

From Detectives to Giants

Exploring Greed, Generosity and Honesty

Relatore:

Samuel Williams

INSEGNARE

INGLESE

Scuola Secondaria di 1° Grado

In this Webinar we will explore:

- 1 Talking about Greed, Generosity, Honesty
- 2 How to Introduce Stories and their Themes
- 3 Interactive activities to deepen understanding.
- 4 Creative Output: Role-play, story extensions, and songs
- 5 Interactive Resources for teaching English with Stories

Why talk about Greed, Generosity, Honesty?

- They are **universal themes** students can recognize in real life
- They highlight **clear contrasts in behavior**, which aids understanding
- They encourage students **to reflect on their own values and choices**
- They support **discussion and debate**, building communication skills

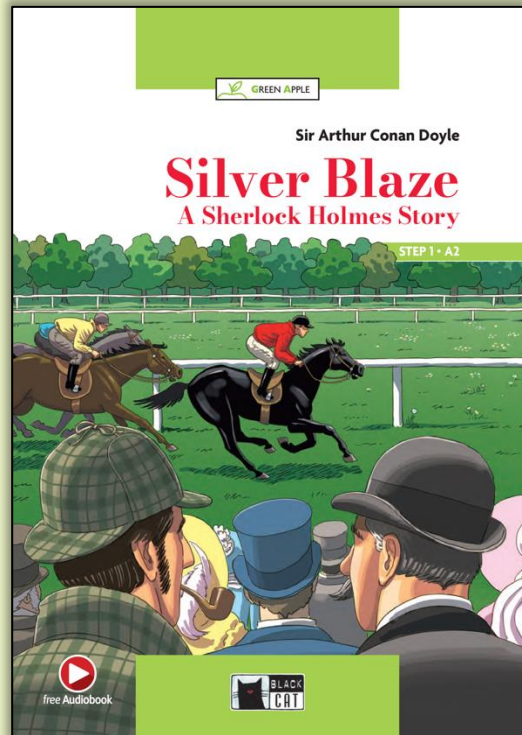
➡ SELF-DISCOVERY

meaningful

relevant

communicative

We will have two stories:



