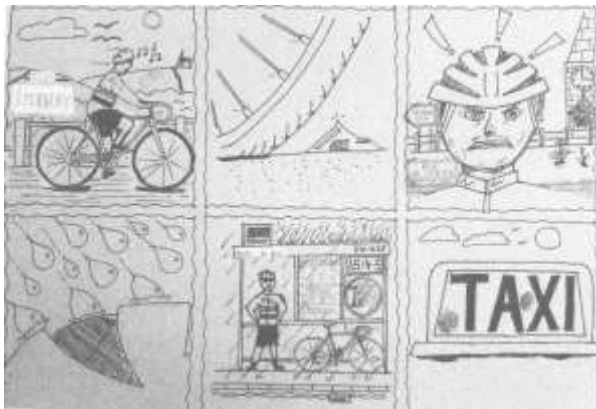




We hope you have been able to use the storyboard to organise your writing and have come up with an interesting, realistic story. Here's my interpretation of the images;



1. An Englishman has come to France to ride his bike and watch some stages of the Tour de France bike race.
2. He's out for a ride from the gîte he's staying at, when he gets a puncture.
3. He realises he's left his spare inner tube and pump behind.
4. It starts raining heavily so he takes shelter in a bus stop.
5. None of the bus drivers will let him put his bike on the bus.
6. After a long wait, he puts his bike in a taxi and goes back to the gîte as the sun comes out.

You might have come up with a different version, and that's fine provided that it makes sense!

Here's my first attempt at the opening paragraphs (in black) with edits (in green);

The only sound Peter could hear as he rode along the lanes of northern France was the hum of his tyres on the smooth road black tarmac and the breeze in his ears. In the sky, small agile birds flew, catching insects, darting and diving in the morning sunshine. The hills were gentle, not like those he'd left behind back home in Yorkshire and his legs span easily.

Peter and his family were staying in a cottage gîte near the town of Épernay, where the third stage of the Tour de France was due to finish the next day after starting in Binche in Belgium. He'd set himself the challenge of riding 100km during the day, and his route had taken him past the usual collection of Hyper U and Carrefour hypermarchés, Gendarmeries and Marie buildings. French Tricolore flags and Tour de France artwork dotted the landscape, in anticipation of the coming race. So far, he'd stopped twice for a quick café au lait and pain au chocolat. He felt free and content.

Looking at the Remember Tos, you can see that I have included expanded noun phrases, e.g. smooth black tarmac, small agile birds. I've described the setting – the weather, landscape, buildings, some of the sights. I've not said much about Peter so far, other than he is part of a family, enjoys cycling, drinking coffee and eating chocolatey bread – more will come as the story progresses. To help with realism, I've included some French words – can you spot them? There are no adverbial sentence openers yet, as there's not much happening so far – they will be included later. However, I have tried to make sure that the sentences begin differently. Most of my sentences are quite long, so I will need to make sure I include some shorter, simpler ones as I write.

Punctuation is pretty basic so far; just capital letters, commas and full stops. This writing should allow the use of exclamation marks, question marks and maybe some speech.

Here's some key vocabulary that you could include in your story;

France	tourist	puncture	Tricolore
repair	downpour	baguette	cycling
landscape	landmark	tyre	culture
river	Tour de France	holiday	bicycle
language	travel	café au lait	history

And some adverbial openers that might be handy;

Unexpectedly,	Without a sound,	After a while,	As fast as he could,
Before long,	In the distance,	In the blink of an eye,	Luckily,

What about a variety of connectives?

and	but	then	meanwhile
before	so that	consequently	until
because	even though	nevertheless	although

The planning template had four sections. You'll see from my opening that for part one I have written two paragraphs – I might even add a third before moving on to the 'problem'. Remember that paragraphs are used to organise your writing so that the story flows and makes sense to your reader. A new paragraph is needed when something changes. Some paragraphs might be a collection of several sentences, others might only contain one or two.

You now have the rest of the week to draft and edit your story. Remember to use the people in your household to help you improve your writing – ask them what they think and allow them to ask questions about your story (have you missed anything out?) On Monday we'll talk about final edit, polish and publish.

★ Unsure how long your story should be? Each year the BBC run a writing competition called '500 Words', where children are challenged to write a complete story of about 500 words. So, why not challenge yourself and aim to write your story in around 500 words? As a guide, my two opening paragraphs are about 170 words all together. Examples of stories can be found here;
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/143H4d3xfnk8MMnVNN0fyg9/top-50-stories-2019-age-10-to-13>

Again, if you need help, please ask your adult to get in touch with us in the usual way. We are really looking forward to reading your stories!