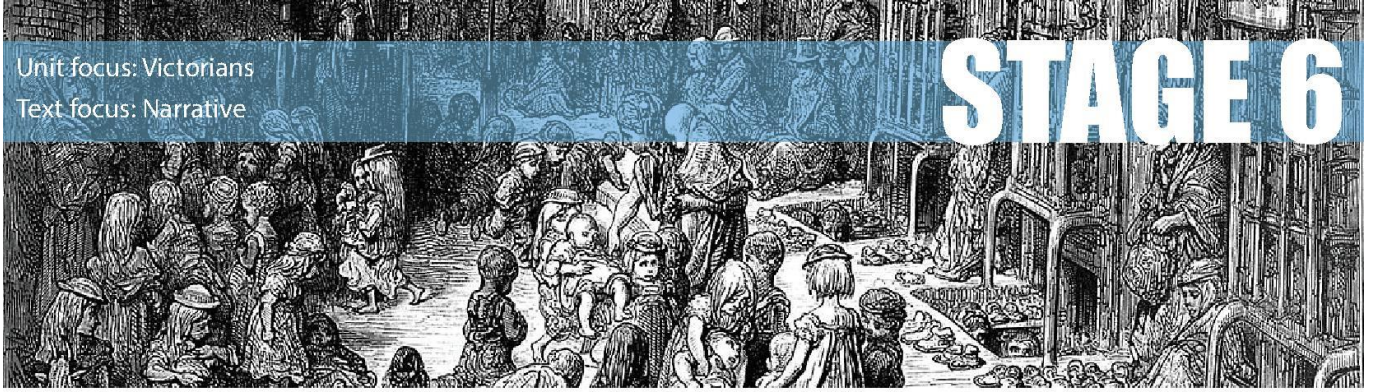
Homework Tasks (Year 6):

- **Comprehension:** Please complete – and mark – 'Escaping the Workhouse' on pg.2 and 3 of this file. Answers can be found on pg.4. Your responses should be recorded in your Homework Jotter provided by school.
- **GPS:** Please read 'Dinosaurs to Today' on pg.5 of this file then answer – and mark – the 'Word' and 'Sentence' questions on pg. 6 and 7. Answers can be found on pg.8. Please use these to help work out how to answer any questions you are unsure about. Your responses should be recorded in your Homework Jotter provided by school.
- **Spelling:** Please complete spelling retrieval on 'Compound Words' on pg.8. Answers can be found on pg.9. A spelling test will take place next **Friday** focused on these skills. Please log onto Morphs to support additional practice of key morphological skills at home.

Please ensure your completed homework books are handed in at school on Wednesday 23rd September.

- **Multiplication & Division Facts:** Application of multiplication and division facts will take place throughout the week during Fluent in Five and Flashback Four. Please practise all facts up to 12 x 12.
- **Reading:** You are expected to do **at least 20 minutes** of independent reading at home, **every day**. *Please remember to log all new books read – both those at home and at school – in our class reading log as there are no home reading records in Woodpecker Class*:



Escaping The Workhouse

My first memory of anything is the cold, wooden floor of the poor-house. I can't have been any older than two maybe three-years-old at the time. I remember waking up in the middle of the night, so hungry I was worried Master would hear my belly moaning. Even then, I knew he wasn't to be trusted.

We'd had a measure of gruel that night, but it just wasn't enough, not as much as we usually had. Speaking to my father later on, there'd been a swell of people pouring into the house over the days before and there just wasn't enough to go around. It was about that time we lost Timothy. He'd been weak since he was born, a workhouse is no place for a new baby. My mother followed soon after. The doctor said it was consumption but I think it was heartbreak. It's horrible how this country grinds you down until you're nothing more than the muck you walk on. We're stepped on in life and trampled in death. That's Queen Victoria for you.

I knew I couldn't stay there. As soon as I was old enough to understand instructions, I was sent to pick rope. Hours spent bent over lengths of old rope, picking apart the threads ready to be made good again. My fingertips are still covered in scars now, a dozen years later. I was about ten when I decided I'd had enough and felt brave enough to risk it on my own, though in truth I'd pretty much lost count of the years by then.

In the end, it wasn't hard to escape. Under the cover of a moonless night, I slipped through the barred windows on the factory floor and disappeared into the shadows; another lost stray in the East End. I sold flowers for a while, under the watch of a lovely old lady called Miss Sidney but I soon grew bored of that. I had to watch as one of her other protégés was taken in by a gruff older chap who trained her up to be a proper lady. What I wouldn't have given for such an outcome.

For a while, I floated around doing this and that. Mostly outside the law; simple card tricks to fool gullible passers-by and a touch of light pickpocketing. Nothing too wretched.

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But then, maybe a month ago, I landed on my feet as my old father used to say. I was wandering down Bethnal Green Road, taking no interest in those around me except for those with loose pockets, when an old chap tapped me on the shoulder and asked if I knew much about the area. As soon as I had reassured myself that he wasn't a peeler, I made it clear that nobody else knew the streets better than myself.

He quickly introduced himself as a Mr Mayhew and told me that he is writing a book of some sort about the poor people of London. "You've come to the right place," I told him in no uncertain terms, "there's nowhere as poor, even in London, as Shoreditch."

