

English

Wednesday 23rd September

In this unit we will use these Key Writing Skills:

➤ Use **brackets** and **commas** for parenthesis.

➤ Use **cohesive** devices to link events.

➤ Use **techniques** to engage the reader.

Today, we will focus on this key skill.

Biographical Writing

Success Criteria:

Opening sentence which hooks the reader;

Opening paragraph to briefly summarise the person's life;

Recount key events in chronological order;

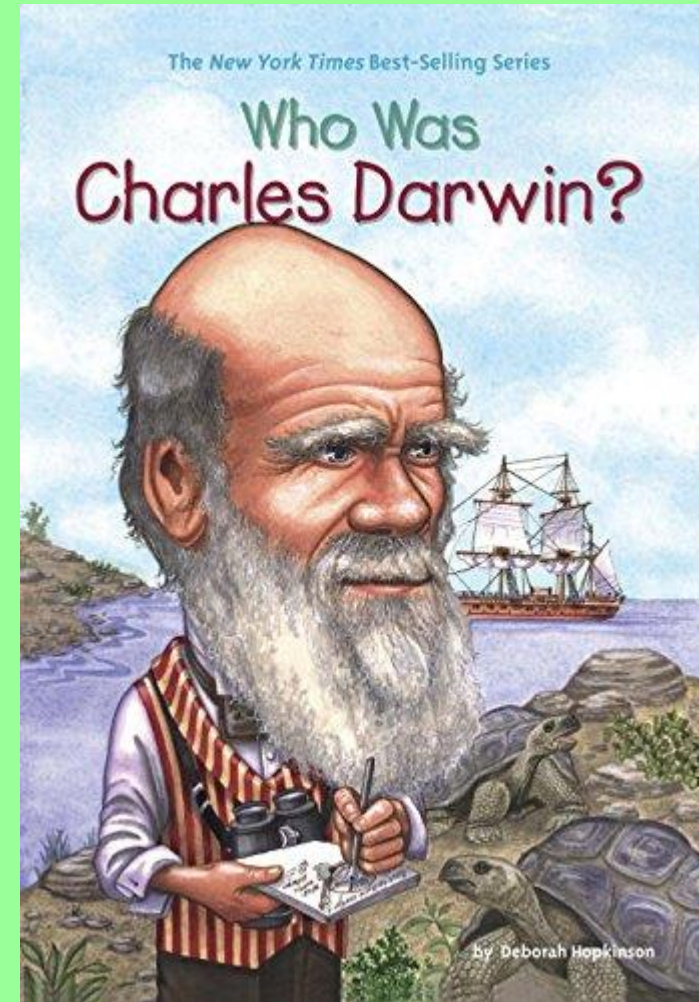
Cohesive devices showing passing of time;

Written in third person;

Written in past tense.

Watch these videos for an introduction into biographies...

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ljxwcNTVqNM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUHP3fdBQJw>



Planning your biography...

- Use the planning sheet (Resource Sheet 2) to plan your Charles Darwin Biography. You can do the plan in your book, if you are unable to print it
- Look at my example for Mary Anning on the next page – I will model write a biography for Mary Anning this week, then **you will write a biography for Charles Darwin.**

The Life of Charles Darwin	
Full Name Date and Place of Birth	
Family Life and Childhood	
Early Adult Life	
Career and Main Achievements	
Date and Place of Death	
Legacy	

Miss Terrell's example plan for Mary Anning...

Full Name	Mary Anning
Date and Place of Birth	Born 21 May 1799, Lyme Regis, Dorset
Family Life and Childhood	Family were poor. Nine children but only Mary and brother Joseph grew up – others died. Thunderstorm (11 mths) Mary survived, two ladies killed by lightning. Everyday beach. Find curiosities to sell. 1810 father died. Found a skull. Chipped away at the rock and uncovered a skeleton – ichthyosaurus (fish-lizard). Sold to British Museum in London for £25.
Early Adult Life	Took a more scientific approach to her work – found out about anatomy. Became an expert in removing fossilized bones from rocks and reconstructing their skeletons. Opened a shop to sell fossils, stones and shells.
Career and Main Achievements	December 1823. Discovered first complete skeleton of a Plesiosaur (giant sea reptile). At first believed to be a fake but later confirmed real. Declared by Georges Cuvier to be "The most amazing creature ever discovered. Made her famous. Continued to make more major discoveries e.g. first pterosaur (flying reptile) found outside Germany.
Date and Place of Death	Died after a short illness in 1847 in Lyme Regis.
Legacy	Not given the recognition whilst alive. 2010 Royal Society recognised her as one of the ten British women who have influenced the development of science. Fossil museum named after her in Lyme Regis.

Now that you have planned, let's
begin writing...

A rhetorical opening paragraph to hook the reader...

Now that you have planned your Darwin biography, you will write a rhetorical opening to hook the reader.

Look at the example that we are going to use as a model for our opening.

Example of a rhetorical opening

Have you ever imagined what it would be like to climb the world's highest mountain? To live with fear and excitement all your life, to be honoured by countries all over the planet? To receive a knighthood from the Queen? One man has done just that, Sir Chris Bonnington. This is his story.

How does this hook the reader?

Sir Chris Bonnington is a mountaineer, who has climbed many mountains, including Mount Everest (the highest mountain in the world). He achieved a knighthood from the Queen in 1996. If you have time later this week, you could find out more about his achievements.

Now watch the tutorial video where Miss Terrell will model write the opening, using this example.

- Now write your rhetorical opening for your **Charles Darwin** biography in your Remote Learning (6PW) or Homework book (6LT).
- Share your opening with an adult. Does it hook them in and make them want to read more?
- Don't forget to email a photo of your work to us.