

Good morning! Hope you had a lovely half-term 😊

We are moving onto 'Chapter 9: Messages' of Pig Heart Boy today. Here is a brief summary of the last few chapters. You can listen to the chapters in your own time if you would like to.

Chapter 6: <https://soundcloud.com/user-906493068/pig-heart-boy-chapter-6>

- Cam and his family meet the pig for the transplant, called Trudy.
- Cam finds out his Mum is pregnant.

Chapter 7: <https://soundcloud.com/user-906493068/pig-heart-boy-chapter-7>

- Each character has a different reaction to finding out that Cam's Mum is pregnant.
- Cam's Mum worries that Cam will think the new child is a replacement for him.
- Cam overhears his Dad crying.

Chapter 8: <https://soundcloud.com/user-906493068/pig-heart-boy-chapter-8>

- At school, Cam's teacher announces to his class that he is having a heart transplant (he does mention the pig)
- The other children were shocked at first but then supported Cam.



Watch this lesson on Youtube!

<https://youtu.be/VJEe8nlgcHo>

Tuesday 23rd February 2021

L.O: To predict a dialogue between two characters

Success Criteria:

To correctly punctuate dialogue

To use inference skills for prediction

To carefully select vocabulary to convey character



Starter:

Are there things in your own life which you wish you could say but you don't? What stops you?

Is there ever a time when not saying something is better than saying it?





Today we are reading Chapter 9: Messages and Chapter 10: Preparation

As we are reading, think about what the different characters are thinking.



Chapter Nine

Messages

I feel a bit silly. I'm not used to talking like this. Dad hates talking to answering machines. I've never really understood why until now. I don't mind talking to answering machines, It's never bothered me, but this is different. I'm sorry. I'm rambling. I have so much to say, but it all seems so little. Trivial really. I mean, I'm just an average boy with not much going for me. I get good marks at school but, apart from that, I'm average looking – no, I take that back, I'm super-cool looking – of just above average height, I eat average food – but don't tell Mum I said that. I'm pretty much average all over. I'm sorry. I'm rambling again.

Look! Let me start at the beginning.

I'm your brother. My name is Cameron Joshua Kelsey. I know! It sucks, doesn't it? Mum and Nan chose my first name – after my grandad who's dead now – and Dad chose my middle name. The only taste any of them has got is all in their mouth. I mean, Cameron. Yuck! Mum said I can choose your name. The trouble is I

don't know if you're a boy or a girl. Mum, says that when she has her scan in a week's time, she's not going to ask what sex you are. So I'm going to have to think about this. I want to call you something when I talk to you . . . Hang on! The camcorder has just nodded on its tripod! I hope that doesn't mean that I'm being boring. Just a sec!

There! That's better. I had to tighten the fixing screw on the tripod. I've focused the camcorder on this chair so I can't move about much or I'll disappear out of the picture.

Disappear out of the picture . . .

That's quite ironic, that. It'd be quite a good joke if it was funny! Let me just sort out my thoughts. It's hard to know where to begin really. It's like this. I'm going to have an operation soon. I've got a bad heart. I caught a viral infection almost two years ago and it's still affecting me. My heart is slowly wasting away. So now I'm going to get it replaced. The thing is, because there aren't enough human heart donors, I'm going to get the heart of a pig. To be honest, the way I feel at the moment, I couldn't care less where it comes from, as long as it works. But no one's had a pig-heart transplant before. Until a few years ago the government had actually banned transplants



from animals. I might . . . I might not make it through the operation, and even if the operation is a success, who's to say what will happen after that.

So there you have it. I'm going to have this operation and I don't know if I'm going to be around when you're born or to watch you grow up. So I wanted to leave you something to remember me by. I could've written letters, I suppose, but that's boring and it would take tons of writing. So I decided to leave you a whole load of recordings with my handsome face on them. I thought I'd give you my brotherly advice on life, the universe and everything.

Mum and Dad have promised to stay out of the room while I do this so I can talk about anything I like. And they've promised that if something does happen to me, they won't watch the tapes until you're old enough to maybe give them permission. To be honest, I'd rather you didn't show Mum and Dad these tapes. I'd like these to be just between you and me, but I guess it's your decision.



Chapter Ten

Preparation

'Are you OK, Cameron?'

'Yes, Mum.' I suppressed a sigh. How many times was Mum going to ask me that question?

'Can I help you with anything?' Mum took the neatly folded pyjama shirt out of my hands, shook it out and began to fold it again.

