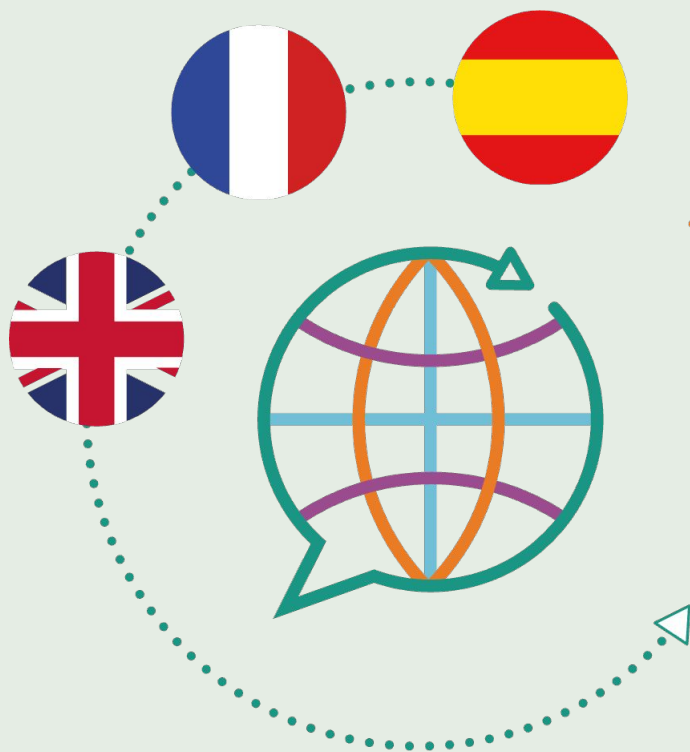




NUOVE INDICAZIONI NAZIONALI

LE LINGUE STRANIERE

INSEGNANO IL DOMANI

Samuel Williams



DEASCUOLA

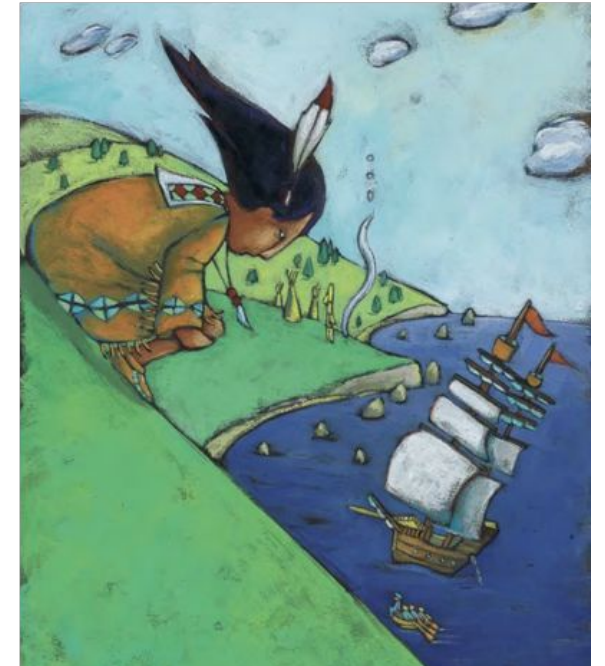
PLAY WITH THE STORY:

Fun and Digital Techniques for Engaging with Literature in ELT.



Which character are you?

Why do you love stories?



ALICE OF imagination

Are you...?



Give a score from 0-5

A GULLIVER OF ADVENTURE

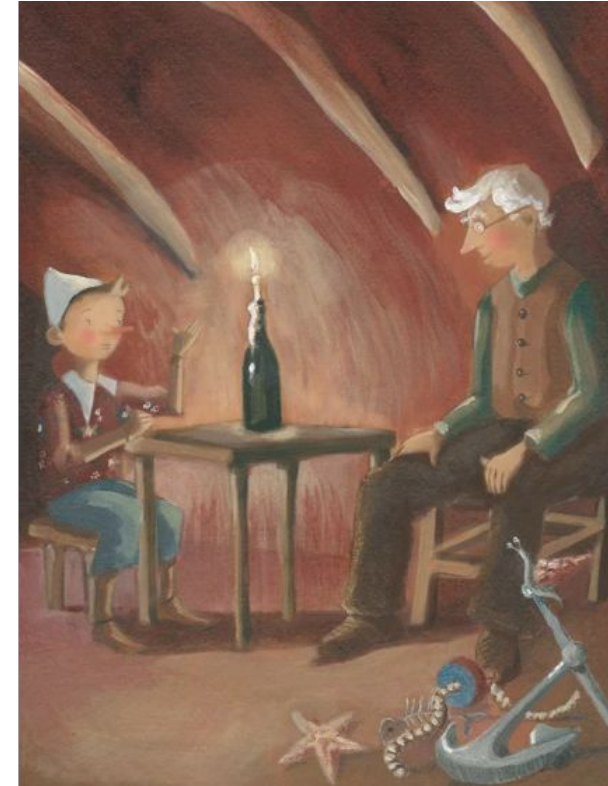
Are you...?



