

# Summer Work

## Class of 2028

### School of English

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Advisory \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

## Welcome to English at DMA!

*Dear scholar,*

*Welcome to our school of English! We are incredibly excited to work with you next year and support you on your next school journey! We look forward to getting to know you and introducing you formally into our Academy.*

*This summer work has been set to support you with your learning at home and your preparation for moving into year 7. This work will also allow your future teachers to learn a little bit about your strengths in writing and skills that can be developed further in your first term with us.*

*Please read through the tasks carefully and use your neatest handwriting!*

*When you have finished this booklet, please keep your work safe and bring this to your first English lesson.*

*We look forward to reading your work.*

*Kind regards,*

*The English Department*





## Task Two:

During cycle 1, we will be studying the play *War Horse* by Nick Stafford. *War Horse* is set during World War One (1914-1918).

Using a dictionary or the internet, write down the meanings of the following words:

Word/ Term	Meaning
Rifle	
Patriotic	
Courage	
Trench	
Coward	
Propaganda	
Bayonet	

**Challenge! Use three of the words in full clear sentences!**

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## Task Three:

The following extract is from the novel 'Private Peaceful' by Michael Morpurgo. Thomas Peaceful is a soldier in World War One. In the extract Thomas Peaceful is writing a letter to his mum.

Read the extract carefully:

I am writing to Mother – I haven't written for a while and am feeling guilty about it. My pencil keeps breaking and I am sharpening it again. Everyone else is lying asleep in the sun or is sitting about smoking and chatting. Nipper Martin is cleaning his **rifle** again. He's always very particular about that.

"Gas! Gas!"

The cry goes up and is echoed all along the **trench**. For a moment we are frozen with panic. We have trained for this time and again, but nonetheless we fumble clumsily, feverishly with our gas masks.

"Fix **bayonets!**" Hanley's yelling while we're still trying frantically to pull on our gas masks. We grab our rifles and fix **bayonets**. We're on the fire step looking out into no-man's-land, and we see it rolling towards us, this dreaded killer cloud we have heard so much about but have never seen for ourselves until now. Its deadly tendrils are searching ahead, feeling their way forward in long yellow wisps, scenting me, searching for me. Then finding me out, the gas turns and drifts straight for me. I'm shouting inside my gas mask. "Christ! Christ!" Still the gas comes on, through our wire, swallowing everything in its path.

I hear again in my head the instructor's voice, see him shouting at me through his mask when we went out on our last exercise. "You're panicking in there, Peaceful. A gas mask is like God, son. It'll work miracles for you, but you've got to believe in it." But I don't believe in it! I don't believe in miracles.

The gas is only feet away now. In a moment it will be on me, around me, in me. I crouch down, hiding my face between my knees, hands over my helmet, praying it will float over my head, over the top of the **trench**, seek out someone else. But it does not. It's all around me. I tell myself I will not breathe, I must not breathe. Through a yellow mist I see the **trench** filling up with it. It drifts into the dugouts, snaking into every nook and cranny, looking for me. I see men running, staggering, falling. I see Pete shouting out for me. Then he's grabbing me and we run. Half-blinded by my mask I trip and fall, crashing my head against the trench wall, knocking myself half-senseless. My gas mask has come off. I pull it down, but I have breathed in and know already it's too late. My eyes are stinging. My lungs are burning. I am coughing, retching, choking. I don't care where I'm running so long as it is away from the gas. At last I'm in the reserve trench and it is clear of gas. I'm out of it. I wrench off my mask, gasping for good air. Then I am on my hands and knees, vomiting violently. When at last the worst is over I look up through blurred and weeping eyes. A Hun in a gas mask is standing over me, his rifle aimed at my head.

# Comprehension Quiz!



1: What is happening in the extract?

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2. Who is Thomas writing his letter to?

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3. What is Nipper Martin doing?

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4. Where is the speaker?

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5. What is your first impression of Thomas Peaceful?

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6. How is the Thomas Peaceful feeling and why?

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7. What word class are 'yelling' and 'frantically'?

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8. What do these words mean?

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9. What might these words suggest?

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10. What do you predict will happen next?

