



## FE Home Learning Week 12



Hello there **FE Learners**! Also hello to any non FE learners who might also be accessing this. As we've finished our book *A Wizard of Earthsea* we are going to start next week working from a series of **short stories**. I've ordered some books and will get going as soon as they arrive. In the meantime we are going to do some **reading comprehension** with a nautical theme, a **creative writing poetry** task and some **maths** based around addition and subtraction in the form of **word problems** to solve.

There is also one last *Earthsea* video this week, just with some thoughts and points of discussion raised by the book and by Fantasy Fiction in general. Next week we'll be back to reading with (hopefully) a story called 'The Hitch-hiker' by Roald Dahl.



THE DEEP THINKER

### Reading Comprehension Task 1.

Read through the text and answer the questions afterwards. You can use the space provided if you are able to print this off but a separate piece of paper is fine if not. Names and dates on everything please.

### A JOURNEY TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA.



On the morning of 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1960, at 8.15a.m. Two men smiled nervously, said goodbye to their shipmates and entered a tiny steel capsule hanging beneath a huge, cigar shaped tank.

They were about to embark on the voyage of their lives, and earn a place in the geography books. The capsule was only the size of a small car and packed with so much equipment that there was barely space for the men to sit down. But then no one had said it was going to be a comfortable ride. Slowly, the ship's crane heaved and groaned into action and lowered the capsule overboard, into the dark waters of the Pacific Ocean. The two men shook hands and wished each other luck. Their descent into the unknown had begun....

The two men were scientists, Dr Jacques Piccard and Lieutenant Don Walsh of the US navy. Their extraordinary craft was called Trieste. Technically, it was known as a bathyscaphe (bath-ee-scape) Like a mini-submarine. The scientists' mission was to dive to the bottom of the Challenger Deep, in the monstrous Marianas Trench, a gigantic gash in the seabed, and the deepest spot known on the planet no one had ever tried this before. No one even knew if it was really possible.

Piccard and Walsh sat anxiously in cramped silence as Trieste sank down through the dark icy water, waiting for their echo-sounder to warn them they are nearing the bottom.

They knew only too well how fraught with danger their journey was. But neither knew what lay beneath them. Or if Trieste would stand the strain! All that separated them from the crushing weight or pressure of the water above them (imagine having a lorry balanced in your thumbnail) was the capsule's thick steel walls. At about 9,000 metres, they put on Trieste's brakes to slow down its descent – a crash landing would be disastrous. Suddenly, there was a sickening CRACK!

“What on earth was that?” Said Piccard, looking round nervously.

For a moment, their hearts were in their mouths.... But it was a false alarm. One of Trieste's outer windows had cracked under the tremendous weight of the water. But the capsule itself stayed watertight. Then came the moment they had been waiting for and dreading. At 1.06p.m., a nail-biting four hours and 48 minutes after leaving the surface, Trieste bumped and grated along the silty bottom of the Challenger Deep and came to a juddering halt.

Heart's thumping, Piccard and Walsh switched on their floodlights and peered into a world no one had ever seen before – the deepest, darkest depths of the oceans. From somewhere in that eerie darkness, something was staring

back. But that was impossible – nothing could live this far down! There wasn't enough oxygen in the water for anything to survive, not for the first time, or the last, science was proved to be wrong. The staring something was a ghostly white flat fish a bit like a flounder. Soon after a small, reddish creature, shaped like a shrimp, also went scuttling past.

Teeth chattering with cold, Piccard and Walsh spent twenty minutes on the seabed, munching on chocolate bars for nourishment. Then, releasing two tonnes of iron pellet ballast which had kept Trieste weighted down, they began their slow, steady ascent, breaking the surface at 4.56p.m., three hours and 17 minutes later.

Their journey of twenty two kilometres had taken eight and a half hours. They had dived to a depth of almost eleven kilometres, deeper than anyone else... Before or since! Piccard and Walsh's amazing record still stands today, as the deepest dive ever made. And one of the greatest feats of ocean exploration ever.



## QUESTIONS.

1. What were the names of the two scientists who went to the bottom of the sea?
2. What was the proper name for the mini-submarine?
3. What is the precise name of the deepest part of the ocean?
4. What damage was done to the Trieste by the weight of the water?


