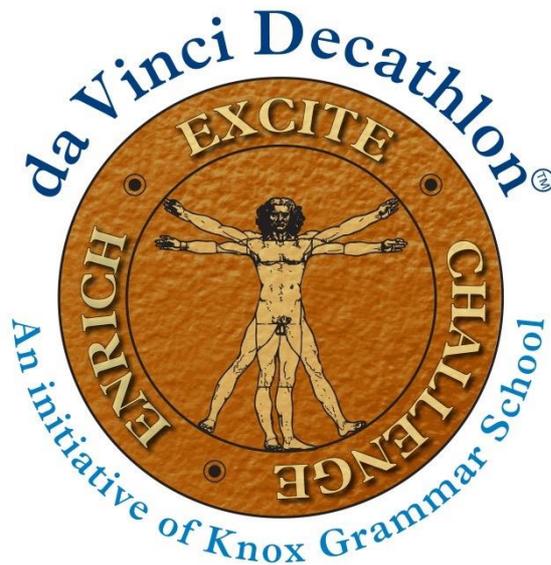




# STATE DA VINCI DECATHLON 2018

CELEBRATING THE ACADEMIC GIFTS OF STUDENTS IN  
YEARS 5 & 6



## ENGLISH ANSWERS

TEAM NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

2018 da Vinci Decathlon  
English Challenge - Years 5 & 6

# UNEXPECTED ERRORS

## ACTIVITY ONE: SPELLING

Decode the spelling poem below and rewrite the highlighted words to spell them correctly.

**(TOTAL 10 MARKS)**

*Candidate for a Pullet Surprise*

I have a spelling checker,  
It came with my PC.  
It **plane lee (1)** marks four my revue  
Miss steaks aye can knot sea.

Eye ran this poem threw it,  
Your sure reel glad two no.  
Its vary polished in it's weigh.  
My checker tolled me sew.

A checker is a bless sing,  
It freeze yew lodes of thyme.  
It helps me right awl **stiles (2)** two reed,  
And aides me when eye **rime (3)**.

Each **frays(4)** come posed up on my screen  
Eye trussed too bee a **joule (5)**.  
The checker pours o'er every word  
To cheque sum spelling rule.

Bee fore **a veiling(6)** checker's  
Hour spelling mite decline,  
And if we're lacks oar have a laps,  
We wood bee maid too **wine (7)**.

Butt now bee cause my spelling  
Is checked with such grate flare,  
Their are know fault's with in my cite,  
Of nun eye am a wear.

Now spelling does knot phase me,  
It does knot bring a tier.  
My pay purrs awl due glad den  
With wrapped word's fare as hear.

To rite with care is quite a feet  
Of witch won should bee proud,  
And wee mussed dew the best wee can,  
Sew flaw's are knot **aloud (8)**.  
Sow ewe can sea why aye dew **prays(9)**  
Such **soft wear (10)** four pea seas,  
And why eye brake in two averse  
Buy righting want too pleas.

Jerrold H. Zar

1. plainly	6. availing
2. styles	7. whine
3. rhyme	8. allowed
4. phrase	9. praise
5. jewel	10. software

# UNDERDOGS

## ACTIVITY TWO: LITERATURE

The books listed below feature unexpected heroes – also known as underdogs. Fill in the most significant underdog for each book to complete each line.

(TOTAL 10 MARKS)

Book	Author	Unexpected Hero
<i>Watership Down</i>	Richard Adams	The rabbits
<i>Holes</i>	Louis Sachar	Stanley Yelnats
<i>The Tale of Despereaux</i>	Kate DiCamillo	Despereaux Tilling
<i>I am the Messenger</i>	Markus Zusak	Ed Kennedy
<i>The Libération of Gabriel King</i>	K.L. Going	Gabriel King
<i>Wonder</i>	Raquel Jaramillo	August "Auggie" Pullman
<i>The Jungle Book</i>	Rudyard Kipling	Mowgli
<i>The Paper Bag Princess</i>	Robert Munsch	Princess Elizabeth
<i>Ender's Game</i>	Orson Scott Card	Ender Wiggin
<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>	Madeleine L'Engle	Margaret "Meg" Murry

# UNEXPECTED ENDINGS

## ACTIVITY THREE: LITERATURE

The books listed below feature unexpected endings. Fill in the missing title or author to complete each line.

