

# Finches Year 5

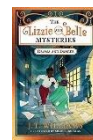
## English

### Spring 1

**The Island**  
by Armin Greder.



**The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries:  
Drama and Danger**  
by J.T. Williams.



### Writing a letter

Letters can be written for a variety of reasons, including giving advice.

#### Key features:

- The sender's address
- The recipient's address
- A greeting (Dear Sir/Madam,)
- An introduction, including the purpose of the letter
- Formal sentence starters (I am writing to you today because...)
- Paragraphs
- A concluding paragraph, including what needs to happen next
- A sign-off (Yours sincerely...)
- The sender's name

### Character descriptions

A character description is a description of the characters which are included in a story. It includes details about their appearance and personality. A well-described character can make a story more engaging for readers.

#### Key features:

- Figurative language (similes, metaphors, alliteration, personification, onomatopoeia.)
- Prepositions to help the reader visualise the character
- Varied sentence structures (fronted adverbials, short sentences, relative clauses.)
- Powerful adjectives and adverbs, including fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases.

### Intonation

When reading aloud, it is important to engage the listener and give a confident performance. This can help the audience to understand your writing.

#### Key features:

- Use a clear voice
- Consider the volume you need to use
- Use subtle hand movements to emphasize certain words or to demonstrate emotions
- Change the pitch of your voice to indicate questions, statements, commas and full stops
- Make eye contact with your audience as often as possible
- Try to use different voices to make it clear when different characters are speaking

	Key Vocabulary	Definition
The Island	<b>bulletin</b>	A brief public notice, usually from a newspaper or official source.
	<b>conscience</b>	The knowledge of right and wrong, and the feeling that you should do what's right.
	<b>islander</b>	Someone who lives on an island.
	<b>newcomer</b>	Someone who is new to a place.
	<b>Savages</b>	People who are cruel or fierce, and who are generally thought of as uncivilised.
	<b>unwelcome</b>	Not being wanted or welcome.
Lizzie and Belle Mysteries	<b>watchtower</b>	A tall, defensive tower which is used as a lookout.
	<b>instinct</b>	Something which comes naturally, and doesn't need to be thought about.
	<b>interpret</b>	Someone's understanding of something which has happened.
	<b>Othello</b>	One of Shakespeare's plays.
	<b>plantation</b>	A large farm which produces crops like cotton, tobacco or sugar cane.
	<b>remorse</b>	Feeling sorry about, or regretting, something which you have done.
	<b>sabotage</b>	To purposefully stop something from happening.
	<b>solidarity</b>	Joining together as a group based on a shared goal or interest.
<b>suspicious</b>	Feeling that something is wrong, or that someone has done something wrong.	

### Précis/ Summarising

A précis is a condensed version of a text, keeping the main points and order of the original.

#### Key features:

- Write in third person.
- Paraphrase, reflecting the author's ideas without copying.
- Keep the original text in its entirety.

### Diary entry

A diary entry is a type of recount where the writer retells a series of events that they witnessed or were involved in.

#### Key features:

- Write in first person, using first person pronouns.
- Write using the past tense.
- Break your writing into paragraphs based on different events.
- Use an informal tone.