Give a score from 0-5

PINOCCHIO OF GROWTH

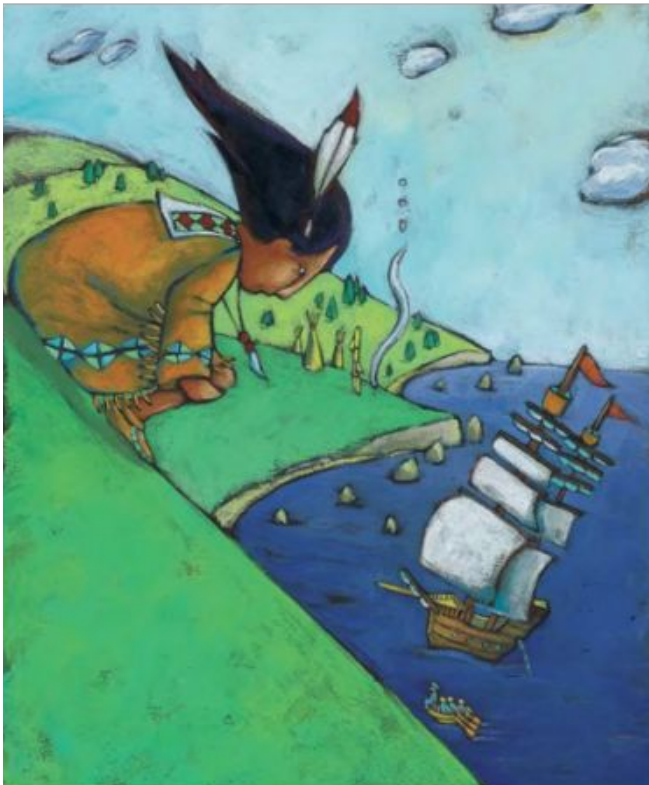
Are you...?



Give a score from 0-5

POCAHONTAS OF CURIOSITY

Are you...?



Give a score from 0-5

Which character are you?

Why do you love stories?

ALICE OF
imagination



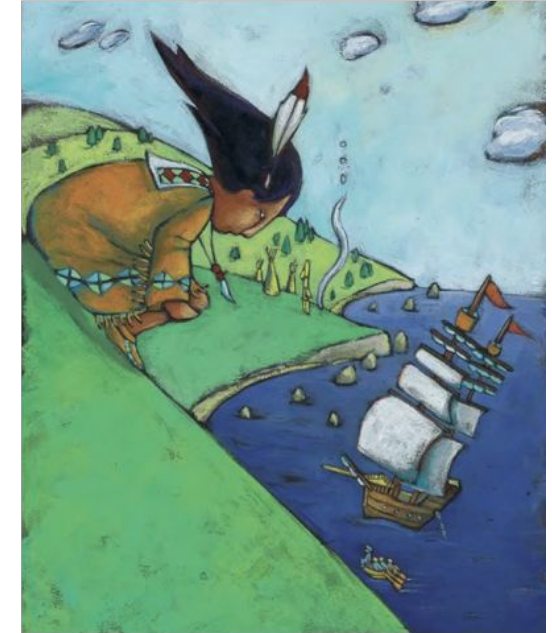
A GULLIVER OF
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PINOCCHIO OF
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POCAHONTAS OF
CURIOSITY



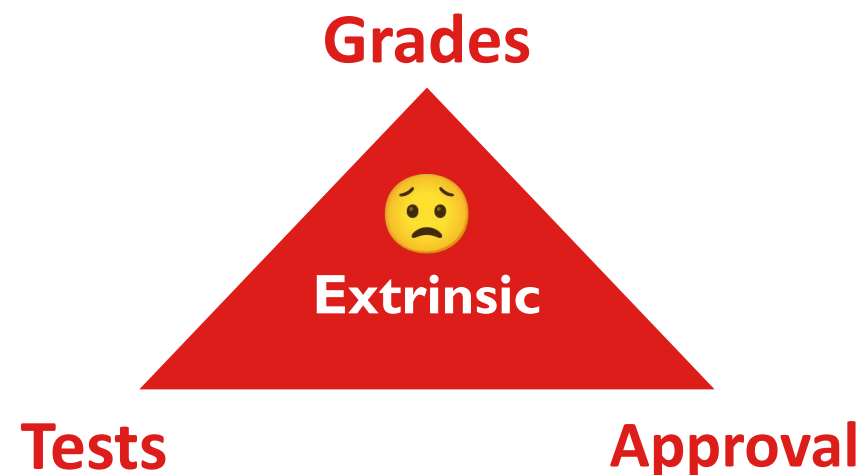
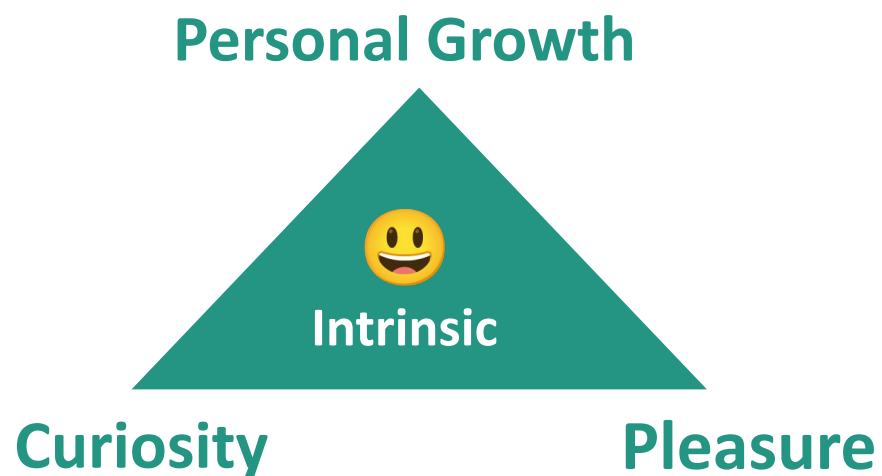
... or are you someone else?