5. How long did it take the Trieste to travel from the surface to the deepest part of the ocean?

6. Why were the scientists surprised to see any living creatures at that depth?

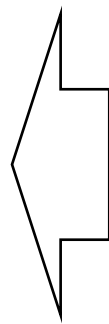
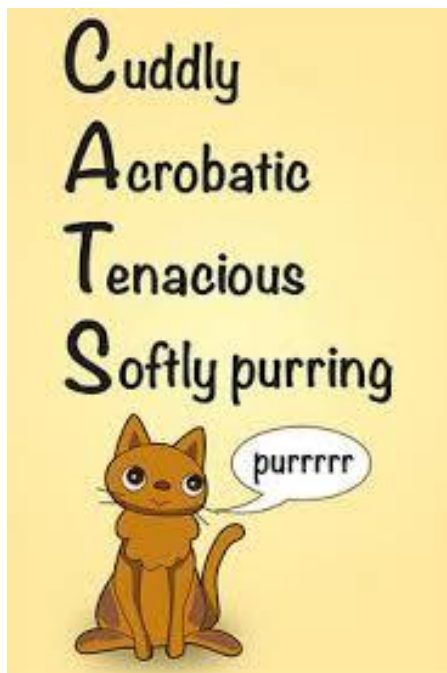
7. What two creatures did they see?

8. How deep had they dived?

9. Using the information in the first paragraph, draw what you think the Trieste looked like.



## Creative Writing Task – Create some Acrostic Poems...



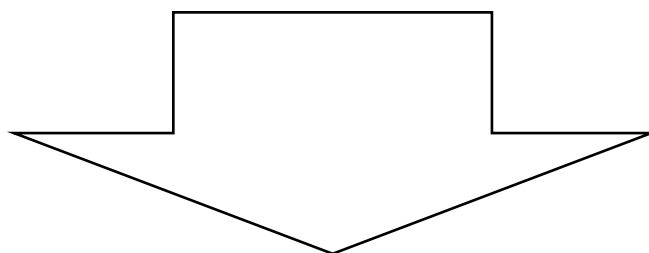
This is a type of poem called an **Acrostic**. Acrostics are simple poems whereby **each letter of a word or phrase begins a new line in the poem**. You can start by writing your name vertically down the page like this:

**D**  
**A**  
**V**  
**E**

This is just an **example** of course, you should **use your own name**. Then think of phrases and words that reflect your **personality and/or interests**, or are just **fun but not necessarily true**. My example to the left here is about the made up person 'DAVE'. You can be really free ranging in your response as it **doesn't have to rhyme, or even make perfect sense**. It's a chance to let your creative energies flow and you'll be amazed at how each one you do starts to make a strange sort of sense that you might not have intended when you began.

**D***oesn't actually exist,*  
**A***lways happy to be an example,*  
**V***ery hard to pin down,*  
**E***nergy drinks send him loopy, best avoid.*

When you've created an Acrostic Poem based on the letters of your name you can try and fill in some of these I've given as suggestions. Or if you prefer you can choose names or words that mean something to you personally, or that you just fancy having a go at, I've just given some random possibilities to help you get started. It's probably best to do this exercise on a separate piece of paper.



a)

P  
O  
E  
T  
R  
Y  
  
I  
N  
  
M  
O  
T  
I  
O  
N

b)

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E  
A  
U  
T  
Y  
  
N  
E  
V  
E  
R  
  
F  
A  
D  
E  
S

c)

T  
R  
U  
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H  
  
A  
N  
D  
  
L  
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S

d)

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e)

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R



## Maths Tasks Week 12 – Addition and Subtraction.

### Dragon Word Problems



1. In January, there were 371 new born dragons. In February, another 428 dragons were born. How many dragons were born altogether?
2. The Iron Swords Company employed 634 men, but then the industry experienced a boost, and more men were needed. The Iron Swords Company increased its employment of men by 761. How many men work at the Iron Swords Company now?
3. The great dragons of the west burnt 426 houses in their first week. They burnt 345 houses in their second week. What is the total amount of houses burnt?
4. The dragon master trained 417 dragons, but sadly, 259 of those dragons died. How many trained dragons are left?
5. Merlin trained 826 dragons, and Gandalf trained 427. What is the difference in the amount of dragons trained?
6. The dragon keeper had 562 dragon eggs in a deep cave. A powerful magician had 419 dragon eggs less than the dragon keeper. How many dragon eggs does the magician have?
7. Merlin was selling 624 Dragon spikes a month. After a year, this decreased by 567 spikes. How many spikes does he sell a month now?
8. The Dragon Shop had a fantastic day of sales. In the morning, they made £314.00, and in the afternoon, they made £256.00. What was the total for the day?
9. Merlin rescued 143 dragons, and Gandalf rescued a further 786 dragons. What is the sum of dragons rescued?
10. Eleanor polished the scales of 352 dragons on Wednesday, and George polished 220 on Thursday. How many dragons' scales did they polish altogether?