That is how, with a little help from Lady Luck, I've come to be helping a fine gentleman tell the world just how downtrodden us Londoners really are.

INFERENCE FOCUS

1. Find a word that tells you how much gruel they had.
2. When it says, "My mother followed soon after," what does it mean?
3. What is a "lost stray"?
4. Which word or phrase tells you that the things the girl did were illegal?
5. Which word or phrase tells you that she told Mr Mayhew firmly?

VIPERS QUESTIONS

I	What impression do you get of how the poor were treated? Why?
S	What did she do first once she had escaped?
R	Name two things that she did that were illegal.
R	Where was the poorest part of London?
E	Explain how the author uses language to give the girl emotion.

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Answers - Escaping the Workhouse:

1. Measure
2. She died
3. Somebody without a home to go to
4. Outside the law
5. In no uncertain terms

I: They were treated badly. They had workhouses, were forced to work with little food and the girl talks about being stepped on.

S: Sold flowers

R: Card tricks and pickpocketing

R: Shoreditch

E: Use of powerful emotive words like “brave”, “grinds you down”. Personal language such as “What I wouldn’t give” etc

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Evolution

Dinosaurs To Today

6

It was long suspected that when the dinosaurs ruled the Earth, mammals were small and well hidden. There weren't many truly large mammals such as elephants and large cats, but they were perhaps bigger than initially thought.

The word mammal is also a bit of a struggle for some of these creatures. Many of them have some characteristics of mammals, such as giving birth to live young, but also share some characteristics with reptiles, such as no external ears and having lots of babies, rather than small litters.

Some early mammals showed adaptations that continue today. A squirrel-sized creature called the *Maiopatagium* was one of the first to have membranes between its arms and legs that allowed it to glide. Mammals such as bats and sugar-gliders have similar adaptations today.

The *Microdocodon gracilis* was a small shrew-like creature from the Jurassic period. It is one of the earliest animals found to have a hyoid bone in the throat. This bone is essential for babies to suckle and drink their mother's milk - something that only mammals do.

However mammals got to where they are today, it's been a long journey!

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FOCUS ON - WORD

1 Remove the suffix from each word and write its root word.

adjective	comparative adjective	superlative adjective
small		
		earliest
	bigger	

2 Draw a line to match each word to the correct prefix.

Each prefix can only be used once.

dis	ruled
non	continue
over	essential
mis	called

3 Which word class do the underlined words in the sentence below belong to?

nouns **adjectives** **determiners** **verbs**

<u>This</u> bone is essential for babies to suckle and drink <u>their</u> mother's milk.

_____

FOCUS ON · SENTENCE

1 **Underline the two adverbs in the sentence.**

Mammals were perhaps bigger than initially thought.

2 **Re-write this sentence with the time adverbial at the start.**

Mammals such as bats and sugar-gliders have similar adaptations today.

3 **Underline the relative clause.**

The Maiopatagium was one of the first to have membranes between its arms and legs that allowed it to glide.

4 **Identify the prepositional phrase in the sentence.**

Tick one.

It is one of the earliest animals found to have a hyoid bone in the throat.

- ◯ it is one
- ◯ one of the earliest animals
- ◯ to have a hyoid bone
- ◯ in the throat

5 **Circle the correct verb from those underlined.**

Some early mammals **was / were** showing adaptations that continue today.

The word mammal **was / were** also a bit of a struggle for some of these creatures.

Mammals such as bats and sugar-gliders **was / were** to have similar adaptations.

Answers - Dinosaurs To Today

WORD

1. small, smaller, smallest

early, earlier, earliest

big, bigger, biggest

2. discontinue

non-essential

miscalled

overruled

3. determiners

SENTENCE

1. Mammals were perhaps bigger than initially thought.
2. Today, mammals such as bats and sugar-gliders have similar adaptations.
3. The Maiopatagium was one of the first to have membranes between its arms and legs that allowed it to glide.
4. 4th option – in the throat
5. Some early mammals was / were showing adaptations that continue today.

The word mammal was / were also a bit of a struggle for some of these creatures.

Mammals such as bats and sugar-gliders was / were to have similar adaptations.

Reasoning

Joe says that the word **wallpaper** is a compound word.

Is he correct? _____

Can you explain your answer?

_____

_____

Jacob says that **sunflower** is a compound word with two syllables.

Is he correct? _____

Can you explain your answer?

_____

_____

Which two bases make a compound word?

home	+	sit
home	+	stair
home	+	work
home	+	house

The correct compound word is _____.

It means _____.

Answers

Reasoning

Joe says that the word **wallpaper** is a compound word.

Is he correct? Yes

Can you explain your answer?

Wall and paper are both bases. They have been joined together to make a new word.

Jacob says that **sunflower** is a compound word with two syllables.

Is he correct? No

Can you explain your answer?

Sunflower is a compound word that has three syllables.

We can hear that from the beats the word makes and the vowel sounds in each beat.

Which two bases make a compound word?

home	+	sit
home	+	stair
home	+	work
home	+	house

The correct compound word is homework.

It means when you do work at home.