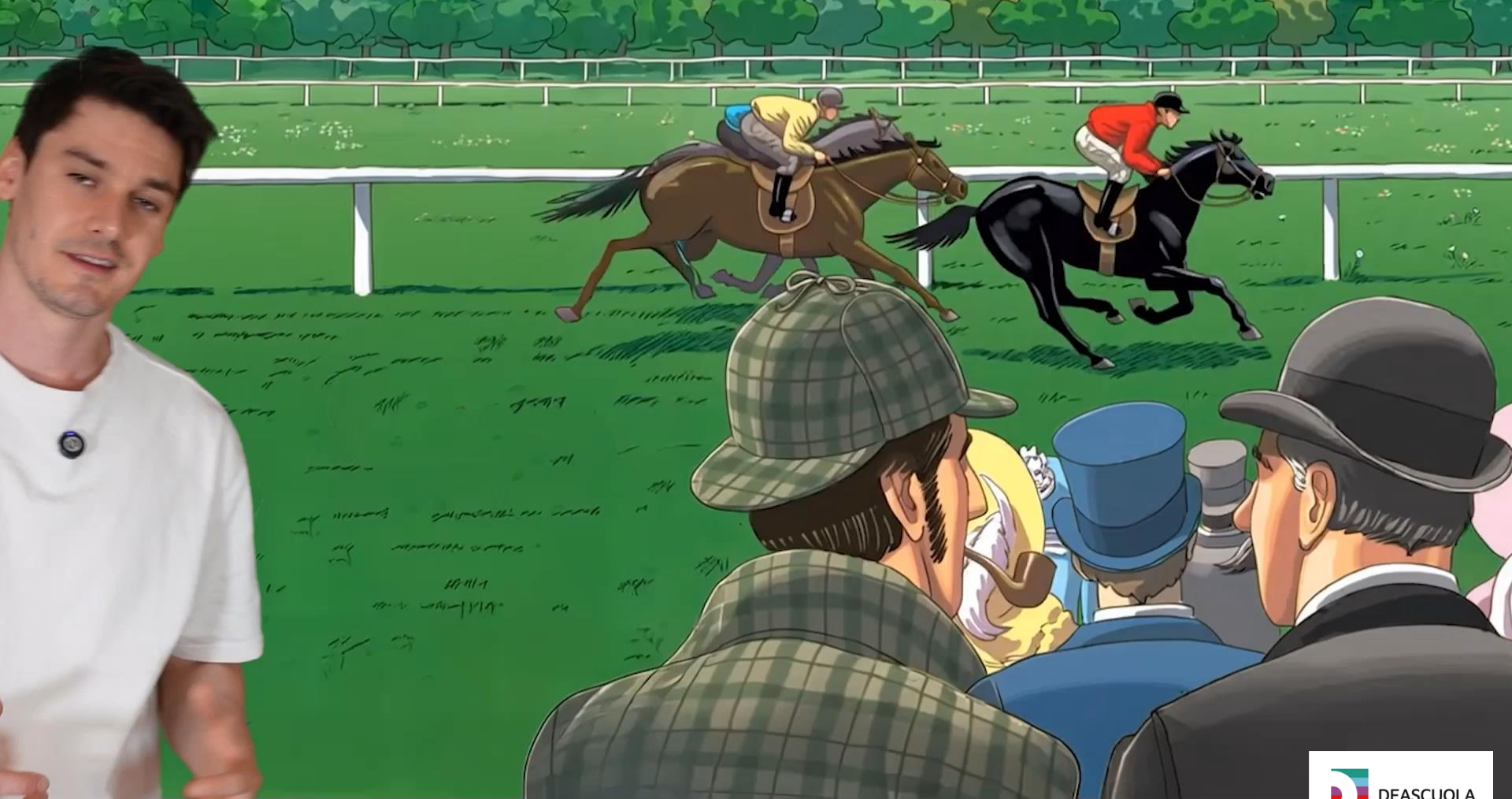
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Introducing Stories & Themes

Before Reading

Introducing Silver Blaze - A Story In Five Words





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Introducing Silver Blaze



Silver Blaze is a **champion** racehorse

The **Trainer** looks after and trains Silver Blaze for races

Silver Blue lives in **Stable**

The **Trainer** is found dead

The **Stable** is warm and safe

The **mystery** is that Silver Blaze disappears

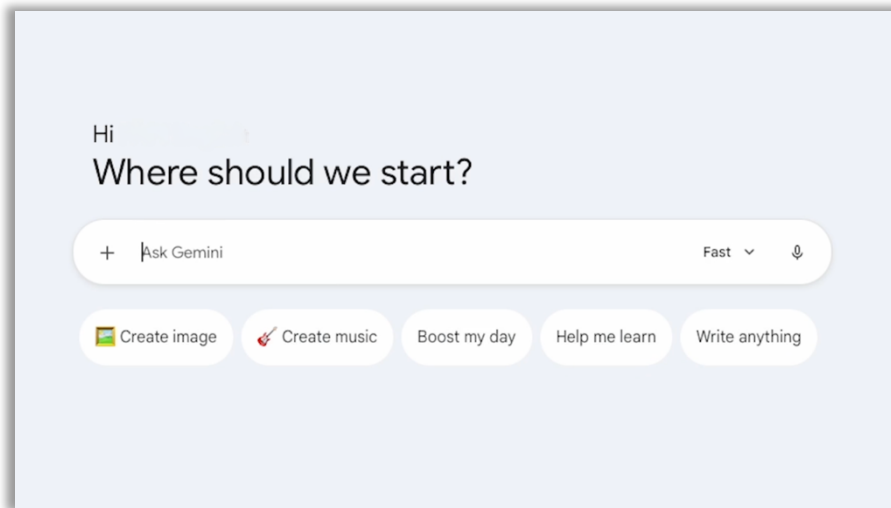
Sherlock Holmes must solve the **mystery** and look for **clues**

How to Create A Story In Five Words

1. Choose five nouns to create a simple narrative line of the story

Giant → Garden → Children → Winter → Spring

2. Use *Google Gemini* to turn these words into icons



Hi PAPI English

Where should we start?