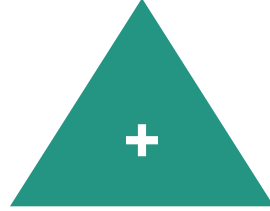
If everyone loves stories...



...why do my students look like this?

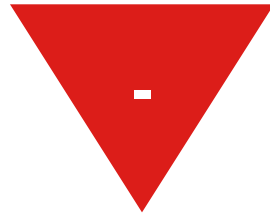
Let's take a look at our motivations to read!





Intrinsic motivation = *students read because they want to*

Extrinsic motivation = *students read because they have to*



Intrinsic motivation helps language learning because...

- **Reading lasts longer**

Students keep reading *outside* the classroom, not just for tests or points.

- **Better comprehension**

When students care about the story, they **understand more** and remember more.

- **Lower anxiety**

No pressure = more confidence → more risk-taking with language.

- **Real reader identity**

Students start to think: *"I am a reader in English."*

What builds intrinsic motivation in ELT reading?

Teacher's
Enthusiasm

Student
Choice

Talking
Time

Emotional
Connection



Hypothesis 1:

If students have fun with stories, they will want to read more!



Classroom Games



Video Resources



AI Resources

Let's introduce a story using all three elements!

ACTIVITY 1:

You have 60 SECONDS to look at the picture

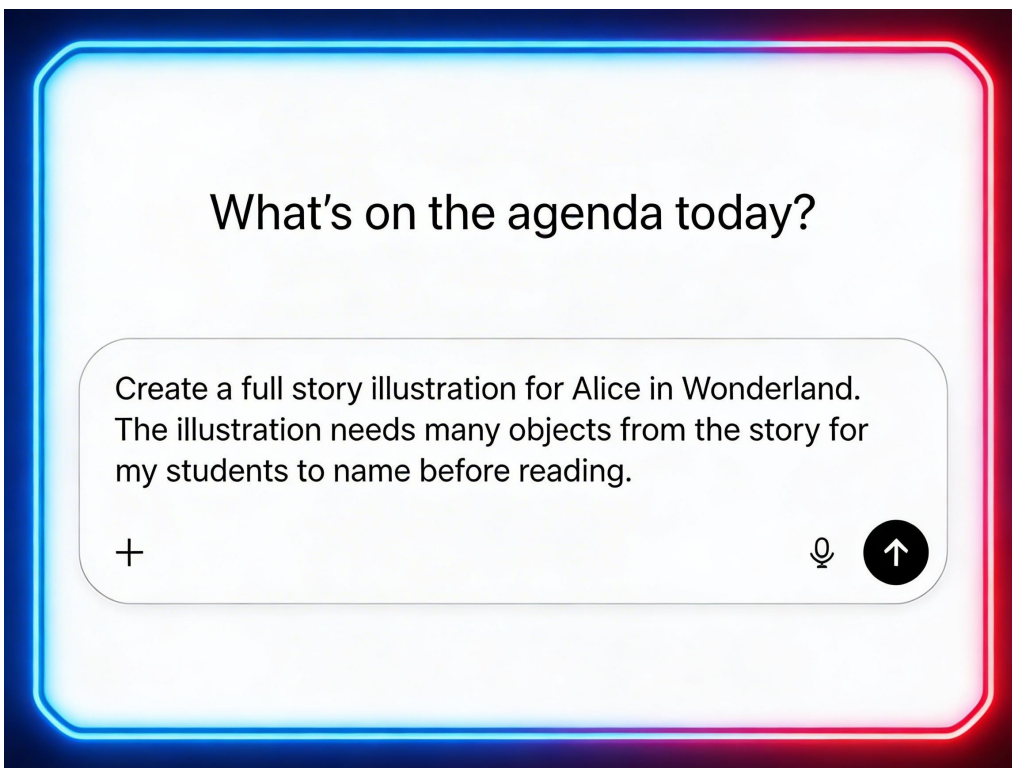


ACTIVITY 1:

You have 60 SECONDS to write down the objects you remember!



You can use AI to create full story illustrations!



The illustration was generated using **DALL·E** [OpenAI]



A few more ideas on how to use an image like this...

"I Spy" (I spy something round / red / magical...)

Prepositions of place
(next to, behind, under, in front of)

