



Year 9

Transitions

Y9 Transitions

Creative Challenge tasks

Vlog	Record a pilot episode of a new drama about Teenagers . Or Record a vlog giving advice to teens on how to deal with heartbreak.
Advert	Design an advert to help teenagers deal with FOMO (fear of missing out).
Narrative	Read Alan Carr and Hugh Jackman's letter to their teenage selves. Write a letter to your teenage self. OR Write a short story or poem with the title "Transitions"
Play script	Write a key scene from a new play about NOMOPHOBIA.

ALAN CARR

Dear me,

You probably can't read this because you won't have your glasses on.

I know you don't like wearing them but believe me – you'll grow into them.

I'll be honest with you – that isn't puppy fat!!

It stays with you for the next 20 years looking a bit sorry for itself, hanging over the top of your jeans and wobbling when you giggle.

Now I know body-slammng your face on a caravan hook in Great Yarmouth whilst on holiday wasn't on your 'to do' list, but funnily enough the crooked, gappy, chipped toothy smile might actually be a good thing.

Look!! Don't shoot the messenger – I'm trying to be positive. Anyway, I've got jokes to write, presenting to do etc so will leave you to it.

Keep your chin up.

Love Alan

P.S. By the way, your voice doesn't break either.



Dear Hugh,

Just thought I would pop you a little note to see how you are (even though I know) and to tell you that yes!!! There will come a time when you get that Penny dumping you at the bus stop. In fact you will see her in a couple of years and wonder why you cried every time you heard the Lionel Richie song "Penny Lover".

Oh and the patch of zits you get on your forehead will also go, but probably not as quickly as you hope. And Yes, you will get to move into the big house as soon as your brother Ralph leaves.

Right now the important stuff is out of the way....I will tell you a few things that may help you on the way. I don't want to spoil any surprises for you, so I'll keep this as vague as possible.

Things are going to be different from how you imagine them. I know you have a clear idea of what you are going to do with your life, and I know that drives you a little crazy... particularly as you get asked about it every other day of your life. But when you are asked just smile and say "no idea...but when I do know I'll get back to you".

Truth be told much of what is going to happen will surprise the pants off you... It will be way better than your wildest imaginings.

Love life? (spoiler alert) You will meet an incredible woman, and the choice to marry her will be the easiest choice of your life. Just listen to your gut. Keep writing down one list...and one list only... the 5 things you love to do, and the 5 things you are good at...they will keep changing, but one day they will match up...and there is your path...but even then keep writing your list just to make sure you are still on the right track.

Your nature is to be hard on your self... to push yourself... be careful of this... it can veer you off track faster than anything.

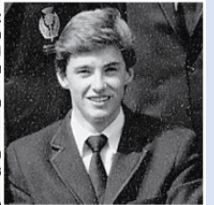
There is so much more to say, that would make you feel great to hear... but I don't want to spoil the surprise.

You have had many blessings in life, and will have many more... never forget where those blessings come from.

Oh... and in about 10 years there will be a hit song that you love called "wear sunscreen"...and a hell of a lot of it is true... particularly the bit about WEARING SUNSCREEN!!!! Hint hint.

I love you
From YOU!

P.S. buy shares in Google when they are invented!!!!!!



Hugh Jackman

Reading Task - At war with World of Warcraft: an addict tells his story



Digital Health & Wellbeing

Read the first page of the newspaper article: 'At war with World of Warcraft'.

Task 1. Explain how gaming affected Ryan Van Cleave's life.

- Read and highlight 8-10 quotations to show his life changed because of gaming.
- Complete the reading grid.



Evidence	How his life changed
He says he became an "addict"	He was so addicted to gaming that he couldn't think about anything else.
He "almost lost everything"	Gaming affected every part of his life. He...



Reading Task: At war with World of Warcraft: an addict tells his story

1. Explain how gaming affected Ryan Van Cleave's life.

- It makes him an "addict" / "consumed" gaming takes over his life
- "almost lost everything" dramatic impact on his life – virtually destroyed it
- "little time for his real life" caused him to ignore/detach from his family
- "dominated everything" it became his sole priority – work comes second to gaming
- "squeeze in computer time" makes him desperate to catch a few computer seconds
- "microwave meals, energy drinks" willing to sacrifice health - convenience a priority
- "better than everyday life" he feels the virtual world is better than the real one
- "arguing with his wife" strain/burden/impact on marriage
- "like a god" he enjoys the control and power offered by gaming
- "The real world makes me feel useless" virtual world superior/real life inadequate
- "life should have been perfect" ruined their lives
- "late for her first ultrasound scan" neglects family/changes priorities
- "stealing away" knows his addictive behaviour is wrong but unable to stop
- wife is "disgusted" impacts relationship – abdicated responsibility/abandons them
- "abandon her and their new baby" reckless/isolates himself/selfish
- "life began to fall apart" risks everything/totally consumed by gaming
- "began to feel that others at work disliked him" paranoid/isolated
- "buried himself" escapism – retreats/withdraws to the computer when things get tough