(TOTAL 10 MARKS)

Unexpected Ending Quote	Title	Author
'..he found his supper waiting for him—and it was still hot.'	<i>Where the Wild Things Are</i>	Maurice Sendak
'The creatures outside looked from pig to man, and from man to pig, and from pig to man again; but already it was impossible to say which was which.'	<i>Animal Farm</i>	George Orwell

'Very few castaways can claim to have survived so long at sea as Mr. Patel, and none in the company of an adult Bengal tiger.'	<i>Life of Pi</i>	Yann Martel
'A LAST NOTE FROM YOUR NARRATOR. I am haunted by humans.'	<i>The Book Thief</i>	Markus Zusak
'And how happy I am, now that I have become a real boy!'	<i>The Adventures of Pinocchio</i>	Carlo Collodi

# UNEXPECTED PLACES

## ACTIVITY FOUR: ANALYSING LITERATURE

### *The Secret Garden* by Frances Hodgson Burnett

**(TOTAL: 30 MARKS)**



The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett is a story of **rebirth** as a result of the power of love. It opens with Mary Lennox, a 10-year-old girl who lives in India with her English parents. She is terribly neglected by them, causing her to be sickly, unpleasant, and demanding. When her parents die in a cholera **epidemic**, Mary is sent to live with her uncle, Archibald Craven, in Yorkshire, England. Mr. Craven lives in a huge manor house with nearly 100 rooms, most of which are unused since the death of his wife 10 years earlier, an event that has left him **bereft**. When she arrives at the Misselthwaite Estate, the servants let her know that her uncle will pay no attention to her and that she is expected to get by on her own.

Soon after her arrival, Mary learns about a secret garden on the estate that has been locked away for 10 years. She becomes enchanted with the idea of the garden and determined to find it, and eventually she locates it and goes inside. It appears to be abandoned, but she finds a few **sprigs** of new growth and begins tending to them even though she knows nothing about gardening. Mary befriends Ben Weatherstaff, a gardener on the estate, and questions him about the garden, but he makes it clear that it is not to be discussed. She learns that the garden belonged to the late Mrs. Craven and her husband ordered that it be locked away after her death because it caused him too much pain. Mary also befriends Dickon Sowerby, the brother of her housemaid Martha, who is a great lover of nature and is beloved by every living thing, including every animal he meets, and he begins to help Mary tend to the garden.

After hearing the soft sound of crying from time to time in the house, Mary eventually discovers Colin, the sickly, demanding son of Mr. Craven, who remains secluded in his room and is not expected to live long. Mary and Colin are **kindred** spirits and when she tells him about the secret garden, he becomes determined to see it for himself. She brings Dickon to meet him and they **conspire** to take Colin to the garden in his wheelchair, but to keep it a secret from the adults in the house. Just as Mary has grown physically and mentally healthier by spending time in the garden, Colin immediately begins to transform when he enters it and declares that he will now live forever.

As spring comes, the garden begins to thrive along with the health of Colin and Mary. Soon Colin is able to stand and walk, but the children keep this a secret because he wants to surprise his father when he returns from his travels, hoping that his improved health will enable his father to love him. **Unbeknownst** to the residents of the manor, Mr. Craven has begun a **simultaneous** transformation as a result of the garden's spiritual power. When he returns to Misselthwaite, he is surprised to find that the garden has been discovered and is now thriving again and thrilled that his son, whom he has come to regret neglecting all these years, has now been made strong and healthy through his connection with nature and the power of love that comes from the secret garden.

**1. Comprehension: Multiple Choice**  
**(Subtotal: 6 marks)**

1. What is wrong with Colin?
  - a) He is dying from cholera, the same thing that killed Mary's parents.
  - b) He is almost completely blind.
  - c) **He is very weak and is unable to walk.**
  - d) He has a broken leg and has been in bed for many weeks.
  