Make predictions about the story from the illustration



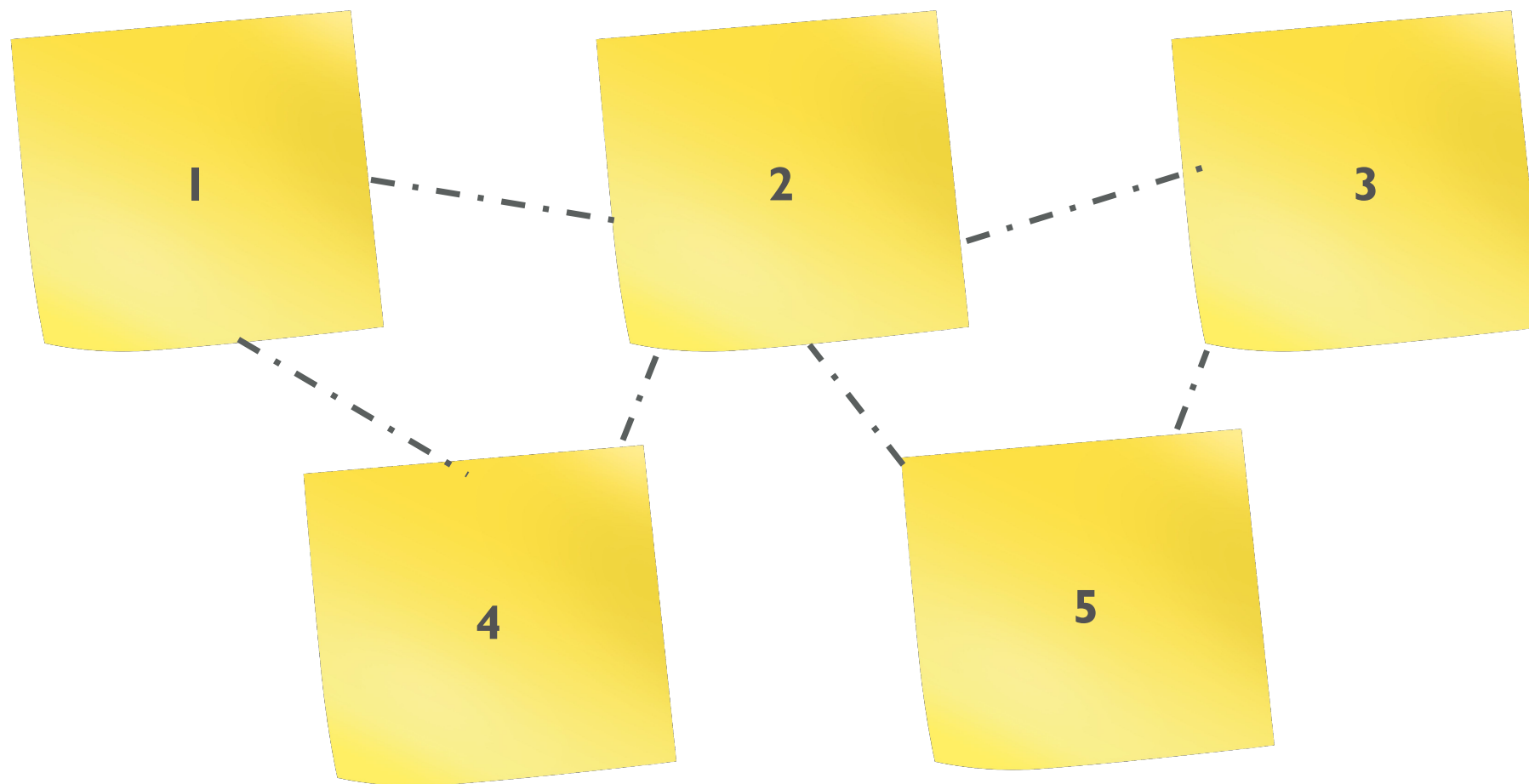
Describe and guess
(Student A describes, Student B guesses)

Listen to the teacher's description of the image **and draw.**

After reading **use the illustration** to recall things from the story

ACTIVITY 2: A STORY IN 5 WORDS

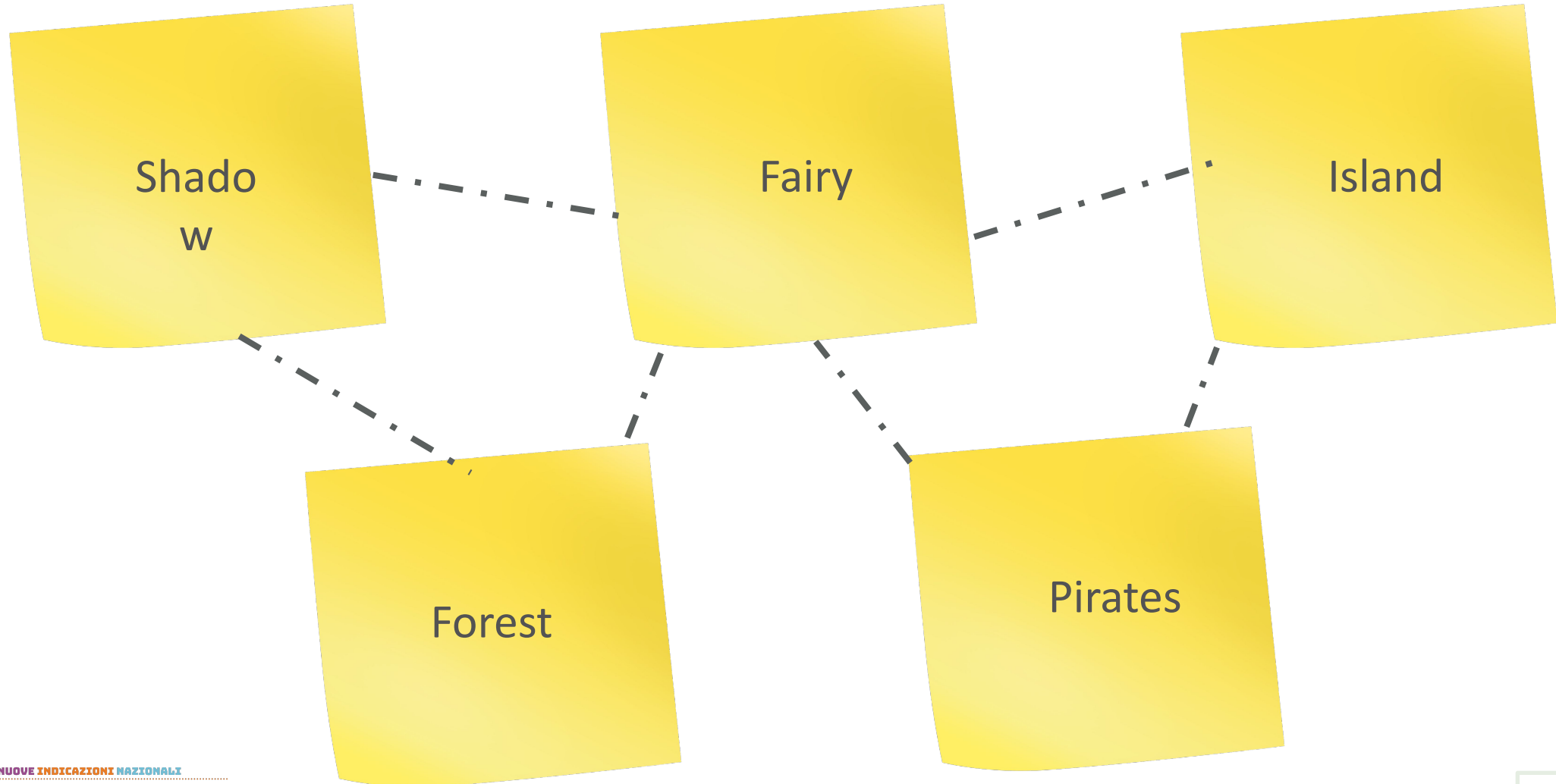
How are the words connected in the story?



