

Monday 4th May 2020

WALT write in the role of a character

This week, we will be focusing on the theme of being courageous and dealing with feels around anxiety. To begin with, we will be returning to Philippe Petit and the story of, “The Man Who Walked Between The Towers”.

Re-watch the story again:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xEDT8mCOfM4&t=380s>



Today, you will be imagining that you are Phillippe and that you have received the letter below.

Write a response to the letter below.

We have included notes about Philippe to help you.

We have provided sentence starters to help you.

Read the letter below. Imagine that you are Philippe and write a response to this letter.

Monday 4th May 2020

WALT write in the role of a character

Imagine that you are Philippe. You have received this letter. Your task is to write a response to this letter. After you have read this letter, scroll down to see notes and sentence starters to help you.

Dear Philippe

My name is Angel Appiah and I am 11 years old. I live in London with my family. I am writing because my class has been learning about the time when you tightrope walked between the Twin Towers in New York, in 1974. I was truly captivated by the event and would dearly like to find out more about you.

Firstly, I would be grateful if you could describe what your life was like when you were younger. Can you also describe what inspired you to become a tightrope walker and how did you develop your skills? I'm very curious to know what inspired you to tightrope walk between the towers.

Lastly, what advice would you give to someone to help them feel brave and courageous?

I do hope to hear from you soon,

Yours faithfully

Angel Appiah



See the next pages for notes about Philippe's life and the sentence starters.



Here are some notes about Philippe to help you.

Early life

Petit was born in Nemours, Seine-et-Marne, France; his father Edmond Petit was an author and an Army Pilot. At an early age, Petit discovered magic and juggling. He loved to climb, and at 16, he took his first steps on a tightrope wire. He told a reporter,

"Within one year, I taught myself to do all the things you could do on a wire. I learned the backward somersault, the front somersault, the unicycle, the bicycle, the chair on the wire, jumping through hoops." But I thought, "What is the big deal here? It looks almost ugly." So I started to discard those tricks and to reinvent my art.[3]

Planning to climb the Twin Towers

~~At the age of 18, Petit learned about the construction of the two identical towers in~~
the centre of New York city. The Twin Towers, as they were to later to be called, were to be two of the tallest buildings in the world, standing at 541 metres tall. He immediately set his sight on tightrope walking between the two towers.

After, 6 years of training and planning ensued. Petit is no stranger to petrifying feats. In June 1971, in France, Petit tightrope walked between the two 200 ft high towers of Notre Dame de Paris, (a medieval cathedral located in Paris). In 1973, he travelled to Australia to walk between the 300 feet high pylons supporting the bridge over Sydney Harbour.

In 1974, Petit travelled to New York to set his plans into action. Dressed up as construction workers, Petit and his accomplices noted every detail in order to prepare for the big day.

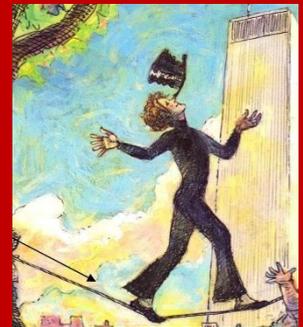
You may use some of sentence starters or use your own. You can make up any details you do not know. Upload a copy of your letter to Padlet to share with others.

Dear Angel

Thank you for.....

I am delighted to respond.....

I am happy to hear that.....



Firstly, about my childhood. I was born in...

As a child, I loved.....

At the age of 16, I learnt to...

I was inspired to walk between the Twin Towers when I was 18 years old. In a magazine, I saw..

It took me 6 years to prepare. My preparations included....

Lastly, my advice to help someone feel more courageous is...

Yours faithfully

Philippe