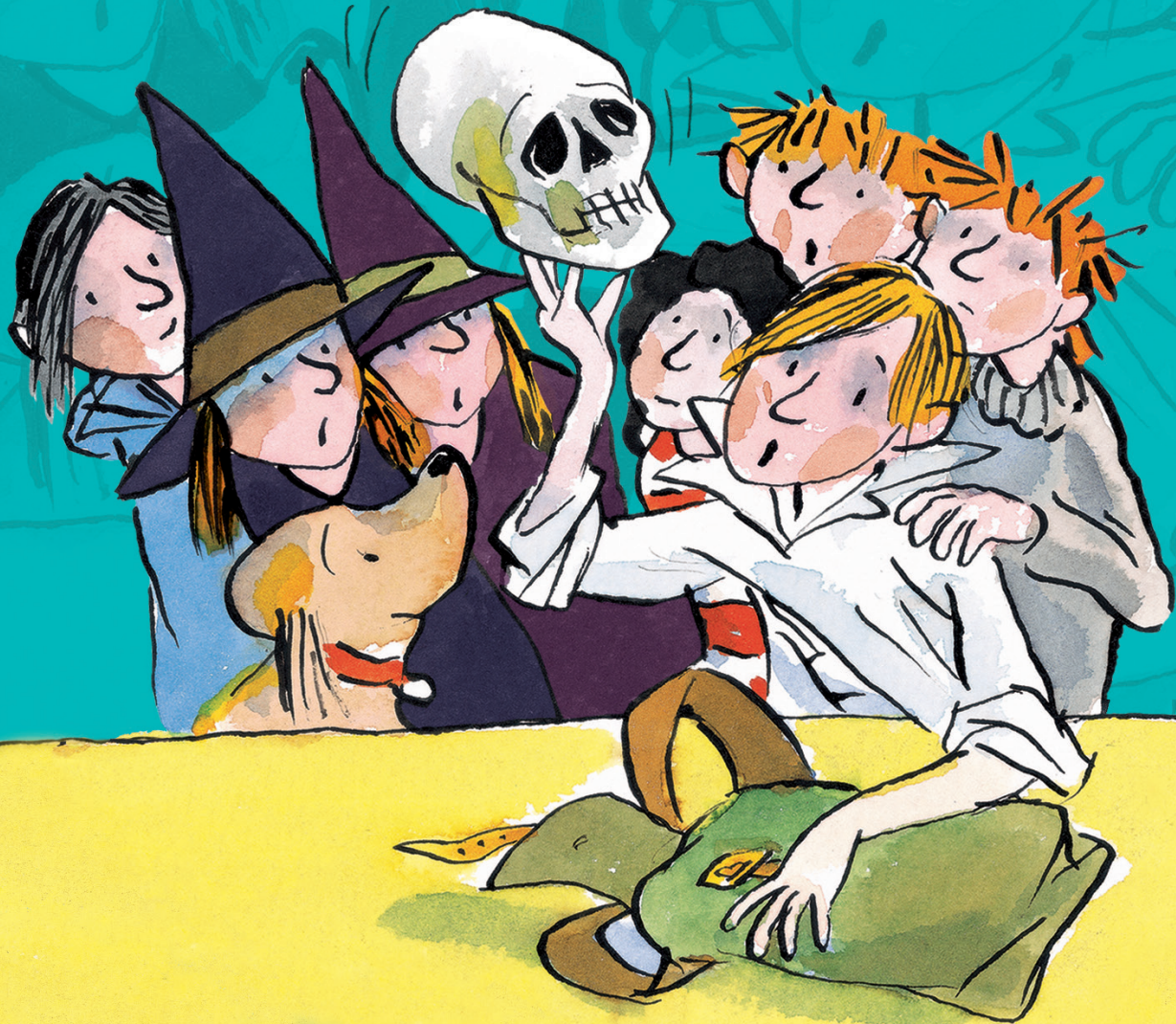


Enid Blyton<sup>®</sup>

THE  
**SECRET  
SEVEN**

MYSTERY OF THE SKULL

WRITTEN BY PAMELA BUTCHART



**CLASSROOM RESOURCES**

CREATED BY MADELEINE BARNES (@MOONMADDY), TEACHER AND LITERACY CONSULTANT



## TEACHERS' NOTES

### CLASSROOM RESOURCES BASED ON CHAPTER 1

- READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS: PAGES 3-8
- GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION QUESTIONS: PAGES 9-13
- WRITING ACTIVITIES: PAGES 14-16

### THESE RESOURCES ARE DESIGNED TO ADDRESS OBJECTIVES INCLUDING:

- READING, DISCUSSING AND UNDERSTANDING A RANGE OF TEXTS
- PLANNING, WRITING AND EVALUATING ORIGINAL WRITING
- UNDERSTANDING AND IMPLEMENTING ACCURATE GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION



## TEACHERS' NOTES

LOOK AT PAGE 2 OF MYSTERY OF THE SKULL.