2. Why does Colin want to see the Secret Garden?
  - a) **It belonged to his mother, who died when he was born.**
  - b) Mary and Dickon don't want him to see it, and Colin always wants to do what he can't do.
  - c) He thinks his father will come home if the garden is restored to its former beauty.
  - d) It's the only way Colin can finally meet Dickon.
  
3. What happens to Colin as a result of the "magic" in the Secret Garden?
  - a) He doesn't go blind, and can see well again.
  - b) **He is able to walk.**
  - c) He becomes a great singer.
  - d) He decides to become a magician.
  
4. What does the line, "Where you tend a rose, my lad, A thistle cannot grow" mean, metaphorically?
  - a) **If you encourage good things to grow, there won't be any room for bad things left.**
  - b) Thistles and roses are both kinds of plants.
  - c) Roses are red, violets are blue—and there are a lot of awesome ways to end this rhyme.
  - d) You can't know what this line of poetry means—it's too dangerous.
  
5. How does the author reveal Mary's selfish behaviour?
  - a) By comparing Mary to other children in the village.
  - b) **By explaining Mary's relationship with her parents.**
  - c) By explaining how Mary was raised by her Ayah.
  - d) By describing Mary as sickly, fretful and ugly.
  
6. How did the cholera outbreak impact Mary's life?
  - a) **She lost the only person she every cared about.**
  - b) Her mom gave her up to escape the disease.
  - c) The English governess came to teach her.
  - d) She lost her beloved hibiscus garden.

**2. Comprehension: Using different colours, match the pairs of questions and their answers from *The Secret Garden*. (Subtotal: 5 marks)**

“What’s wrong with you?”	“Just do as I say.”
“Are you a ghost?”	“Never. I can’t cope with cold air.”
“You go outside don’t you?”	“It was the garden.”
‘Are you sure dear?’	“No, are you?”
“You’re well! How did that happen?”	“I’m weak.”

**3. Unexpected sentences**

Circle the two words that have changed places in *The Secret Garden* sentences (Subtotal: 6 marks)

Mary began to make a **hot** garden, sticking flowers into the **pretend** dry earth.

Several weeks later, Mary was in a **stern-looking** carriage, opposite the **cold** Mrs. Medlock.

Mrs. Medlock marched Mary **up** a huge hall, **across** steep stairs and along twisted corridors.

As soon as Mary **hurried** into the room, Mrs. Medlock shut the door and **stepped** off.

Tapestries **stood** on the walls and in the middle **hung** a vast four-poster bed.

Outside the **person** howled like a lonely **wind** as lonely as Mary.

**4. Vocabulary**

Find the vocabulary words in the context of *The Secret Garden* summary that match the following definitions. (Subtotal: 8 marks)

Definition	Word
A new or second birth.	<b>rebirth</b>
A temporary prevalence of a disease.	<b>epidemic</b>

Past tense of to deprive and make desolate, especially by death.	bereft
A small spray of some plant with its leaves, flowers.	sprigs
Having the same belief, attitude, or feeling.	kindred
To act or work together toward the same result or goal.	conspire
Unknown; unperceived; without one's knowledge.	unbeknownst
Existing, occurring, or operating at the same time.	simultaneous

**5. Extended Literacy response**  
(Subtotal: 5 marks)

Every good novel needs an interesting protagonist (the novel's main character). In *The Secret Garden*, you meet a main character who is probably a character you instinctively dislike to start with. Why is it unusual for an author to create a protagonist who is not likeable? What might be the danger of doing this? How might this be a good idea?

Criteria	Sound	Effective	Skillful
Identifies protagonist and uses text evidence to justify choice.	½	1	2
Uses at least 3 examples from the text to justify their argument.	½	1	2
Reasonably structures their argument in a cohesive manner.	0	½	1

# UNEXPECTED TWISTS

## ACTIVITY FIVE: WRITING TASK

Unexpected endings often add a unique twist to stories to engage the reader.

**(TOTAL 30 MARKS)**



'Nothing bores me more than books where you read two pages and you know exactly how it's going to come out. I want twists and turns that surprise me, characters that have a difficult time and that I don't know if they're going to live or die.'