Watch the video to find out!



What did you learn about each word in the story?



WHAT DOES “TO GROW UP” MEAN?

We can also use AI to help us teach a theme from the story...



The illustration was generated using **NANO BANANA PRO**

 **Gemini**

THE MEANING OF “TO GROW UP”

A class discussion...

3. Is it better to be:
a child, a student, an adult? Why?

2. What things change
at each stage?

1. Describe each photo:
What is happening?



4. Can we create
a definition?

5. Do you want
to grow up?

Hypothesis 2:

If students connect with stories, they will want to read more!



Talking about Stories



Relating to Stories



Collaborating with Stories

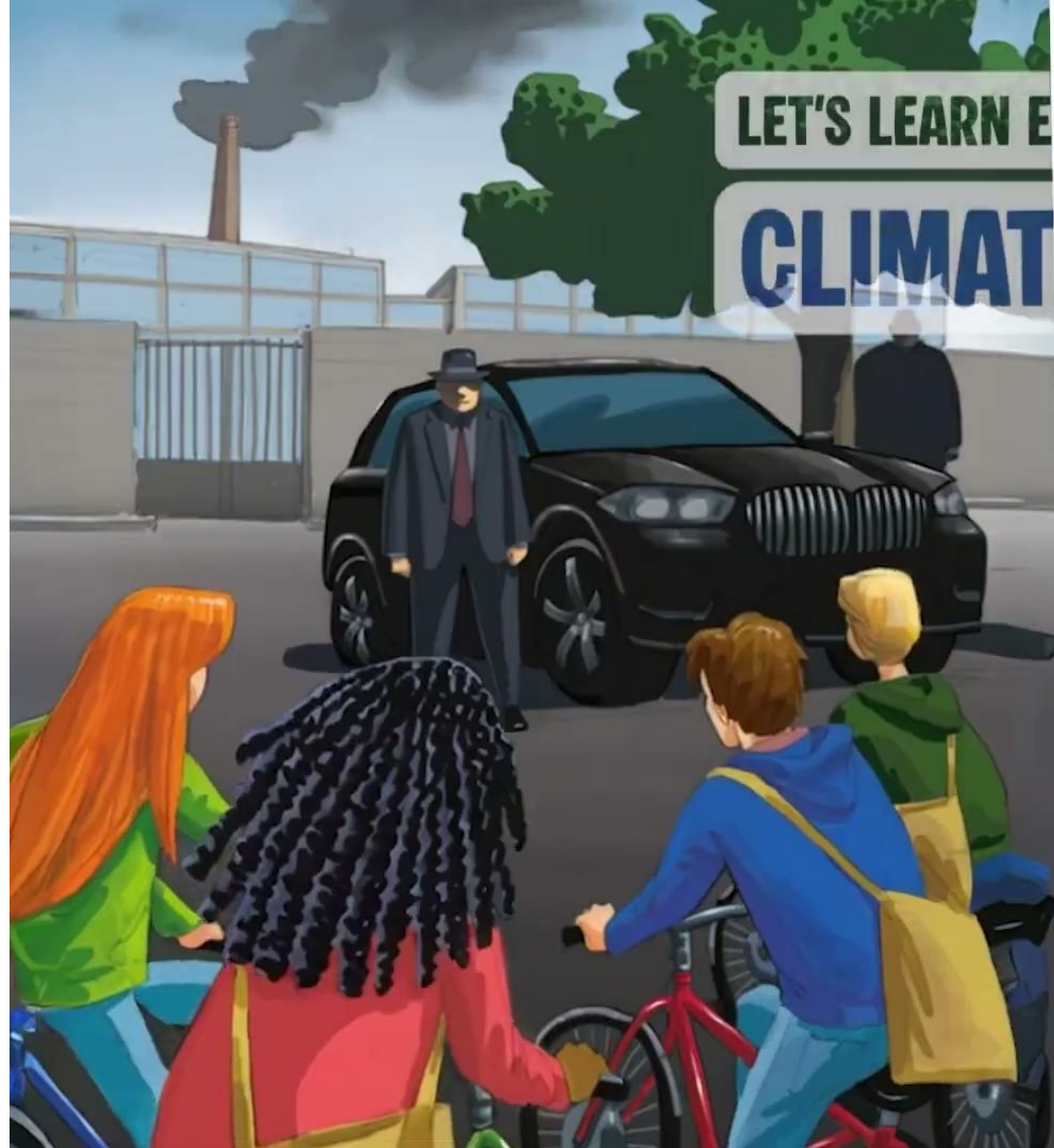
Let's explore a story with all three strategies!