+ Ask Gemini

Fast ▾

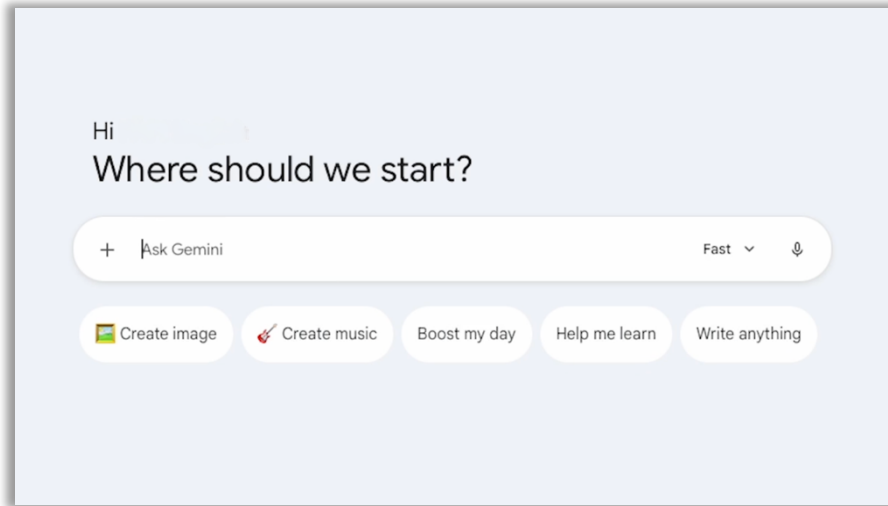


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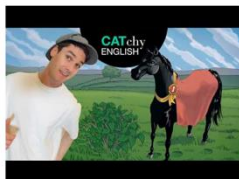
2. Use *Google Gemini* to turn these words into icons



Non-AI Options

- Find images to describe words online
- Draw images to represent them
- Describe the five words to your students

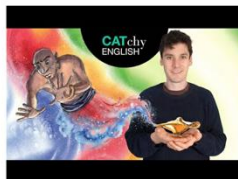
How to Create A Story In Five Words



Sherlock Holmes Mystery (A2 Level) | Silver Blaze



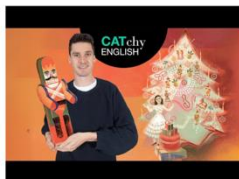
Benjamin Button: Born Old, Growing Young | B1 Story



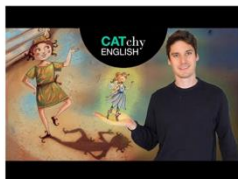
Aladdin | Learn English with a Magic Story (A1)



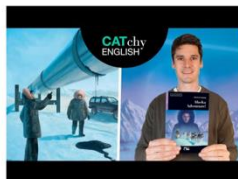
Does Emma Really Know Best? | Learn Idioms with Jane



A1 English Story: Discover The Nutcracker!



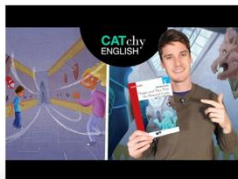
Fly to Neverland! Learn English with Peter Pan | A1



Learn English with Alaska Adventure | Level A2



The Girl Who Delivers Dreams | English for Young



You can do the same!



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Extra Activity: A Story In Five Words

1. In groups give students different sets of five words

Group 1: **Girl** → **Forest** → **Wolf** → **Grandmother** → **Rescue**

Group 2: **Boy** → **Lamp** → **Genie** → **Wish** → **Prince**

Group 3: **Duckling** → **Bully** → **Winter** → **Change** → **Swan**



Did you guess
the actual stories?

