



## Year 3 Writing

Write a letter as if you are Mary from Spywatch back to your parents.

Spywatch is a series about children who were evacuees and their adventures in the countryside.

### **Monday- Task 1**

SPAG - Subordinating conjunctions!

Watch this clip and complete the online activity:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/articles/zqk37p3>

Then have a go at identifying the subordinating conjunctions in the sentences below by underlining them.

- 1) The flat burned down because the electrics hadn't been checked.
- 2)After they finished their homework, Steven and his friends played football.
- 3)The wind danced around the trees before heading south.
- 4)Tom saw the maid when she came through the door.
- 5)While looking through the window, Sophie saw the BFG.
- 6)She felt sad whenever she saw the picture.
- 7)Grandma said I could go out to play if I finished my homework.
- 8)If you eat all your dinner, you can have an ice cream.
- 9)Ryan got a prize even though he was last in the race.
- 10)On his birthday Adam received a football which he traded for a baseball bat.
- 11)The man went inside so he could get warm.
- 12)As he was angry, Steven kicked the boy next to him.

Tuesday

Watch this video clip:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wrfcYNHaXgU>

- 1) If you were Mary and had just been dropped off at Mr Grainger's home, how would you be feeling?
- 2) As your parents are not with you, and you are going to write to them, would you pretend you are living with friendly people or would you tell the truth? Why?
- 3) Make a list of the good things about being at Mr Grainger's house and what you expect the bad things to be.

Then go through the information about the evacuees below.

When Britain announced it was at war with Germany in 1939 the British Government knew that Germany would attack Britain with bomber planes. So they ordered that mothers and children who lived in cities had to leave the cities and go to live with other people, people not known to them, in the countryside. They were to be **EVACUATED** to the safety of Rural areas of Britain.

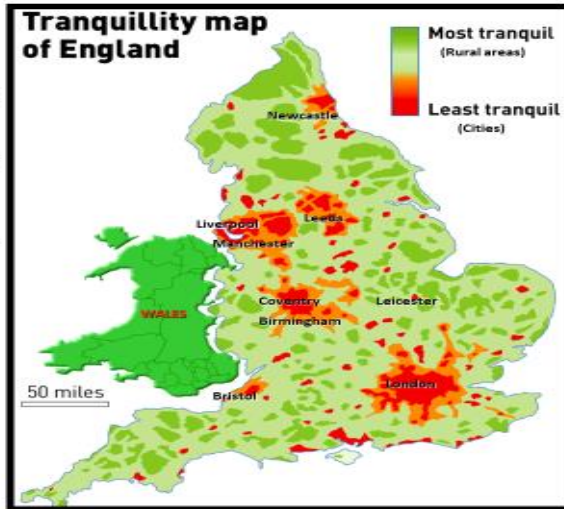


**Towns and villages in the countryside (Rural and Farming areas) would not be targeted by German bomber planes as much as the cities – so children would be much safer living in the rural areas.**

The areas in red on the map show the areas the German bombers would target the most.

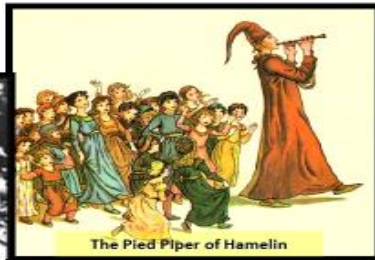
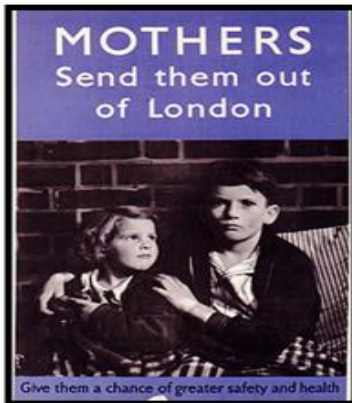
The areas in green on the map show the rural countryside areas where people would be safer from bombing raids.