'No, Mum, I can manage.' I pulled the shirt out of her reluctant hands.

'I could ... er ...' Mum looked around eagerly, trying to find something to keep her in the room.

'Mum?'

'Yes, dear?'

'I can manage.' I spoke firmly, looking her straight in the eye.

Mum smiled ruefully. 'I'm getting in the way, aren't I?'

'Yes.'

'And I'm getting on your nerves.'

'Correct.'

Mum chuckled. 'I'll leave now.'
'Thank you,' I replied, with sincere gratitude.
'Call me if you need me.'
'I will.'

Mum left my bedroom after one more glance to make absolutely sure that there was nothing to keep her. I shook my head as I added my pyjama shirt to my already full suitcase. That was about the twelfth time Mum had entered my room in the last half hour. And as for Dad – he was out in the garden, weeding something or other that couldn't wait. Grown-ups were so strange.

I took another look at the camcorder sitting self-consciously in the corner of the room. After a moment's indecision I took out the tripod from under my bed and stood it about two metres away. Picking up the camcorder, I placed it on the tripod, looking through the viewfinder to centre the view on my suitcase sitting in the middle of my bed.

I decided not to start the camcorder just yet. I had other things to take care of first. Pushing the new toothbrush down the side of my suitcase, I sat on the lid to close it. It shut quite easily. Sitting on it probably wasn't necessary but it was fun! I looked around my room. This was the last day I'd see it – for a while. I walked over to my window. Dad was on his knees at the back of the garden, digging in his vegetable patch. I sighed as I watched. Dad had been digging in exactly the same spot for the last forty-five minutes. I left my room.



'Hi, Dad. What're you doing?'

'Oh hello, Cam. I just thought I'd do a bit of weeding.'

I peered over his shoulder. 'I don't see any weeds.'

'I've got rid of the surface bits, but I have to dig deep to make sure I get all the roots out. There's no point in doing this unless I'm thorough.'

I regarded my dad thoughtfully. What he knew about weeds could be written on a full stop – and we both knew it.

'Will Nan and Aunt Louise be able to visit me in the hospital?' I asked.

'Well, your Aunt Louise is still in Canada, so she won't. And as for your nan – I don't know. I don't think so,' said Dad. 'Can you see your nan letting anyone bundle her into the back of a blacked-out van?'

I had to laugh. I couldn't see that at all.

Dad sighed. 'I just wish we could've told your nan the truth.'

'She knows I'm having a heart transplant, doesn't she?' I asked.

'Yes, but that's all she knows. She doesn't know ... anything else,' Dad replied. 'Your mum and I are to phone her every day to let her know how you're doing.'

'Can I talk to her on the phone as well? After the operation?'

'I don't see why not,' said Dad.

An uneasy silence descended.

'So tomorrow's the big day,' Dad nodded.

'No. Tomorrow I'm just going into hospital. The big day isn't until the weekend.'

'Going into hospital makes tomorrow a big day. It's just that Saturday will be even bigger,' Dad said quickly. I frowned at him. What was he wittering on about?

'It's not too late, you know. You can still change your mind.'

I turned away from the faint hope I could see in my dad's eyes. 'No. I'm not going to change my mind now.'

'Well, just remember you can. You can even change your mind in the hospital if you want to. Just let me know.'

'D'you want me to change my mind?'

'I didn't say that.'

'But do you?'

'It's your decision – not mine.'

'Dad, what would you do if you were me?'

Dad sighed and stood up. 'I've asked myself that a lot lately. And the truth is, I don't know. I don't suppose anyone can really know unless they're in the same boat.'

'Anything worth having is worth fighting for – isn't that what you've always said?'

'Yes, but sometimes ... maybe the risk is too great,' Dad said carefully.

'And sometimes maybe any risk is worth it,' I countered.



Dad shrugged. I mentally shook my head. This was such a strange conversation. Why couldn't we both just come out and say what we really thought and felt? Why all this beating about the bush? It was so tiring.

Dad and I watched each other, each of us struggling to find something to say.

'Dad, whatever happens, I'm glad you wrote to Dr Bryce,' I said.

Dad nodded.

'I mean it,' I insisted. 'Thanks.'

Dad nodded again and looked away from me.

'I'll go in and finish my packing now,' I said sadly.

'OK,' Dad said.

Reluctantly, I turned to go back into the house.

'Cameron?'

I spun around immediately. 'Yes?'