2. Students create a **short original story** which includes the **five words** given

3. Groups listen carefully to each other's stories. They must **guess the five words**!

4. They get **one point** for each word guessed correctly!

Introducing The Selfish Giant



What can you see
in the garden?



Introducing The Selfish Giant

What can you do
in the garden?



Play games

Water the plants

Run

Smell the flowers

Watch birds

Relax

Look at the sky

Take photos

Have a picnic

Sleep



Introducing The Selfish Giant



Introducing The Selfish Giant



The Garden

belongs to...

Can you describe
the giant?

Introducing The Selfish Giant



What is the giant saying?



Introducing The Selfish Giant

Predictions

Why can't we enter the garden?

He doesn't want noise

He is angry

He likes to be alone

He doesn't like children

He has a secret

He is hiding something



Introducing The Selfish Giant

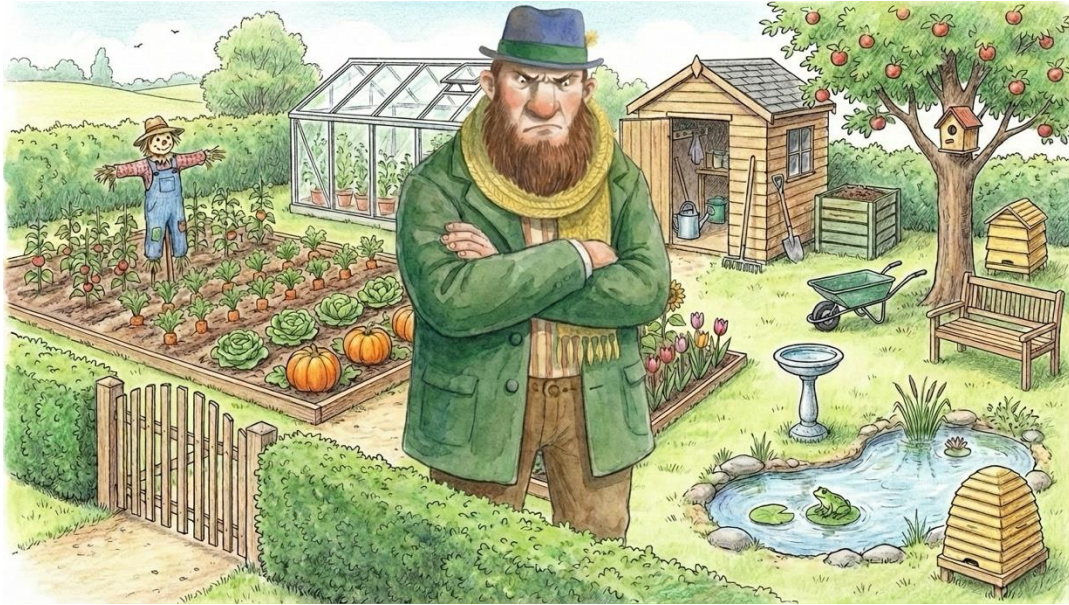
Unfriendly

Mean

Angry

Greedy

Selfish



What you describe the
giant's character?



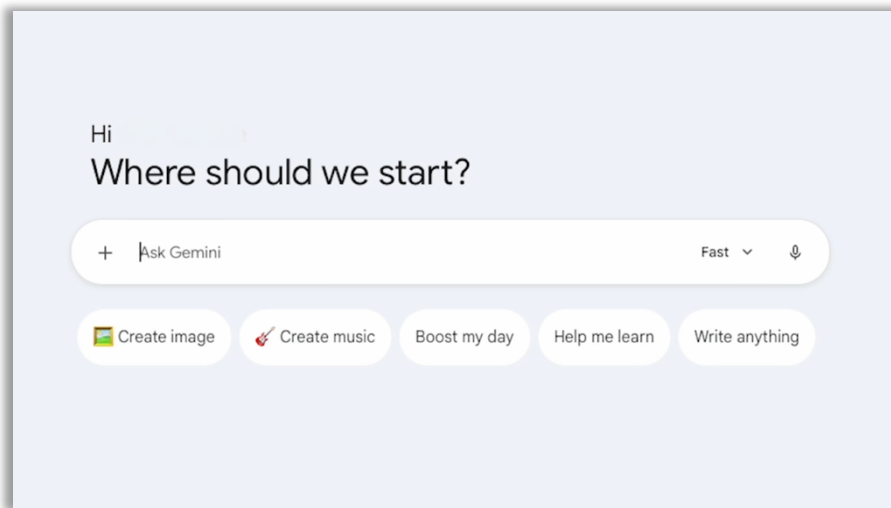
We are now going to read a story called *The Selfish Giant*