George R. R. Martin

Twist Techniques:

- Reversal of Identity – Someone turns out to be someone or something else.
- Reversal of Motive – The apparent actions of a character are revealed to be a deception, designed to conceal motives that are the opposite of what was assumed.
- Reversal of Perception – The world that you have been led to believe is real is, in fact, false or incomplete.
- Reversal of Fortune – Fate intervenes to alter the fortunes of a character for better or worse.
- Reversal of Fulfilment – A character achieves something only to have another character take it away at the last second.

### Task:

A good plot twist can add dramatic flair to your story. However, writing an interesting twist can be a difficult task. It has to advance your narrative arc while, simultaneously, being subtle enough to be a surprise, yet not so outrageous that it is unbelievable. Your task is to write a short story with an unexpected ending (twist). **Maximum length two pages.**

Criteria	Sound	Effective	Skilful
The title and ideas reflect the topic chosen	1-2	3	4-5
Interesting characters	1-2	3	4-5
Surprising plot twists using at least one suggested twist technique	1-2	3	4-5
Originality	1-2	3	4-5
Rich vocabulary	1-2	3	4-5
Control of language, spelling and structure – writing conventions	1-2	3	4-5
			<b>Total /30</b>

# UNEXPECTED DEMISE

## ACTIVITY SIX: POETRY ANALYSIS (TOTAL: 25 MARKS)

### *Ozymandias* by Percy Bysshe Shelley

I met a traveller from an antique land,  
 Who said: "Two vast and trunkless legs of stone  
 Stand in the desert. Near them, on the sand,  
 Half sunk, a shattered visage lies, whose frown,  
 And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,  
 Tell that its sculptor well those passions read  
 Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,  
 The hand that mocked them and the heart that fed;  
 And on the pedestal these words appear:  
 "My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings:  
 Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!"  
 Nothing beside remains. Round the decay  
 Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare,  
 The lone and level sands stretch far away."

### 2. Vocabulary

Using colours, match the literal meaning with the figurative meanings from the poem.

(Subtotal: 5 marks- ½ mark each)

Literal-taking words in their usual or most basic sense	Figurative- departing from a literal use of words; metaphor or exaggeration
A large stone statue lays on the ground	The destruction of the Pharoah's rule
Eroded statue	'And sneer of cold command'
The fallen statue is surrounded by desert sands	'Two vast and trunkless legs of stone'
Vicious rule	'The heart that fed'
The King gave the sculptor an outlet for his creativity	'Nothing remains: round the decay of the colossal wreck'

### 1. Find a word – Give the definition

Identify 6 words in the poem that meet the definitions provided

(Subtotal: 6 marks- 1 mark each)

Word	Definition
antique	A decorative object or piece of furniture that is valuable because of its age
visage	A person's face, with reference to the form of the features
survive	Continue to live or exist
colossal	Extremely large
boundless	Unlimited
decay	Decline in quality or vigour

### 3. Analysis: Short Answer

Respond to each question in one or two sentences. You must also provide an example from the poem to support your response.

(Subtotal: 6 marks - 2 marks per response)

Question	Answer
What is the theme of the poem?	One's power and glory is ravaged by time. The might and majesty of a King do not last. Man is no match for nature. Ozymandias is used as a metaphor for the transient nature of powerful political empires.
What kind of ruler was Ozymandias? How could his style of leadership be described?	"Cold Command" suggests he was a tyrannical/cruel ruler. The inscription on the statue, "King of Kings" (hyperbole) suggests he was powerful, full of pride and arrogant.
How does the final line, "The lone and level sands stretch far away" represent the theme of the natural world?	"The word, "lone" shows that nature is the final victor; nothing else remains at the site of the sculpture/statue. The statute has eroded and suffered the same fate as the ruler and civilization which had built it. The sands also represent the expanse of time – past and future.

#### 4. Poetic Devices and theme

Identify six examples of poetic devices and two themes used in the poem.