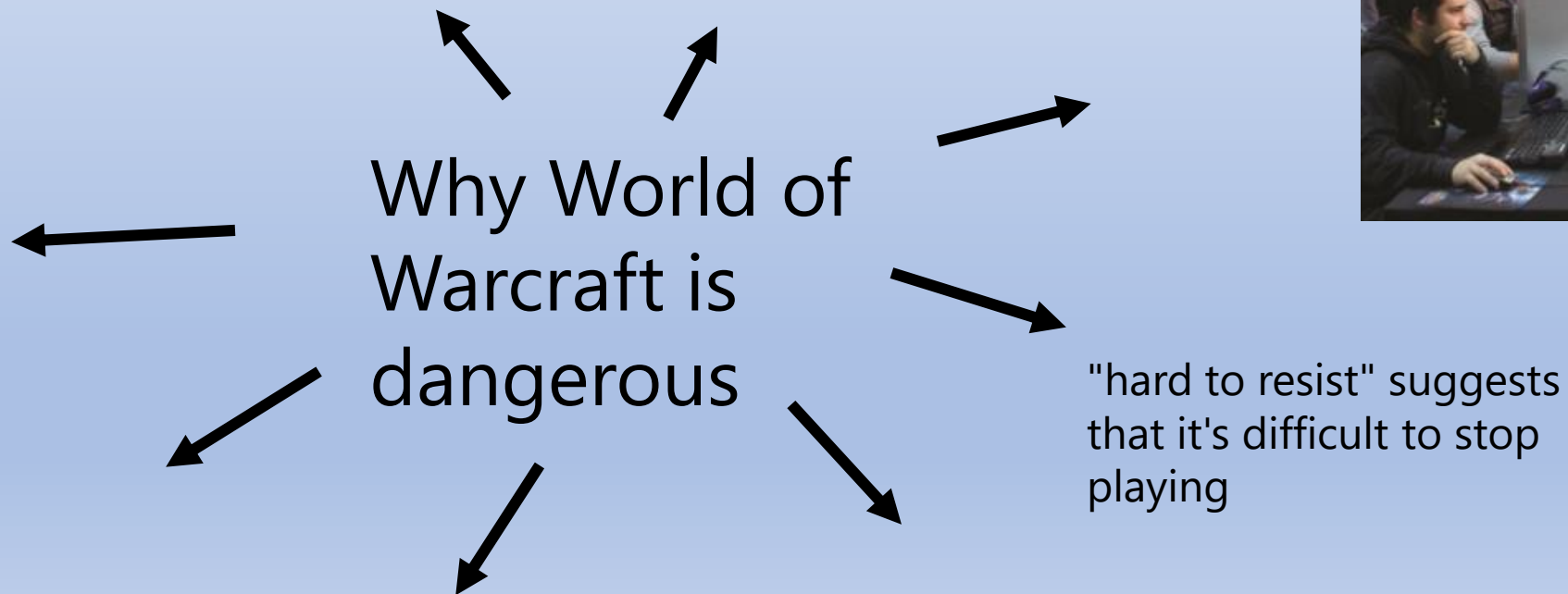
**Mark
your
work!**

Reading Task - At war with World of Warcraft: an addict tells his story

Read the second page of the article.

Task 2. According to this part of the article, why is World of Warcraft a dangerous game?

In pairs, create a mind-map to plot your ideas in response to the question



Reading Text: At war with World of Warcraft: an addict tells his story

Task 2. According to this part of the article, why is World of Warcraft a dangerous game?