How to create *A Story Illustration*

1. Choose an important location from the story

Horse Racetrack - Stables

1. Use Google Gemini to turn it into an illustration



Hi PAPI English

Where should we start?

+ Ask Gemini

Fast



 Create image

 Create music

Write anything

Help me learn

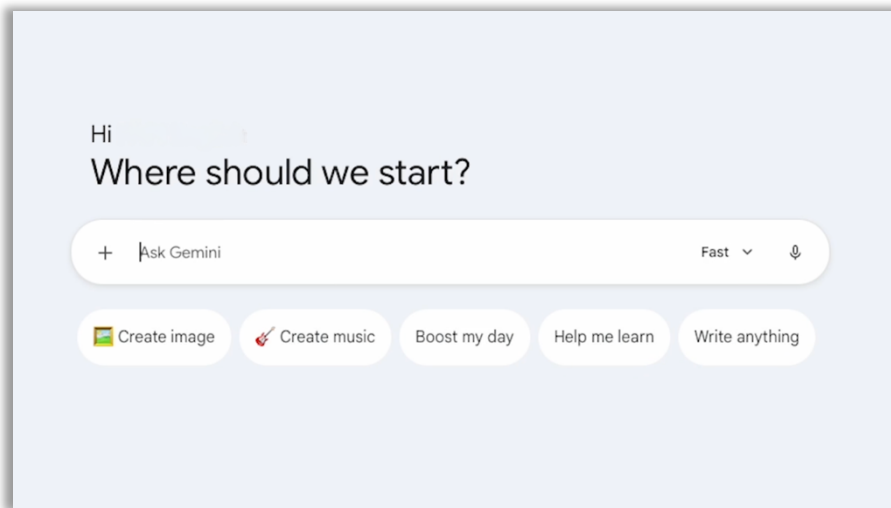
Boost my day

How to create *A Story Illustration*

1. Choose an important location from the story

Horse Racetrack - Stables

1. Use Google Gemini to turn it into an illustration



Non-AI Option

- Describe a scene from the story. They sketch and label the location described to them.

Extra Activity: *A Story Illustration*

Draw the teacher's
description here!

1. The teacher describes a secret illustration
2. Students invent a title for their illustration
3. Reveal the actually illustration to compare

Exploring Stories & Themes

After Reading

Exploring the Characters



Sherlock Holmes

He is very intelligent

He solves the mystery

He is Holmes's friend

He helps and tells the story



Dr. Watson



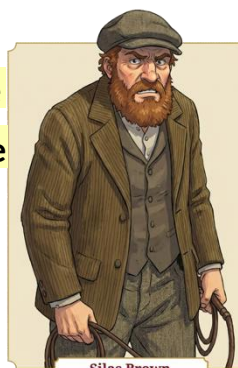
John Straker

He is the horse trainer

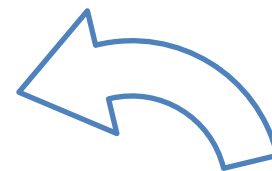
He tries to hurt the horse

He is a trainer at another stable

He hides the horse



Silas Brown



What do
you remember
about them?

Who are the characters?