There are some quite big numbers in those problems so if you need to you can use a calculator, but try first using your column addition and subtraction written methods. Even with a calculator you will still have to work out what sums you need to do to answer the question.

*If the numbers are still too big [click here](#) for the same questions with smaller numbers.*



Those of you who like an extension can have a go at these brain teasers.

$$\text{Watermelon slice} + \text{Watermelon slice} + \text{Watermelon slice} = 36$$

$$\text{Watermelon slice} + \text{Orange} + \text{Orange} = 28$$

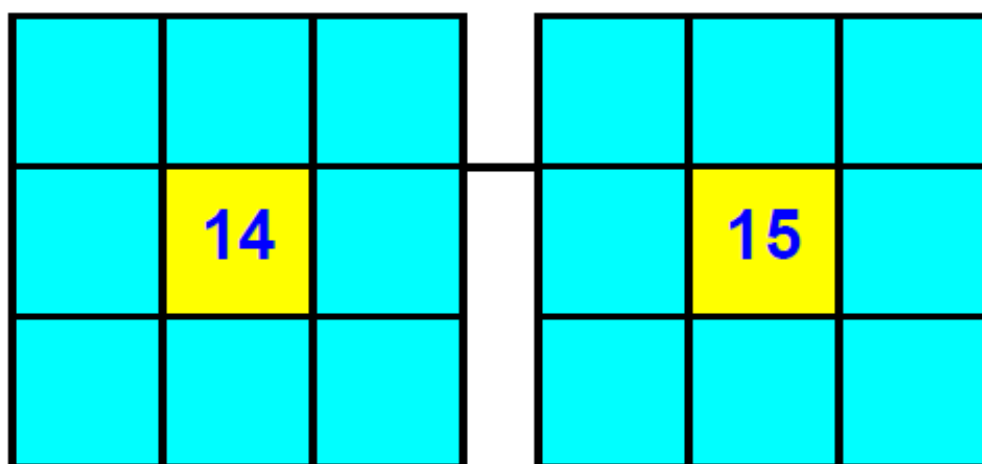
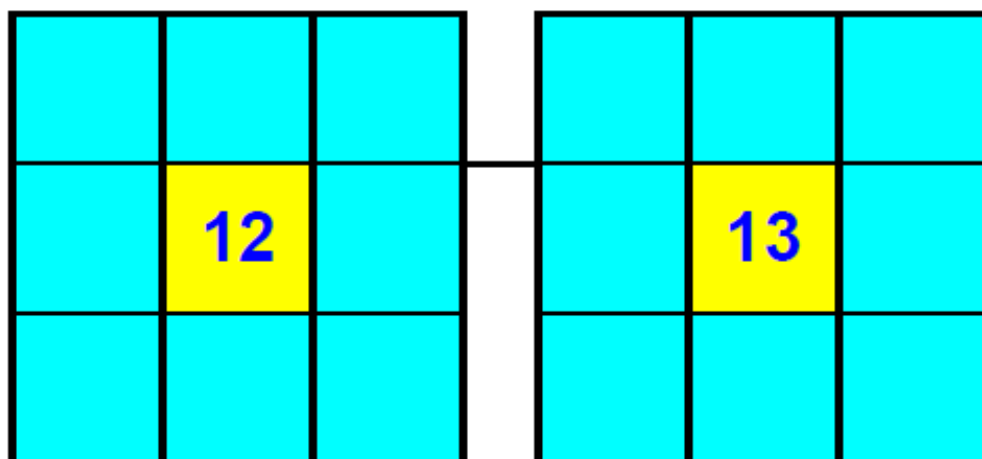
$$\text{Orange} - \text{Banana} = 3$$

$$\text{Orange} = ? \quad \text{Watermelon slice} = ? \quad \text{Banana} = ?$$

HINT: The first three watermelon pics represent the same number, and three lots of that number equals thirty six.



Here's another. This one's so tricky I give the answers below.



Can you put the numbers 1 to 8 in each of the squares so that each side adds up to the middle number?

Find the answer on the next page



Four questions in one for this puzzle.  
There are lots of ways of doing this  
but here is one answer for each  
square.



1	8	3
5	12	7
6	4	2

8	4	1
3	13	7
2	6	5

7	3	4
6	14	2
1	5	8

6	1	8
2	15	4
7	5	3

*I hope you enjoyed the work this week,  
next week we'll be back with a new short story  
called 'The Hitch-hiker' by Roald Dahl. It's in this  
book which is what is known as an 'Anthology', which  
is a collection of stories in one book.*

*See you then!*