- “hard to resist” powerfully tempting/addictive/struggles to avoid it
- “doesn’t end...goes on and on...” perpetual/constant challenge/inescapable
- “obsession” potential to dominate your life like it did to Van Cleave
- “never get enough” highly addictive – never satisfied
- “effects...not to be taken lightly” should be recognised as a major problem
- “suffering from exhaustion”, “eyesight strain” causes physical illnesses
- “playing for 50 hours straight” obsessional/ridiculous/consuming
- “obsessional behaviour...paranoia” psychologically damaging
- “neglected their children” wider family impact - not just the gamers who suffer
- “mesmerised” captivating - almost to a hypnotic level
- “similar to gambling addiction” – compared to well-known dangerous habit
- “60 hours a week”, “18 hours straight” all-encompassing/time consuming
- serious of effects on Van Cleave – loses job
- withdrawal symptoms like a drug addict
- “heard it all before ... no confidence that he would stop” addicts often return to gaming / wife loses faith
- “his students spend much of their lives online” computer use is widespread
- “Games are fine if they are part of a balanced life” – dangerous if not
- picture of players – intense concentration/anti-social/fully focused/look anxious “cataclysm” used on picture – synonymous with catastrophe

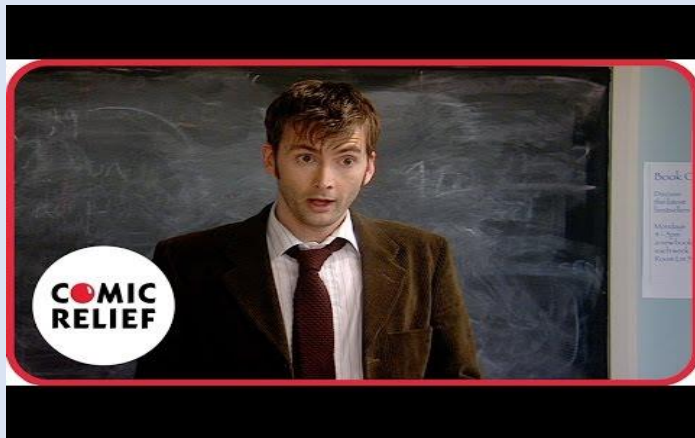


**Mark
your
work!**

Oracy work

How are teenagers presented?

Watch the two video clips below:



Task: How do Will and Lauren act towards their teachers? Draw a table to show the differences and/or similarities between the pair.



Some useful vocabulary:

persistent
impertinent
inquisitive
successful

enthusiastic
provocative
relentless
colloquial (use of slang)

determined
committed
defensive

Discuss:

Are either of these characters stereotypical of teenagers in Britain today?

Which elements of their behaviour have you witnessed in classrooms?