Sherlock Holmes

He is very intelligent

He solves the mystery

He is Holmes's friend

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Dr. Watson



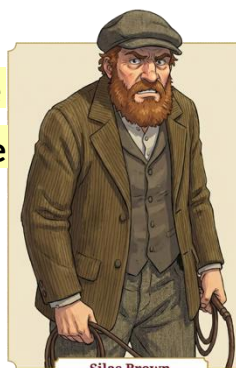
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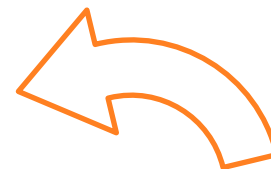
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He is the horse trainer

He tries to hurt the horse



Silas Brown



What does **GREED**
& **HONESTY** mean?



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Character Corners (Movement Activity)

1. Put character names around the room:

Sherlock Holmes

Dr. Watson

John Straker

Silas Brown

Students go to a corner and discuss:

Questions (on board)

- Is he honest or greedy?
- Why?

Sentence support:

- I think he is honest because...
- He is greedy because...



“What Would You Do?” Game

Game Setup

- Divide class into **2–3 teams**
- Each team stands in a line
- First student in each team is the **speaker**

How it Works (Quick-Fire Rounds)

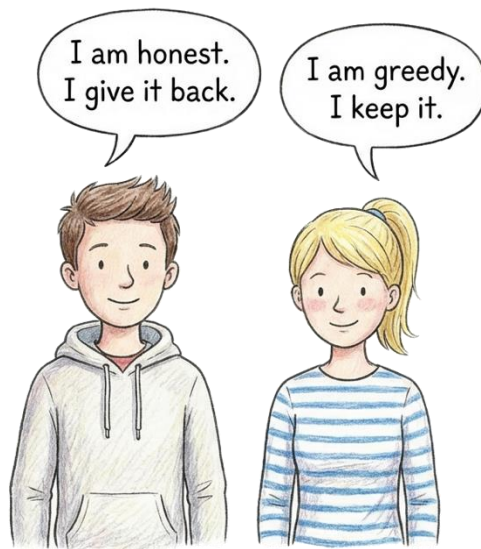
1. Rapid Questions

Teacher reads a situation:

You find £10 in the street

You can cheat in a test

You find a lost phone



First student in each team must answer **fast** if they are greedy or honest

“What Would You Do?” Game

2. Scoring

- Correct sentence = **1 point**
- Good reason (extra detail) = **2 points** (I give it back because it is not mine.)
- Too Slow = **no point**

3. Rotate Players

- After answering → student goes to back of line
- Next student steps up immediately

4. Winners

- Teacher tracks the score (on board)
- Teams with the most points wins!



Creative Output: Living Pictures Role-Play

1. Show students a simple storyboard of The Selfish Giant

What is happening in each picture?

What are they saying in each picture?



Creative Output: Living Pictures Role-Play

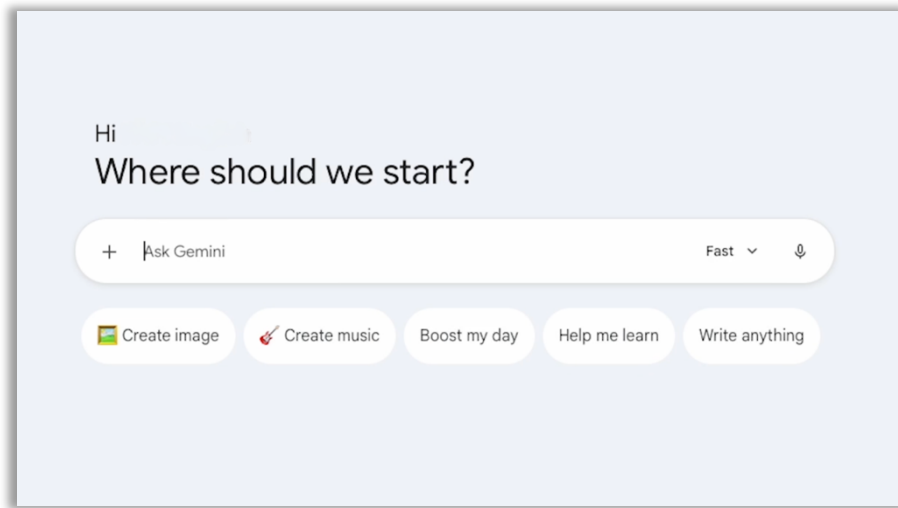
2. Assign actors and a narrator



3. Students take it in turns to role-play the story

How to create Living Pictures

1. Choose 6 important scenes from the story
2. Find illustrations from your book to help create the visuals
3. Use Gemini to create the storyboard



