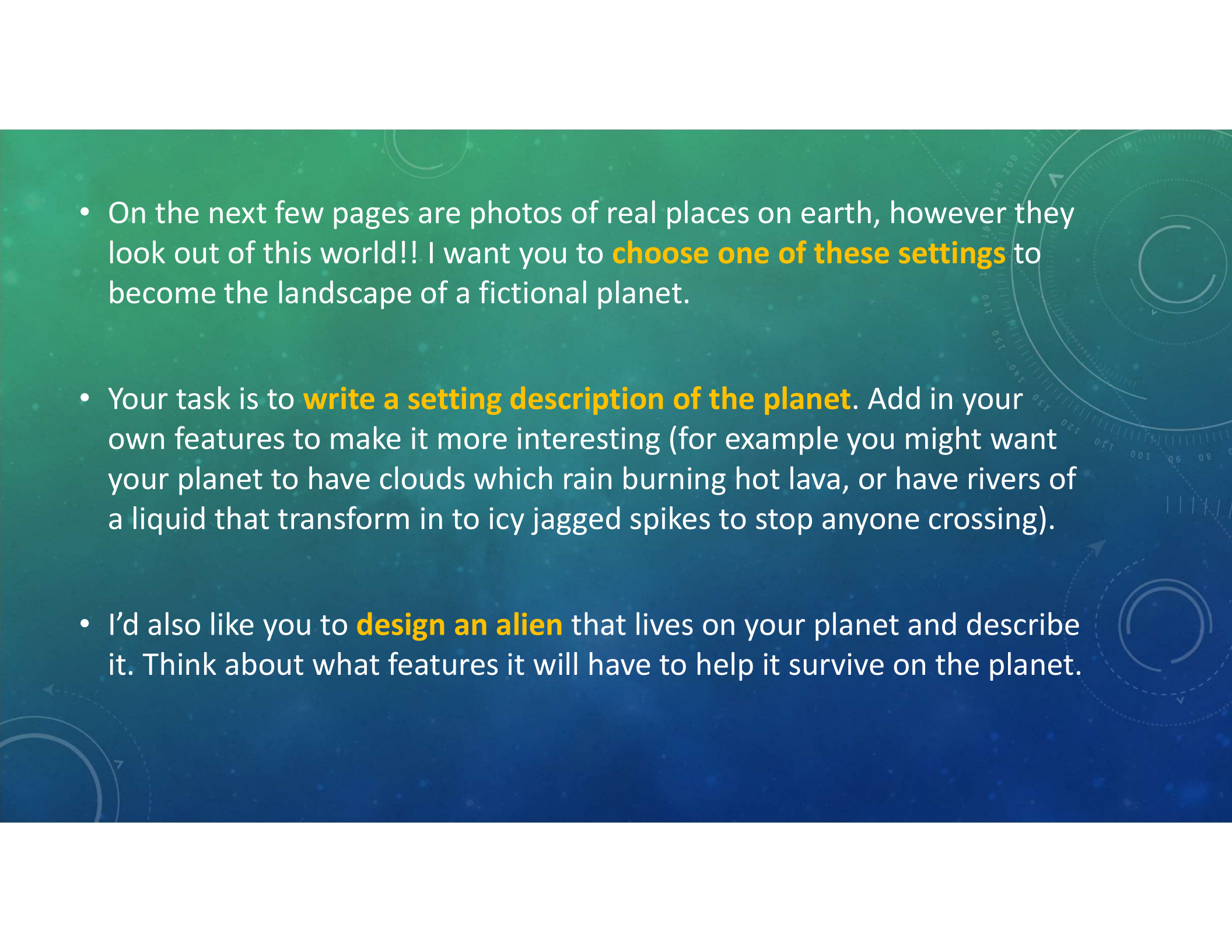




YEAR 5 ENGLISH WEEK BEGINNING 1ST JUNE

L.O.: I CAN WRITE A SETTING DESCRIPTION

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- On the next few pages are photos of real places on earth, however they look out of this world!! I want you to **choose one of these settings** to become the landscape of a fictional planet.
 - Your task is to **write a setting description of the planet**. Add in your own features to make it more interesting (for example you might want your planet to have clouds which rain burning hot lava, or have rivers of a liquid that transform in to icy jagged spikes to stop anyone crossing).
 - I'd also like you to **design an alien** that lives on your planet and describe it. Think about what features it will have to help it survive on the planet.