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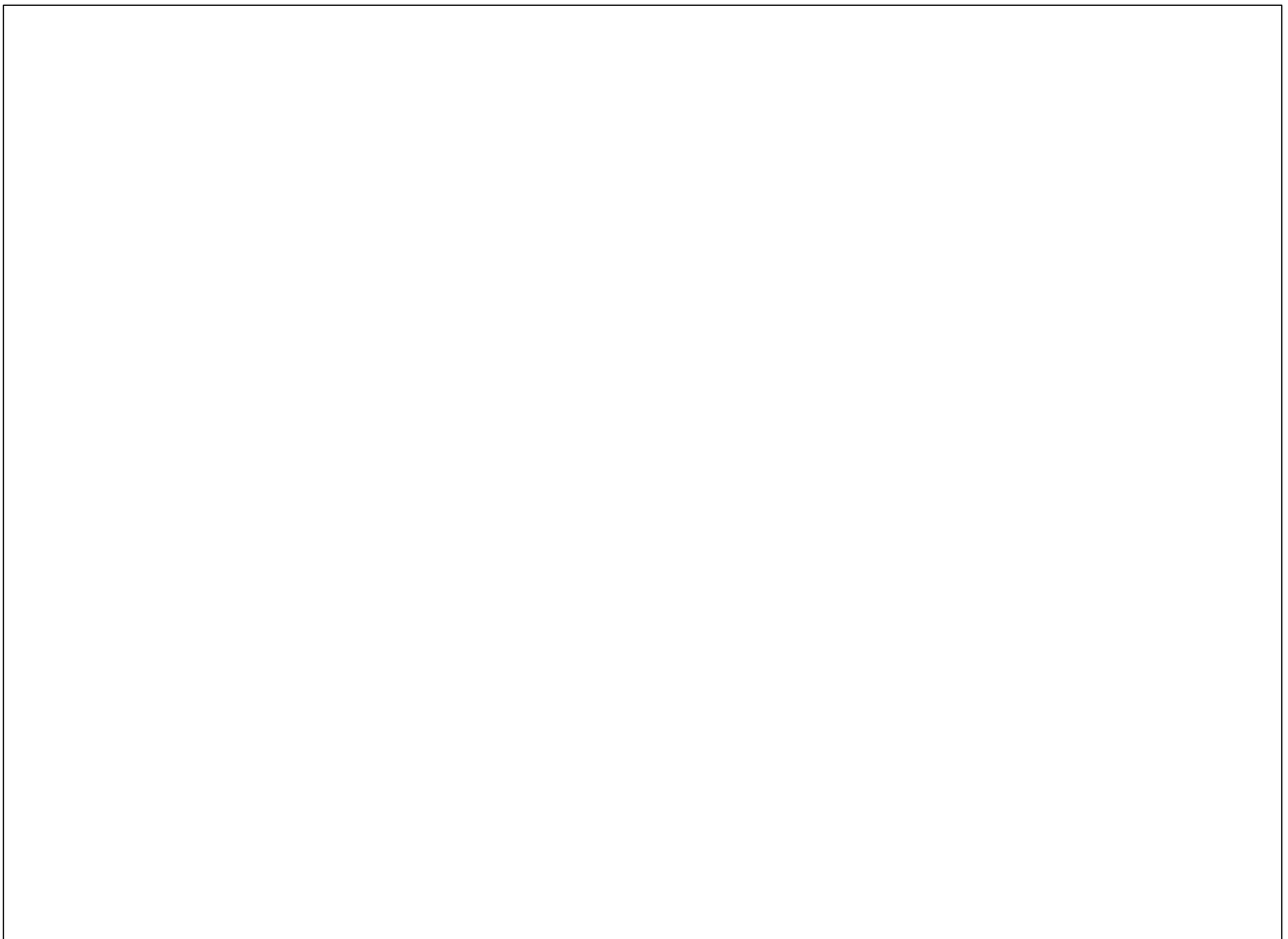
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## Task Four:

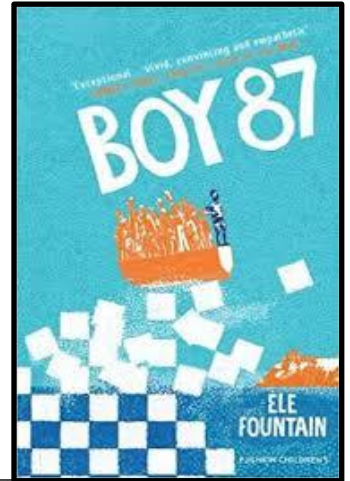
Draw a picture in the box showing what is happening in the extract





## Task Five: *BOY 87* Comprehension Quiz!

This task is optional if you have read the novel *BOY 87* by Ele Fountain.



1. What is the name of the main character in the novel?

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2. Who took Bini and Shif away from their parents and why?

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3. What really happened to Shif's father?

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4. Why did Shif's mother not tell him the truth about his father?

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5. Name the characters that Shif and Bini meet when they are taken.

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6. What happened to Bini when he and Shif tried to escape?

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7. What is the name of the family who help Shif?

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8. What happens when Shif is finally able to contact his mother?

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9. Which family member does Shif save when she is being attacked by a thief?