Hi PAPI English

Where should we start?

+ Ask Gemini

Pro ▾



Create image



Create music

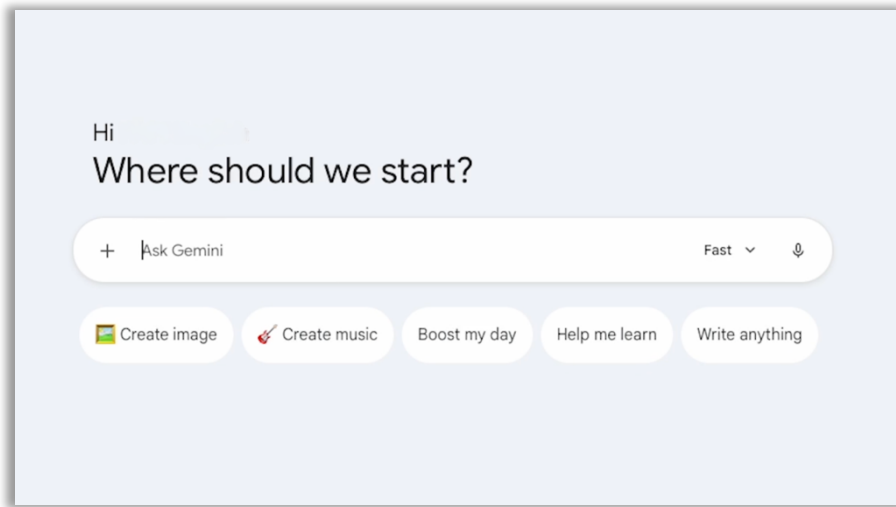
Boost my day

Help me learn

Write anything

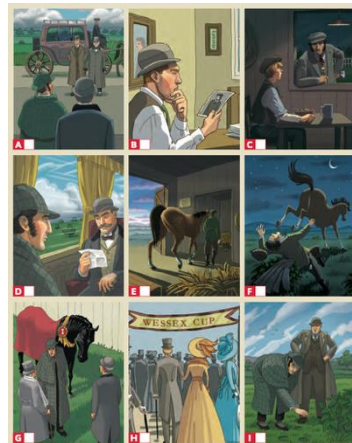
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Non-AI Option

Use the picture summaries
in your graded reader



Story Extensions - Play with the Story

Add to It

Extend the ending, add new scenes, or explore moments the original story skips

Mix It

Blend two different stories and let the characters interact in one shared world

Move It

Change the time, place, or setting to reshape the story's events

Bring It Home

Imagine the character entering your real life or community

Flip It

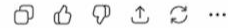
Shift the point of view, change the genre, or rewrite a key event



From detectives to giants, stories we read,
In Sherlock Holmes we see truth, not greed.
He follows clues, honest and wise,
Finding the truth, no matter the lies.

In The Selfish Giant, a giant once said "no,"
He kept all his garden, would not let kids go.
But later he learned to share and be kind,
Generosity grows when you open your mind.

Greed makes us lonely, honesty makes us strong,
From detectives to giants, we learn right from wrong.



From Detectives to Giants



- Meaningful
- Relevant
- Communicative



Spazio alle domande!



DEASCUOLA

Guarda le videolezioni!

- Trova più informazioni e accedi alle videolezioni sulla [pagina dedicata](#)

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nella Scuola Secondaria di Primo Grado

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Imparare le lingue è una bella storia