'I . . . I . . . never mind. If you need anything, let me know,' said Dad.

'OK.' And I went back inside.



Quick Questions - Chapter 9

Who is Cam leaving a message for?

Why do you think Cam felt like he should leave a message?

Why is Cam using a camera to record his feelings?



Quick Questions - Chapter 10

How is Cam's Mum getting in the way?

What is Cam's Dad doing in the garden?

Why do you think they are not able to tell Nan?



'Dad had been digging in exactly the same spot for the last forty-five minutes'

Why is Dad doing this?

'What he knew about weeds could be written on a full stop - and we both knew it'

What does Cam mean?

How do you think Dad feels about the looming operation?



'This was such a strange conversation. Why couldn't we both just come out and say what we really thought and felt? Why all this beating about the bush? This was so tiring. Dad and I watched each other, each of us struggling to find something to say.'

Today, we are writing the conversation that Cameron and his father might have had if they had opened up to one another at the end of Chapter 10.

At the end of the chapter, he begins to tell Cameron something but then changes his mind.

What do you think he wanted to say?

Why do you think he changed his mind?

What do you think Cameron would have wanted to hear?



What do you think Dad wanted to say?

Why do you think he changed his mind?

What do you think Cameron would have wanted to hear?

You might have said:

- Cam wants to hear that his Dad supports and loves him.
- That they are both nervous about the operation
- That it is all going to be ok
- That they love each other
- Cam might want to ask why his Dad was crying
- To talk about the new baby



RECAP: How do we correctly punctuate dialogue?

1. Surround your dialogue with speech marks
2. Start speech with a capital letter
3. Punctuation before closing speech mark
4. Always use a new line for a new speaker
5. Full stop at end of the sentence



Which speech is correctly punctuated? How do you know?

"cam, I just wanted to say that I am so proud of you. Do you know that?" dad assured his son.
This sentence is incorrect. Capital letters are needed at the beginning of the dialogue and after the speech marks.

"Cam, I just wanted to say that I am so proud of you. Do you know that?" Dad assured his son.
This sentence is correct.

"Cam, I just wanted to say that I am so proud of you. Do you know that" Dad assured his son.
This sentence is incorrect. A question mark is needed before closing the speech marks.



Your task today is to imagine and write the dialogue between Cam and his Dad.

To include:

- How do both characters feel about the operation?
- How do they feel about Mum being pregnant?
- How do they feel towards each other?

How do we correctly punctuate dialogue?

1. Surround your dialogue with speech marks
2. Start speech with a capital letter
3. Punctuation before closing speech mark
4. Always use a new line for a new speaker
5. Full stop at end of the sentence

Year 6 Success Criteria

Fronted adverbials

Relative clauses

Punctuation for parenthesis

Active & Passive Voice

Semi-colon/colon

Modal verbs

Subjunctive

Rhetorical Questions

I SAW A WABUB



You could start with this!

"Dad, whatever happens, I'm glad you wrote to Dr Bryce," I whispered.

Dad nodded.

"I mean it," I insisted. "Thanks."

"Cam, I am so proud of you. Do you know that? Saying yes to this surgery is such a brave thing and I want you to know that I support you in every single way."

What might Cam reply?



To Replace Said

babbled
chorused
chuckled
gasped
panted
stammered
chatted

barked
bellowed
cried
roared
screeched
shouted
yelled

complained
groaned
moaned
sighed
snivelled
wailed
whined

mumbled
murmured
muttered
squeaked
wheezed
whimpered
whispered



answered
asked
enquired
queried
questioned
replied
responded

argued
asserted
declared
insisted
retorted
snapped
exclaimed

added
commented
continued
elaborated
explained
remarked
suggested



Inverted Commas

Beginning and End

Keep your inverted commas at the beginning and the end of the words being spoken.
"Stop!" I said.

New Speaker, New Line

Start a new line whenever someone new speaks.

"How are you doing today?" asked Henry.

"I'm great!" said Ashton.

Capital Letter

Begin what is spoken with a capital letter!

"What an amazing day!" he announced.

Different Names

Inverted Commas are also called:
Speech Marks
Quotation Marks

Commas

Remember to add commas.

Ashton whispered, "Be quiet!"

"Goodbye," said Jules.

Punctuation

Make sure your speech is correctly punctuated!

"There are times, I feel, that you are a little cold," I said.



Looking forward to reading your dialogues!

Please send your finished work to your class teacher:

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