Why did Jack not have his  
breakfast?

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(1 mark)



## TEACHERS' NOTES

LOOK AT PAGE 3 OF MYSTERY OF THE SKULL.

Peter thinks he knows why Jack shouted 'armpit'. Give both reasons.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

(1 mark)



## TEACHERS' NOTES

Peter sat down on his chair,  
got out his official Secret Seven  
notebook and took a deep breath.

Which word is closest in meaning to official?

Tick one

false

expensive

authentic

old



## TEACHERS' NOTES

LOOK AT PAGE 7 OF MYSTERY OF THE SKULL.

'Peter, is this a joke?'

Why does Peter not need to answer Jack?

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(1 mark)



## TEACHERS' NOTES

Number the following events 1-5 to show the order in which they happened. The first one has been done for you.

- Barbara and Pam arrived, dressed as witches.
- 1 Janet tore the spiderweb in two with her bare hands.
- George arrived, bright red and panting.
- Jack brought sandwiches and biscuits to the shed.
- Peter showed the other children what was in his bag.

(1 mark)



## TEACHERS' NOTES

Peter is the leader of the  
Secret Seven.

Explain how we know this, using evidence from the text  
to support your answer.

(3 marks)



## TEACHERS' NOTES

Insert the correct punctuation in this passage below.

no said Barbara we just felt like being witches today



## TEACHERS' NOTES

Tick to show whether the apostrophe has been used for possession or omission.

Sentence	Apostrophe for possession	Apostrophe for omission
' <u>We'll</u> need to get rid of that.'		
<u>That's</u> when Janet pushed past them and ripped the giant spiderweb.		
'But <u>I'm</u> starving!' he said.		



## TEACHERS' NOTES

Insert the following conjunctions so that the passage makes sense.

but      and      because

\_\_\_\_\_ the Secret Seven still couldn't start the meeting \_\_\_\_\_ Pam and Barbara weren't there yet \_\_\_\_\_ everyone knew that they would be at least ten minutes late.



## TEACHERS' NOTES

Underline the subordinate clause in each sentence below.

Peter and Jack did not go into the shed immediately, even though it was an emergency meeting.

Because Pam and Barbara were dressed as witches, everyone except Peter laughed.

When Peter opened his backpack, everyone was silent.



## TEACHERS' NOTES

Insert a correctly punctuated fronted adverbial to complete the sentences below.

1) \_\_\_\_\_ the children decided to hold an emergency meeting.

2) \_\_\_\_\_ Jack had returned with sandwiches and biscuits.



## TEACHERS' NOTES

### Read chapter 1 again

Write a list of possible passwords to enter various places. Use your imagination and vocabulary to entertain.

Purpose of task: play with language to entertain your reader.

Audience in this task: your peers.

Write a list of places that you could create passwords for:

Stylistic choices:

- Headteacher's office
- Your bedroom
- The sweet shop
- Sport's Club
- The Queen's Palace
- Prime Minister's Office

- Think of vocabulary related to the place that you are creating the password for and then play with it.
- Have fun and try to out-wit your peers. Who has genuinely made you laugh with their creativity?



## TEACHERS' NOTES

Write Peter's message to invite the other children to the emergency meeting.

**Purpose of task:** After reading this chapter, imagine what Peter may have written to the other children to invite them to the emergency meeting.

**Audience in this task:** Jack, Janet, George, Colin, Barbara or Pam.

- How will you start your message? Use an appropriate greeting.
  - Write in the first person
  - What information do you need to include?
  - Will Peter be cryptic about what is in his bag? Remember it was a shock to the children.
  - How will you end your letter?
- Think about the tone:
- How formal will you be?
  - Peter is writing to his friends but they are 'The Secret Seven'.
  - Remember to proof-read: grammar, spelling, punctuation, tenses and sense.



## TEACHERS' NOTES

### LOOK AT PAGE 7 OF MYSTERY OF THE SKULL.

Write the next chapter in this story.

**Purpose of task:** Write the next chapter - how will you impact on the reader?

How do you want your reader to feel? Do you want them to feel:

- Scared
- entertained
- betrayed
- confused
- angry
- something else?

**Audience in this task:** The children in your class - you need to entertain your peers.

Include dialogue:

- Where will you include dialogue?
- What is the function of the dialogue?
- Can you remember how to punctuate direct speech?