Mothers and children were *evacuated* to green areas.



In 1939 more than 3.1 million (3,100,000) children were evacuated from the main British cities including London.

The plan to evacuate them was called *Operation Pied Piper*, after the German folktale about a magical musician who lured all the children of a town away with his musical pipe, and the children were never seen again. The evacuation of city children happened very quickly.



Families were told the children were only allowed to have one suitcase with them. In that suitcase they had to have: the clothes they would need, their Identity Card, their Ration book, their Gas Mask, some money, and a few small toys. Everything had to fit in the one suitcase and the children had to keep the suitcase with them all the time they were travelling to their rural area.





But the Evacuation happened so quickly that some children did not know where they were being sent to. Many children had never been separated from their parents and family before. Many children's parents had to stay in the cities to work and so the children were evacuated on their own. Imagine how it must feel to be told you were leaving your parents, you were going somewhere strange, you would be living in strangers' houses with them, and that you might not see your parents for up to a year.



Look at the children in this picture. They are being evacuated. Their mothers are saying 'Goodbye' to them at the railway station. The children are about to travel on a train to a rural area to live with strangers. How do you think they must feel?

What can you see in these pictures? the children have around their necks? What are they for? think are in the boxes hanging from their shoulders? do think they are feeling about being evacuated?

What do you think  
What do you  
How do they look? How



When children arrived at the rural area there were always lots of adults waiting. The adults would pick the children they wanted to come and live with them. Many children had to wait a long time until they were picked by an adult. Sometimes children would wait while all the other children were picked. Brothers and sisters would be picked together mostly, but there were times when brothers and sisters had to be split up and go to live with different families. They might not see each other again for more than a year.





Children were lucky and got to live with families who were kind to them and lived in well furnished houses with bathrooms and toilets inside. Some children were not so lucky and had to live in small cramped houses with no bathroom and only an outside toilet, and the people did not treat them in a loving way.

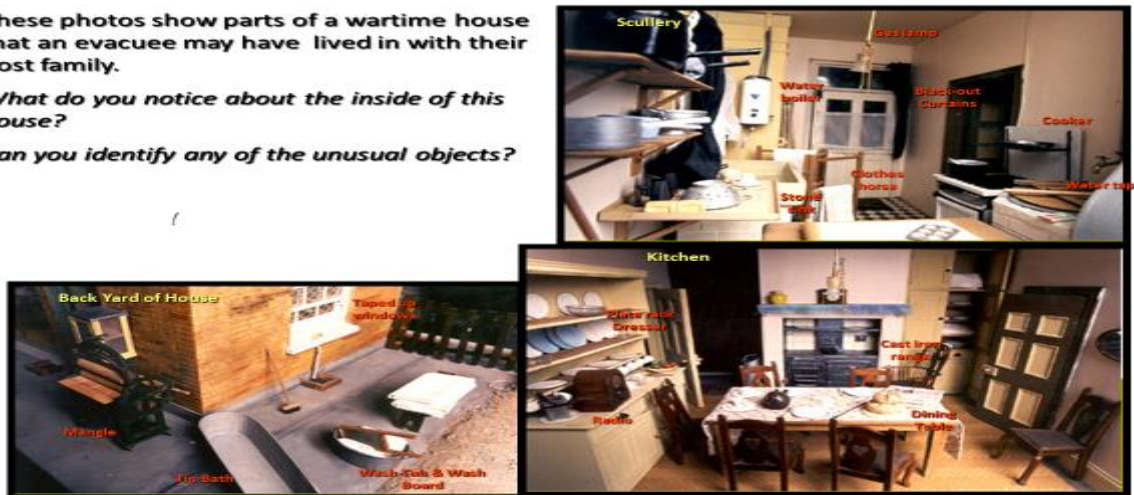


What do you notice about these houses that is different to our homes today?