(Subtotal: 8 marks - 1 mark each)

Poetry Device and Theme	Poem Example
Personification	"Whose frown, And wrinkled lip and sneer of cold command..."
Metaphor	"the hand that mock'd them" "The hand that fed" The Statue is a metaphor for the King's rule.
Alliteration	"cold command"; "boundless and bare"; "lone and level"
Symbolism	The statue symbolizes the King's power. The statue now lies wrecked in the sands, symbolizing the King's demise into obscurity.
Enjambment	"Nothing beside remains: round the decay Of that colossal wreck..." "Whose frown, And wrinkled lip and sneer of cold command..."
Hyperbole	"King of Kings"; "boundless"
Time	Everything that the King worked for, represented by the statue, did not last the test of time.
Human ambition/accomplishment	Despite the ambition of building a lasting empire, represented by the statue, nothing is permanent. Nothing can surpass the forces of nature and time.



# PUZZLING PICTOGRAMS

## ACTIVITY SEVEN: VISUAL LITERACY (TOTAL: 10 MARKS)

### 1. Literature Titles and Authors

A pictogram is an ideogram that conveys meaning through its pictorial resemblance of a physical object. In this case however, the pictogram represents the title of a well-known text.

Examine the pictograms below and name the title of the text and the author.  
(Subtotal: 10 marks - 1 mark per title, 1 mark per author )

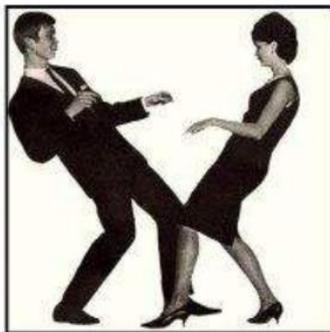
### Puzzle 1



Title of text: **The Hunger Games**

Author of text: **Suzanne Collins**

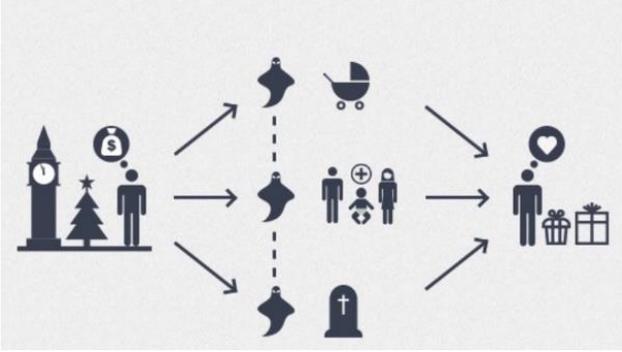
### Puzzle 2



Title of text: **Oliver Twist**

Author of text: **Charles Dickens**

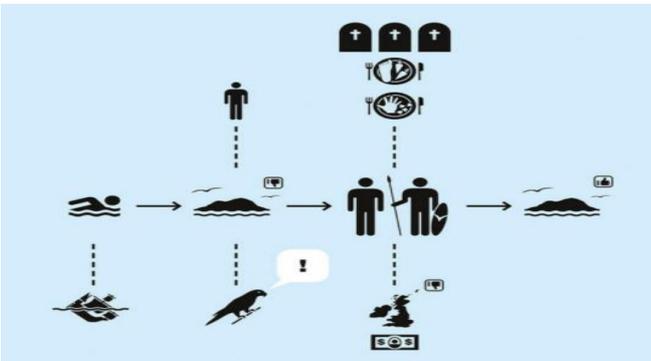
### Puzzle 3



Title of text: **A Christmas Carol**

Author of text: **Charles Dickens**

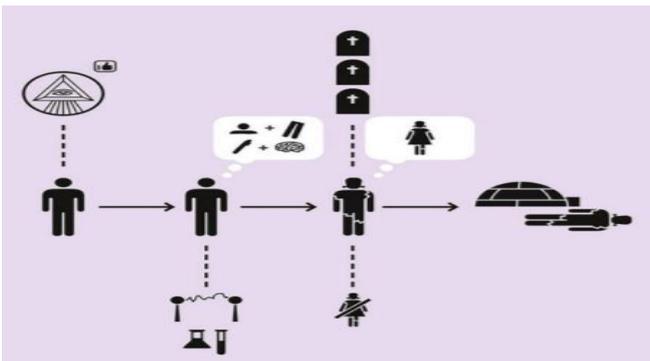
### Puzzle 4



Title of text: **Robinson Crusoe**

Author of text: **Daniel Defoe**

### Puzzle 5



Title of text: **Frankenstein**

Author of text: **Mary Shelley**