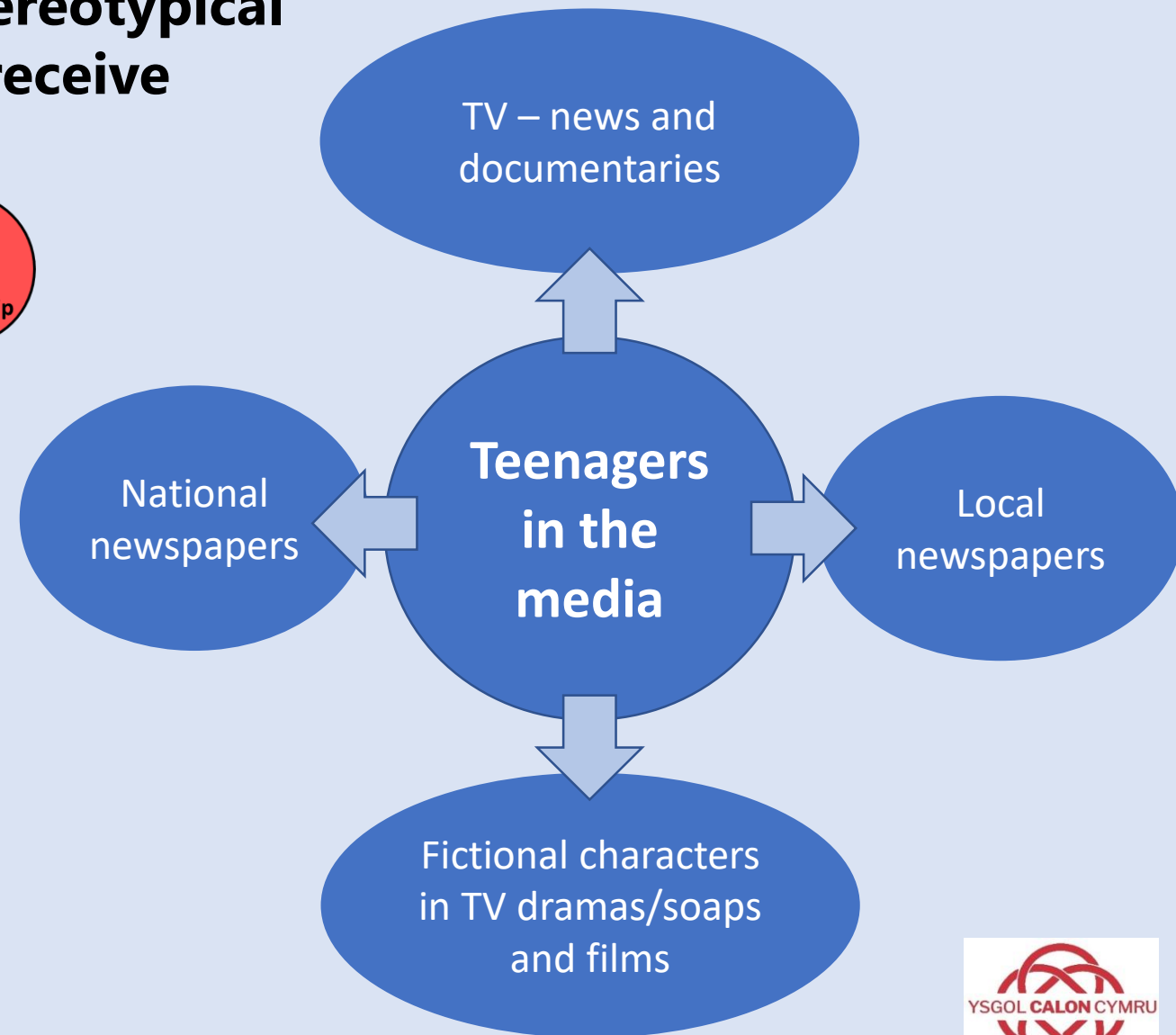
Group Discussion – How are teenagers presented in the media?

Are teenagers always presented in a stereotypical way, like 'Kevin'? When do teenagers receive positive press and representations?

Step 1: Research lots of different examples.

Success Criteria

- Use search **operators/advanced search tools** to refine searches. (Click 'Tools' under the search bar and select from the drop-downs 'Any country', 'Any time', 'All results' **OR** click the settings icon and select 'Advanced search'.)
- Consider the reliability of an information source by:
 - Checking the **URL extension** (trusted extensions include: .co.uk, .com, .org, .gov, .net, .edu, .blog)
 - Checking the **date** of the information
 - Checking the **location** of the source
- **Reference** where you have found your information by including details such as the website address, the writer's name or the year it was published



Group discussion – Socratic seminar format

'Teenagers are unfairly presented in the media'. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

One group forms the inner circle and must discuss how the media today presents teenagers.

- The group must speak for 4 minutes – teamwork will be needed if you are to fill the time
- Use your notes to prompt you

A second group will form the outer circle. They will listen to the discussion and make notes. They will give feedback at the end, noting good arguments put forward by the inner circle and offering suggestions for ways in which the discussion could have been more developed.

Writing task: 'Are teenagers addicted to screens?' Write an article to discuss your views.

How successful were you?

Use this checklist to self-assess your work.



SUCCESS CRITERIA

Challenging

- ✓ Write one-two sides A4
- ✓ Paragraph your ideas – at least 3 main paragraphs
- ✓ Set out the article correctly
- ✓ Clearly discuss the topic and provide your opinion

More challenging

- ✓ Vary language use with a range of techniques: tripling, rhetorical question, statistics
- ✓ The article is lively and interesting to read
- ✓ Use a range of details/examples in your report

Most challenging

- ✓ Evaluate. What does scientific research tell us about the impact of screens? Does the evidence differ? What is your opinion?
- ✓ Remember writing at the highest level will be convincing and almost error-free.

Writing task: 'Are teenagers addicted to screens?' Write an article to discuss your views.

Task: Plan your article using the discussion planning skeleton.

Areas to consider:

- Different types of screens used? What for?
- Where and when do teenagers access screens?
- Negative effects of prolonged screen time?
- Benefits of screens/new technology?
- What does scientific research tell us?
- Your personal opinion on 'screen time'? Are teenagers addicted?

Conduct your own research. Here are some useful websites:

www.internetmatters.org

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-47825826>

www.youngminds.org.uk/smartphones