These photos show parts of a wartime house that an evacuee may have lived in with their host family.

What do you notice about the inside of this house?

Can you identify any of the unusual objects?



Many children had never been into the countryside before. They were shocked and excited at the huge areas of rural and farming land. City children often wrote letters to their parents describing seeing animals such as cows and sheep for the first time.





*"Dear Mum,  
 It was so sad to see you stay. The journey was awful, Alice wet herself and she was sick all over me, But we saw cows in a field, it was fascinating. We were taken to the village hall where we were picked by adults, luckily me and Alice stayed together in the same house. We were picked by Mr and Mrs Kinsman, they're really strict. At school Mr Kinsman's my teacher, I have to spend a whole day with him. Alice's teacher is really nice he's called Mr Clark. I ruined my shoes in the pigs' pen and when Mr Kinsman found out he went bonkers.  
 We'll write back as soon as possible  
 Edna" (aged 10)*



Many evacuee children went to live on farms. As well as going to school they had to help the farmers look after the farm animals and the fields.  
 Many city children had the opportunity to do things they would never have been able to do in the city, such as: - Feed, clean and ride horses - Feed and milk cows - Feed and clean pigs - Feed chickens and collect their eggs



Evacuee children would work in the farmers' fields before school, after school and at weekends and holidays.  
 All year round they helped dig up potatoes, carrots, onions, cabbage, and turnips. In summer they would pick fruit from the farmers' fruit trees; apples, pears, plums and cherry. In autumn the children would help pick blackberries.



**Wednesday** Re-watch the video clip

**Task 1.**

Read through an example of an evacuee letter, can you highlight any adjectives?

15 Wellington St.

Bridgley  
Nr Exeter

04.05.42

Dear Mum,

I hope you are safe and well in London.

When I got on the train to Bridgley I was very upset after saying goodbye. There were lots of other children on the train, crying or shouting. I wanted to cover my ears. I felt a little overwhelmed and so I didn't eat my lunch.

We arrived at the billeting office on Thursday afternoon. I had to sit in my chair quietly and wait for someone to collect me. I felt nervous and homesick. At first waiting made me very anxious. I didn't know if anyone wanted a Londoner like me. I felt more queasy and panicked as the time passed. After what felt like hours, a man with only a little hair and round glasses arrived. He looked very serious and I was terrified he would shout at me, but he smiled, which calmed me down a little. He told to keep my chin up and come along with him.

The man's name is Mr Read and he is the schoolmaster. I am staying with him and his wife in a house on the top of a steep hill, on a winding country road. There are apple trees in an orchard here and the air smells like wet grass and earth. I am enjoying exploring the garden and feel relaxed now that I am here. I am grateful I am staying with nice people.

Tomorrow I am going to school. There are more than a hundred children there. Mr Read says there will be a lot of evacuees like me. I hope I get along well. I would like to do some more maths and spelling but I am not sure what the schools are like here so I will have to see.

I miss you very much and I will write to you again soon.

Lots of love,

James.

### **Task 2**

Can you highlight where the first person is being used - I, me my, our

### **Task 3**

Can you highlight any conjunctions which have been included?



## Thursday - Task 1

Planning - have a go at planning your letter as if you are Mary back to your parents.

### Journey

What was the journey like? Did you meet anyone on your journey?

### Family

Who are the family you are staying with? What are they like? Are your brothers and/or sisters with you?

### Emotions

How are you feeling? Are you coping with the changes? Do you miss anyone? Where are you living? Is it different to what you are used to? How?

Friday

Have a go at drafting your letter to your parents in your books using the same structure as the one on Wednesday to help you. Make sure you include adjectives, the first person and subordinating conjunctions.

There is a subordinating conjunctions word mat for you.

Have fun year 3!

Mr Price

## Subordinating Conjunctions

after

although

as

because

before

if

once

provided (that)

since

that

though

unless

until / till

when

where

whereas

whenever

wherever

whether

while