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10. What happens to Shif at the end of the novel?

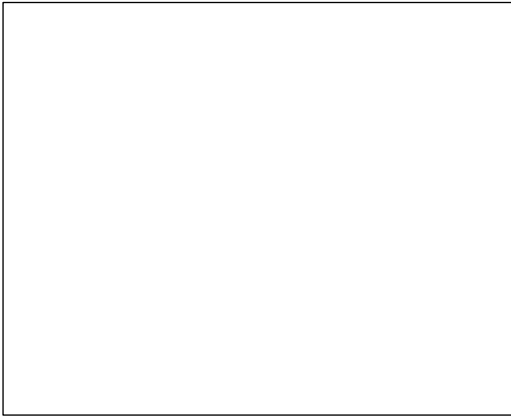
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# Task Six: *BOY 87* Story Board!

This task is optional if you have read the novel *BOY 87* by Ele Fountain.

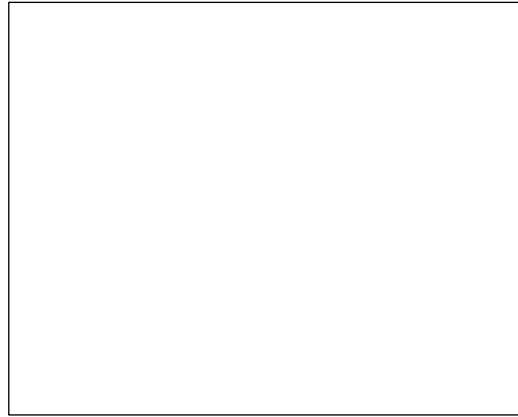
Complete a story board showing your understanding of the novel.

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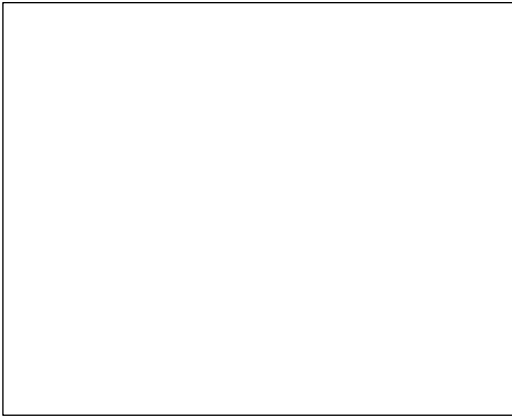
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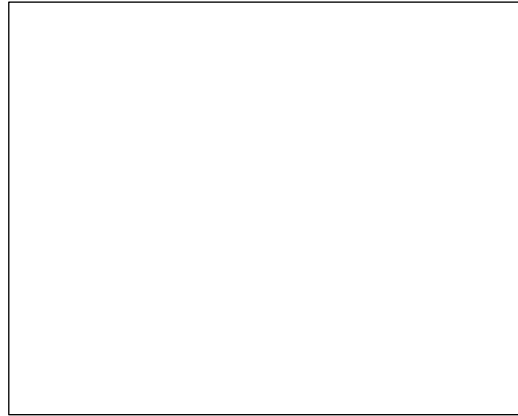
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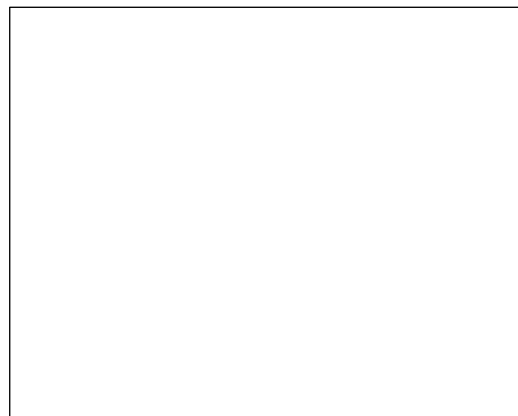
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# Task Seven: *BOY 87*: Newspaper Article

This task is optional if you have read the novel *BOY 87* by Ele Fountain.

In *Boy 87*, Shif leaves his country because it is no longer safe to live there. Shif has an awful time trying to find safety as he travels to Europe. Shif is a refugee who struggles to find help.

What could we do to help people like Shif who need to find safety? How can we support them? Design a newspaper article which explains the need for helping refugees to start their lives again.

## MORE SUPPORT IS NEEDED TO HELP REFUGEES TO REBUILD THEIR LIVES

**The Daily  
Telegraph**

*Many refugees are still struggling to access help and support as they arrive in Europe. Over 70% of refugees entering England do not have a permanent place to live.*

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**Refugee:** a person who leaves their country because it is not safe to live there.

