Writing from an animal's perspective

Lesson 5



It’s time to write!

You will be asked to described the events we’ve discussed from the fox’s perspective.



But first a reminder of what we have done…



The Fox of Chiloe is watching Darwin and some of the crew of HMS Beagle coming ashore.
The fox has seen neither men nor boats before.

We asked you to think about how the fox might describe this scene…



As the blazing ball of fire rose overhead, I saw what must have been magic. Gliding across the water like a bird, a log was racing to shore. As it got closer I saw these strange creatures on it, they were like none that I'd seen before.

They used a tree branch to steer the log to shore like the log had suddenly grown legs.

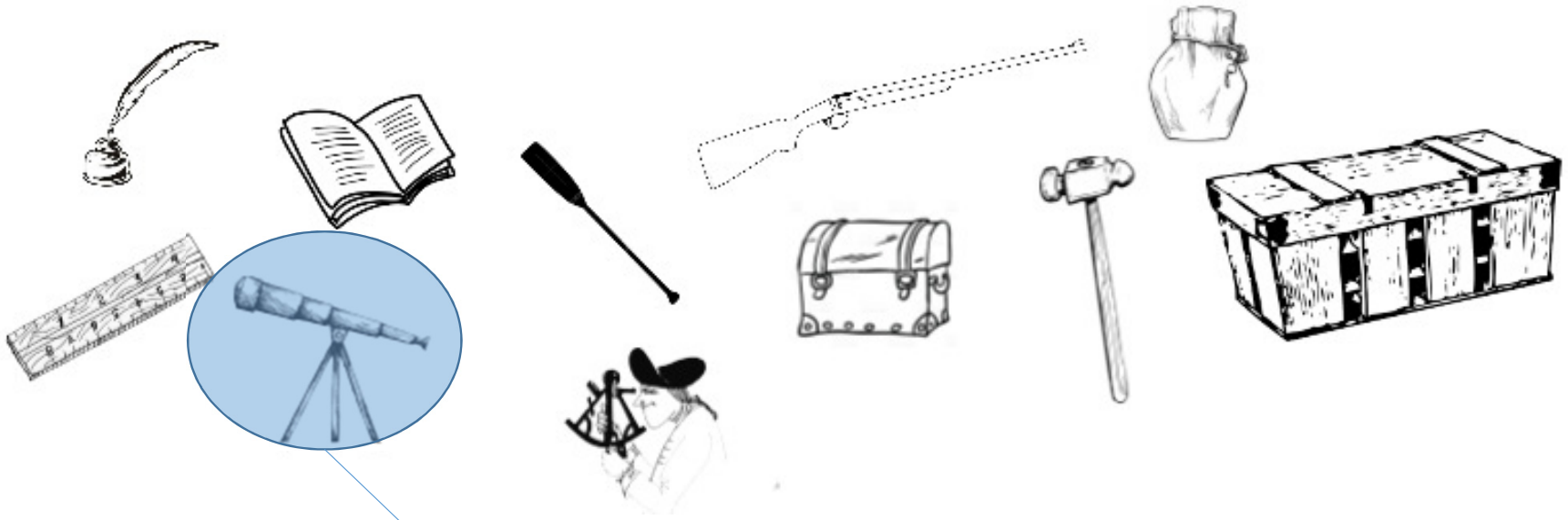
Here is one of your accounts of the scene.
The writer has captured the bemusement of the fox as he observes this peculiar sight. They have also varied their sentence openings well.



Darwin and the crew brought a lot of strange equipment onto the beach. Darwin was there to study the plants and wildlife, everybody else was there to survey, map and take measurements of the island.

We asked you to think about how the fox might perceive these strange objects, given that he had never seen man-made objects or man-made materials such as metal, glass or fabric.

Here is one of your wonderful descriptions:



This strange creature stands on three skinny legs which supports its long, thin body. It doesn't have any fur; it's skin lets the sunlight bounce off it which dazzles me. At both ends of its body are single eyes, one bigger than the other which seems to help it to see.



The men from HMS Beagle would have looked and dressed very much like these Victorian sailors.

We asked you to identify things about these three creatures that the fox would have found strange



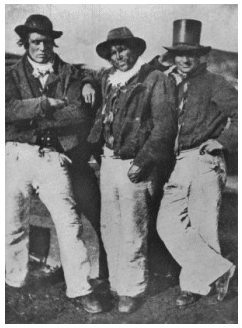




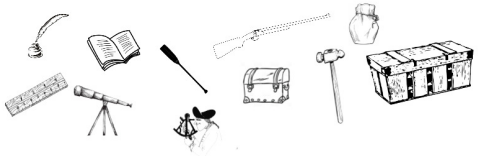
For example - they have tiny ears

At first I thought that they were without ears, until I spotted the strange, furless protrusions beneath the tufts of hair on their head. They were such pathetic little things that I wondered whether they could truly hear a sound. From what I was able to see, they were not even able to move their ears. It was at that point that I felt a little more safe. If they could not hear me or smell me then I was not to be their prey. In any case, I supposed that as they lacked fangs, they were most probably leaf-eaters.









