**S1 Extended writing tasks**

**Task One** - Thinking about **Characters**

Pick a villain from any book, film, musical or game that you know well and give him or her a chance tell his/her side of the story. What is their motivation to commit all their evil deeds? What are their excuses; their tales of hardship? You could imagine them defending themselves in Court or being interviewed by a journalist. Remember to write in the 1st person (‘I was…/I am’).

**Task Two** – Thinking about **Characters and Settings**

Pick a character from a book, film, musical or game that you know well – they could be a good guy or a villain and then write about them in a **setting** in which they would be very **out of place**. It could be Snow White at a Slipknot concert, or Cruella DeVille at a meeting of the Women’s Institute, but try to think of the oddness of them being there. You should write in the **1st person** (‘I was…/I am’), when they are telling a friend about the incident after it has happened.

‘When Miffy Visited the Spooky Castle’





**Task three** – Entertainment Review

Film Review: review a film that you have watched recently, or that is a particular favourite of yours. You should include the following points:

• title of the film, name of the director, genre (i.e. the type of story) and where it was set

• stars (actors) of the film and characters they played

• brief plot summary – **no more than 150 words**

• themes which the film raised, if any

• personal response

**OR**

Review a sporting event that you have watched recently or one that is a favourite of yours. You should try to include:

* which sport was involved and which competition
* background to either the team or the individual you were
* where and when this event took place
* supporting, position in a league or world ranking etc
* atmosphere on the day
* the event itself, not in too much detail but highlights only
* the outcome
* personal response

**Task Four**– Book Review

Choose a book that you have read recently or which is a favourite of yours. Write a short review of the book, recommending it to your peers. Think about including:

* the title, the author and the genre
* a brief plot summary – no more than 150 words
* a paragraph about the main character, including how the writer develops (changes) him/her in the course of the novel
* the highlight of the novel – for you
* ****plenty of personal response

**Task Five**– Journal Entry

Write a detailed journal/diary entry for one day as if you were on board a sea vessel – you might be the captain of the ship, a fisherman on a trawler, or you might be a marauding pirate! Perhaps, you are a stow-away! Try to be as descriptive as you can about the experience of being on a boat – the reader should be in no doubt as to where you are writing this entry from! 300 word limit.

**Task Six** – World Culture Research Topic

Choose a country which has a very different culture to our own. Find out from the library, the internet and from any other source all that you can about this foreign culture and write a short report about it. (Word limit of 300 words.) Try to include:

* where the country is
* what is its climate like
* what is their religion – if any
* what are its people known as
* what kinds of food do they eat
* what are their national pass-times
* what kind of money do they use
* are there any very surprising things about their traditions
* compare them with our own culture – pick a couple of things they do better (in your opinion) and a couple of things ‘we’ do better (in your opinion)