ACTIVITY 3: A STORY IN 5 PICTURES

What do you think the story is about?



Let's watch a video to see if you are correct!



Use the video and AI to create story-mirror discussion cards...

Two Sides, One Topic

Each card has the story (Kirby) on one side and our real life on the other side.

From Story to Reality

Students answer questions about the video, then compare with their country.

Think and Speak

Students use English to compare, give opinions, and suggest solutions.

Connect Learning to Real Life

The goal is not just to understand the story — it is to reflect on our world.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jJg9qLL3uvk> create questions about the story. For each question, ask a question about how it compares to the students' country.

+

🔊



SIDE A - KIRBY (STORY)



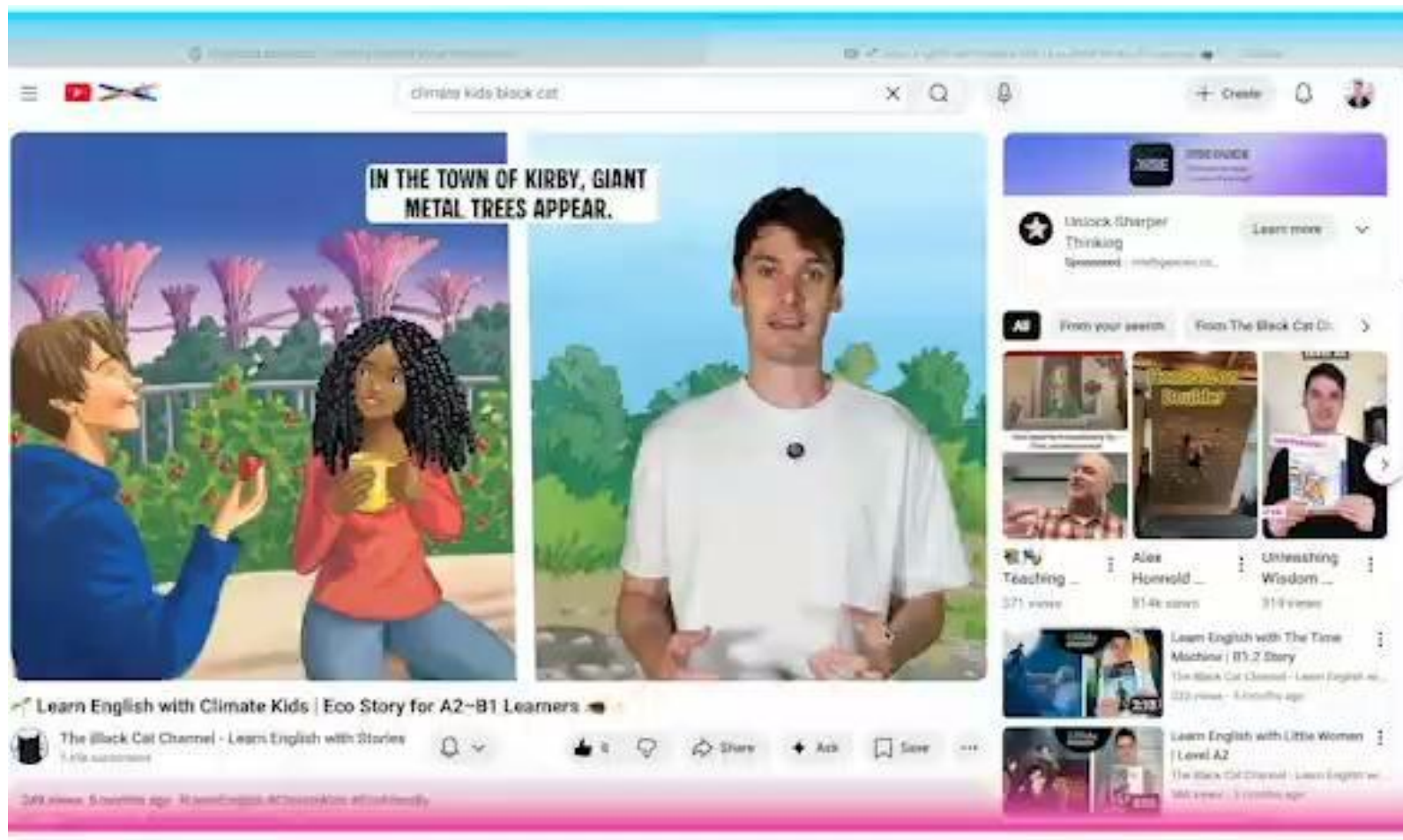
- What are the big metal trees called?
- What do they make? (air? water? energy?)
- Are they good for the environment?