Iceland

This is the Strokkur geyser, which erupts every four to eight minutes, blasting hot water up to 40m into the air.



The Wave, Coyote Buttes, Arizona-Utah, USA

This landscape is made from sandstone which has been worn down by wind and rain, give the patterns and colours.



Nideck Falls, France. In the icy depths of winter, the cascading waterfall freezes to make these icicles.



Grand Canyon, USA. At some points, the canyon reaches depths of up to a mile!



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Volcano on Reunion Island, Indian Ocean. This volcano is extremely active and dangerous – it erupted 4 times in one year!!



Stone Forest, China. Blade-like columns of limestone, many over 10 m tall, form a landscape that resembles a forest of stones.

STEP 1

- Create a **mind map or list of words and phrases to describe the environment** of the planet you're creating. Remember to cover the senses
- What can be **seen**? Describe in detail, use similes, metaphors and personification. Are some things moving? How – quickly, slowly, lazily, cautiously, aggressively?
- What **sounds** can be heard? Are they friendly and comforting or menacing and worrying?
- What do things **feel like to touch** e.g. rough and jagged, sharp and blade-like, velvety smooth...?
- Are there any particular smells or tastes?

STEP 2

- **Design an alien** (or two!) that inhabits the planet you're describing. You might like to draw it and then write down ideas around it.
- Think about:
- What **features** do they have to enable them to live in that environment e.g. to deal with the sharp rocks, hot lava or frozen landscape?
- How do they **move**? Crawl, run, slither, jump sideways...?
- What **noises** do they make?
- Their **character** – aggressive, friendly, lazy, manic...?

STEP 3

- **Write a description of the planet you've created and the aliens found on it.**
- You can choose whether to write this **in first person**, as if you have landed on the planet either by accident or to explore it, **or in third person** – as if a character has landed on it. However, this is not really a story – do not start talking about mad alien attacks, the planet exploding etc!! It is more about **using rich description to build an image in your reader's mind.**
- This piece of writing should be about a page long.
- On the next page are some useful words and phrases to use in your writing. On the last page is an example I've started.
- Don't forget the basics and **non-negotiables** – punctuation, capital letters, consistent tense, paragraphs, and correct spellings.

Prepositions – to say where or when something is in relation to something else.

E.g.:

Above	Between
Below	Among
Under	Through
Over	Opposite
Next to	Inside
Across	Around
Against	Far
Beyond	During
Along	Until
Toward	Before
Beside	After

Adverbials of place – these give more detail of a location, usually using prepositions. They can come at the front, or later in the sentence.

E.g. Through the blade-like, emerald rocks, a bubbling river gushed.

A bubbling river gushed through the blade-like, emerald rocks.

- Above the fountain of scalding hot foam
- Beyond the cruel, frozen fingers of hanging ice
- Nestled among the rainbow-coloured flowers
- Deep inside the treacherous crater
- High above the bubbling lava

EXAMPLE BEGINNING (IT NEEDS TO BE LONGER THAN THIS!!)

Emerging from the smoking wreck of my shuttle, I am struck by an incredible heat. Even though my space suit is temperature controlled, I can feel the intense burning of the atmosphere of this planet I've crash-landed on. Above me, ominous black and fiery scarlet swirls cloak the sky, making me feel suffocated and terribly, terribly alone. Crawling over the grey, dusty surface, sharp stones jab my hands and knees. What is this place?!

Tap. Tap tap tap. Tap tap. A sound to my left makes me forget the pain, the heat and fills me with fear. Maybe I'm ***not*** alone...

Don't forget to email me your finished pieces!!