and are the largest animals that live on land.

What do elephants look like?

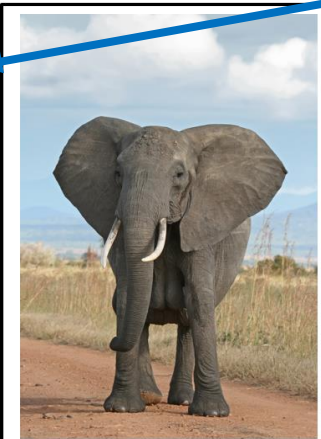
Elephants have tough grey skin and large ears. They have a long nose called a trunk that they use to drink water. African elephants have bigger ears than Indian elephants. Elephants have tusks to protect them from other animals.

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Elephants are usually very gentle but can get quite cross. Elephants are very clever and know how to find water even when it is far away. When they find water they like to swim.



A bull elephant

I'm going to show you how I will find some facts about diet.

Firstly, I am not going to read the whole text. I will look at the subheadings and see if there is a paragraph about diet.

This paragraph is called 'What do elephants eat?' so I think I will find some facts about diet here.

I'm going to bullet point what I have found out. I don't need to copy exactly what the text says. I can put it into my own words.

- Elephants are herbivores.
- They eat bark and leaves

When I've finished looking at this text, I will have a look at a different one to see if I can find out more.

Did you know?

A mother elephant is called a cow. The dad is a bull and a baby is called a calf!

Have a look at the Elephant fact texts.

Can you find at least 3 facts about their **diet** (what they eat) and 3 facts about their **habitat** (where they live)?

If you need to, ask an adult to help you read the texts.

It is up to you how you lay out your work but here is an idea if you need it:

LO: To retrieve and record information

<u>Diet</u>	<u>Habitat</u>



and



Have a look at the Elephant fact texts.

Find and bullet point some facts about **diet** and **habitat**.

It is up to you how you lay out your work but here is an idea if you need it:



<u>LO: To retrieve and record information</u>	
<u>Diet</u>	<u>Habitat</u>
•	•
•	•
•	•

If you want to, have a look in any books you may have at home or use the internet to find some more facts. Make sure you ask permission from your adults at home first.

Lesson 4

LO: To retrieve and record information.

We are going to continue collecting facts about African Elephants. Today we will find out about their **behaviour** (what they do) and **appearance** (what they look like).

Complete the same activity as yesterday but this time look for facts about **behaviour** and **appearance**.

Don't forget to use the subheadings to help you find the information you need and remember you are just making notes so you can put the facts into your own words.

You can also use your own books or the internet to help you if you would like to research yourself.

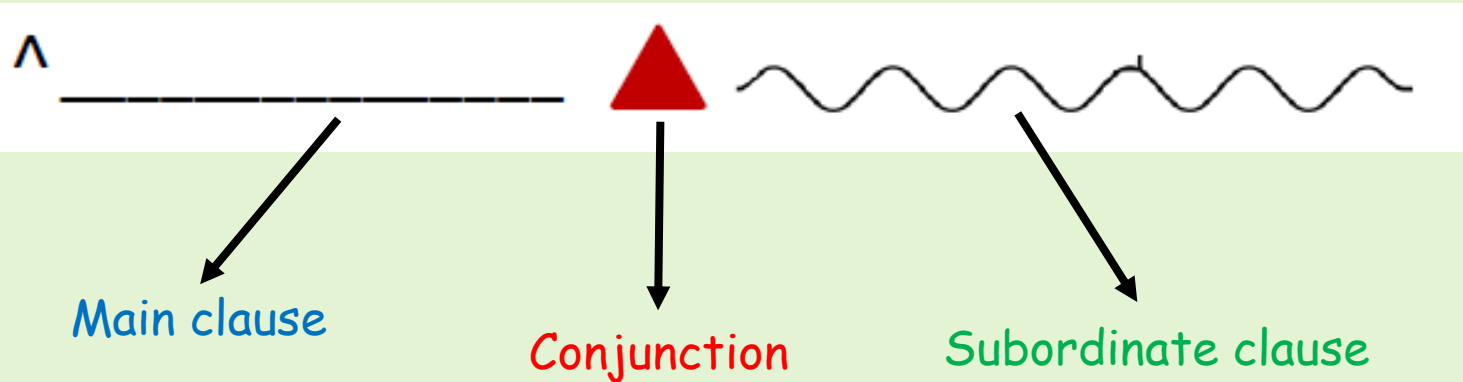
Lesson 5

LO: To use complex sentences.

If you would like to practise compound sentences again, move straight to the mild challenge.

Today we are going to have a go at writing complex sentences. A complex sentence is a main clause (makes sense on its own) and a subordinate clause. A subordinate clause does not make sense in its own.