SIDE B - OUR COUNTRY (REAL LIFE)



- Do we have solar panels or wind turbines?
- Where can you see them?
- Is our country ecofriendly? Yes or no? Why?

... or create an AI podcast about the discussion!



Create your own 'Story Podcasts' ...



Writing

Students organise and improve their ideas clearly.

Critical Thinking:

Students explain their story choices and message.

Presenting:

Students build confidence and practice speaking skills.

Listening:

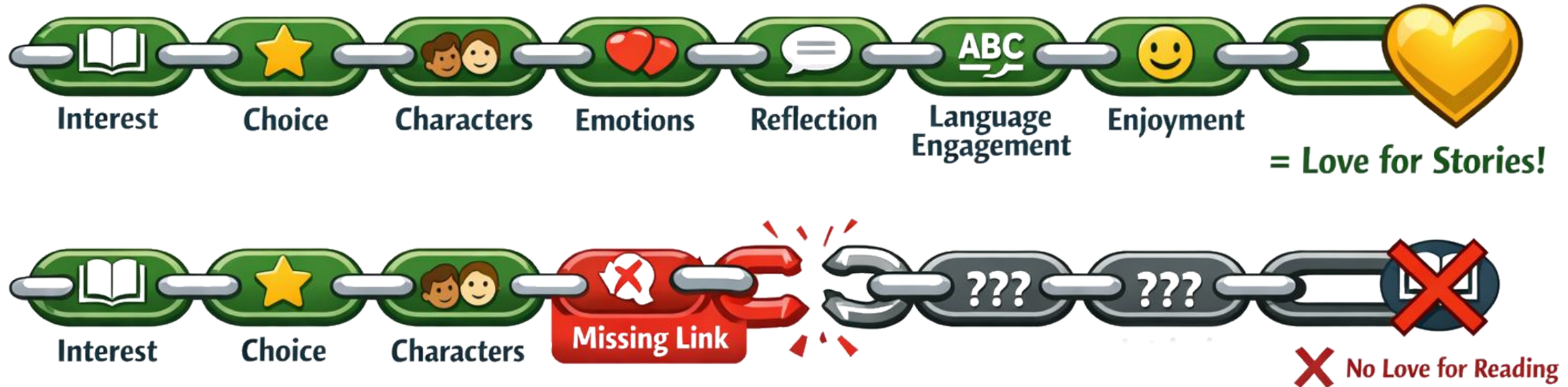
Students develop understanding by listening to classmates' podcasts.

Collaboration:

Students work together and give feedback.



WHY CONNECTION MATTERS



All links connect...
...love for reading grows!

One link breaks...
...we can't foster a love for reading!

Invite the characters into your world!



The illustration was generated using **NANO BANANA PRO**



Tour guide role-play

The characters visit your city, and you're the tour guide!

What sights are you going to see?

What activities are you going to do?



What are you going to eat?

What are you going to buy?

Let's look at another AI inspired adventure!

Create original story prompts using AI!



The Adventures of Tom Sawyer in Space!

Choose a character from a story!

More Character collaborations



ACTIVITY 4: Let's go on holiday!

Find a partner

Where & When

Form of transport

Accommodation

Things to see

Activities



The illustration was generated using **NANO BANANA PRO**

‘Playing with the story’ doesn’t just mean having fun...

explore

imagine

express

connect

reflect



Let’s look at one final way we can ‘play’ with the story!

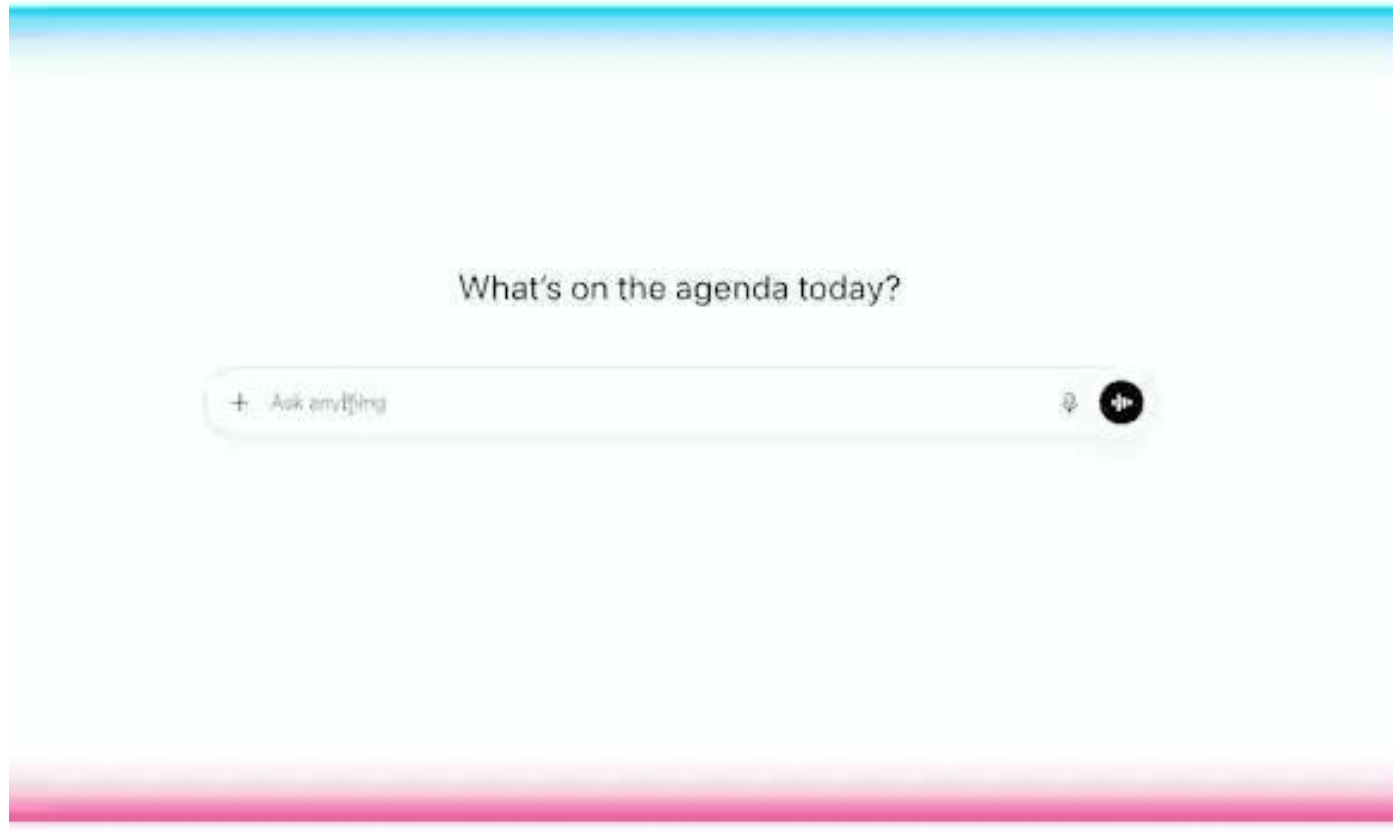
...use AI to create a song for your story!