We asked you to use a thesaurus to develop a bank of words to describe the emotions of the fox.

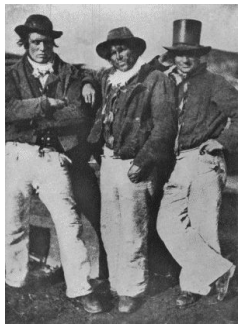
mesmerised

apprehensive

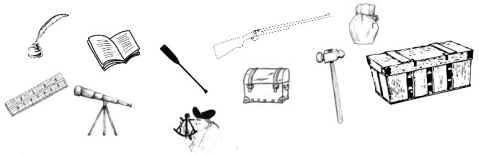
uneasy

perplexed









These were sent by five different children.
They are all great ideas

We also asked you to think about how we might indicate time had passed.

The sun had moved across the sky…

I suddenly realised that I was truly famished…

I had not noticed the extent to which the shadows had lengthened, so bewitched was I by the strange sights

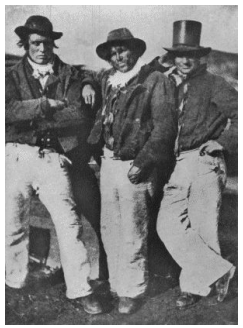
The empty blue sky had filled with clouds, I had been sitting on my haunches so long.

The waters had fully invaded the beach.



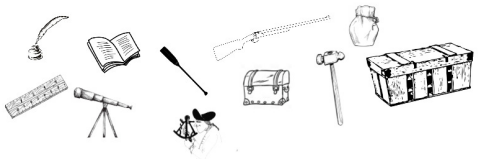


Your task is to describe the events from the perspective of the fox – in the first person.



To describe the arrival as the peculiar log came from the waters onto the sands.

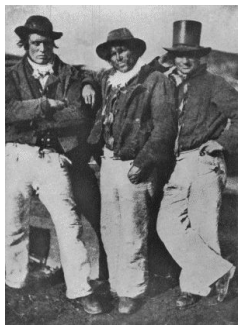
To describe the strange creatures and the mysterious objects that they brought onto the sands.





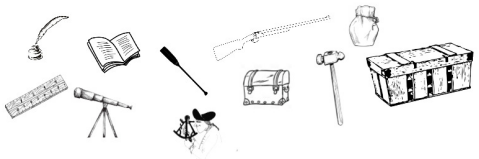


Your task is to describe the events from the perspective of the fox – in the first person.



To describe the arrival as the peculiar log came from the waters onto the sands.

To describe the strange creatures and the mysterious objects that they brought onto the sands.



To show how the fox's emotions change as he observed:
At times intrigued, at times anxious and fearful

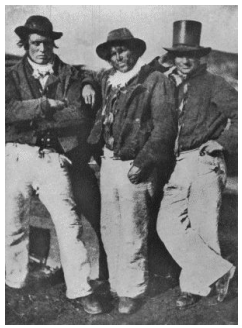




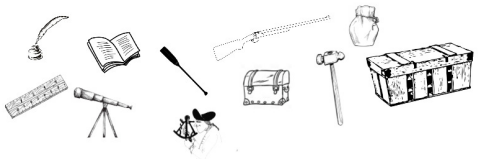
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Start

You will need to think about describing where the fox is to begin with…and maybe why he is there.

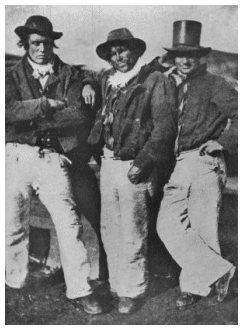


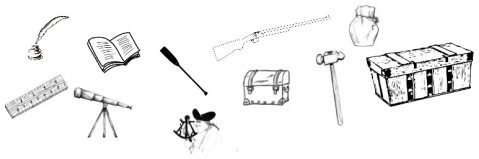
You will need to describe the passage of time by referring to natural change









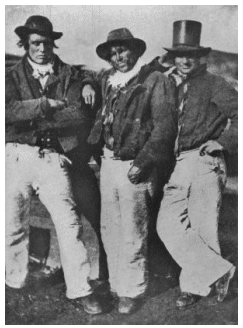


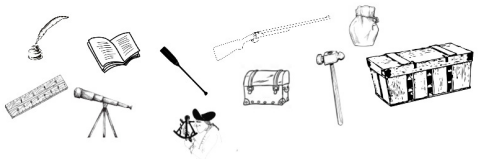
Remember:

- Detailed description
- Fabulous phrases
- Varied sentences









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To describe the strange creatures and the mysterious objects that they brought onto the sands.

To show how the fox's emotions change as he observed:
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Get writing. Create magic.