This is the picture we use to represent a complex sentence:



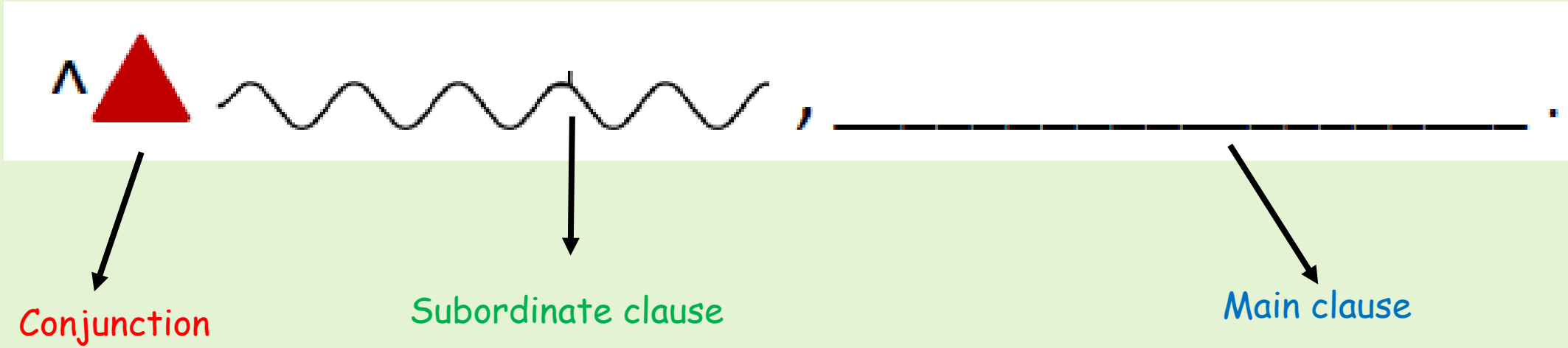
The conjunction we
use for complex
sentences are:
because, although,
as, when

Here's some examples:

Elephants eat leaves and bark **because** they are herbivores.

They look for a watering hole **when** they get thirsty.

The subordinate clause can go at the start of the sentence.



For example:

Because they are herbivores, elephants eat leaves and bark.

When they get thirsty, elephants look for a watering hole.



If a sentence starts with a subordinate clause, a comma is needed after the subordinate clause.

To write compound sentences.

Today we are going to write compound sentences.

First let's recap a simple sentence. A simple sentence has one main clause which makes sense on its own.



For example: Elephants are herbivores
Elephants eat leaves and bark.



A compound sentence is two simple sentences joined with a conjunction.
The conjunction could be 'and', 'so' and 'but'.

For example: Elephants are herbivores so they eat leaves and bark.

Remember we use this image to represent a simple sentence.



This is our image for a compound sentence. The circle represent the conjunction.

Have a go at writing your own compound sentences using the writing frame below to help you.

^ ● .



Remember, our conjunctions are **and**, **so** and **but**.

Elephants have a long trunk ○ _____

Elephants are usually gentle ○ _____

Elephants have big ears ○ _____

They can weigh up to 7500kg ○ _____

Now see if you can come up with 1 or 2 of your own.

We would love to see your work today so please send a photo to year3@elson-jun.hants.sch.uk

Use the facts you have found about elephants to have a go at writing your own complex sentences.

When you have finished a sentence, it is important that you read it to check that it makes sense. Have you remembered your capital letters and full stops?



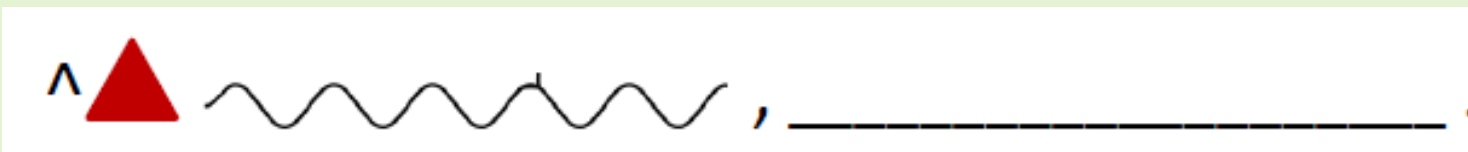
You can use the sentence starters below to help you then have a go at writing your own.

When they get hungry, _____

If they get too hot, _____

Because elephants have a good memory, _____

Because elephants eat a lot, _____



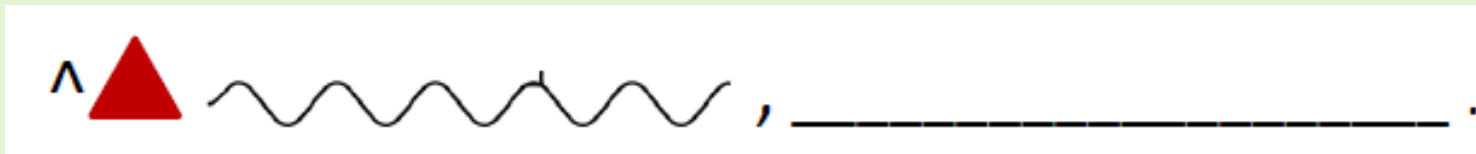
Remember, you can put the subordinate clause at the start or at the end of the sentence.

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When you have finished a sentence, it is important that you read it to check that it makes sense. Have you remembered your capital letters and full stops?

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