Alice sees a white rabbit.
She follows the rabbit.
Alice falls down a hole.
She drinks and becomes small.
She eats and becomes tall.
Alice meets the Cheshire Cat.
She has tea with the Mad Hatter.
She meets the Queen of Hearts.
Alice wakes up from a dream.



Turn the story summary into music...

...use AI to create a song for your story!



Create your own 'Class Playlists'...



Listen First

Use song-based listening tasks to explore key events, themes, and characters.

Create Songs

Students write their own songs to summarise the story or focus on a favourite character.

Practise Language Naturally

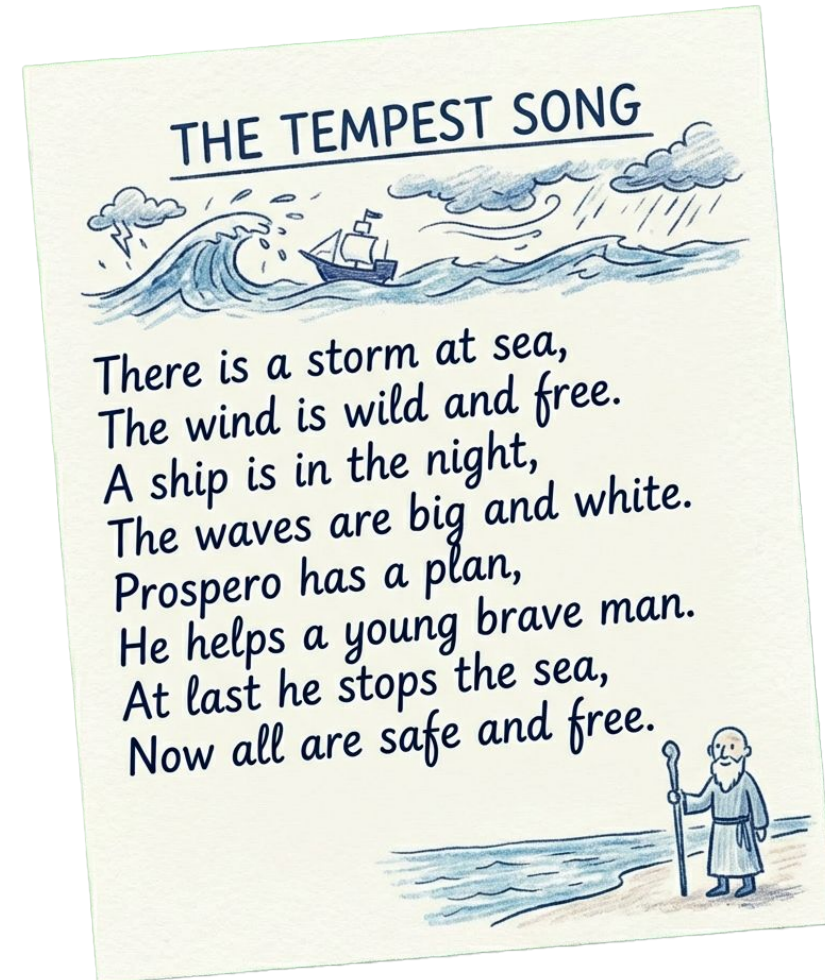
Music supports vocabulary development, pronunciation, rhythm, and fluency.

Personal Connection

Songs allow students to interpret the story in their own way.

Create a Class Album

Build a shared playlist to review the story



Are you ready to rap?

I'm Sherlock Holmes, the detective king,
I see small clues in everything.
With my sharp mind, I solve the crime,
Step by step, I take my time.
I walk the streets, I know them well,
Every secret has a tale to tell.
I watch, I think, I never guess,
I find the truth, I don't need to stress.
With Doctor Watson by my side,
We catch the bad guys who try to hide



Thank you for listening!

