

Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman

Assessment Menu

You can pick either **two tasks off List A or one task off List B**. Following the lists is a set of instructions for each task.

Please read them carefully so that you give yourself the best chance of achieving the best level.

The tasks are to be completed and submitted as a final copy for marking
Please ensure you check for spelling and grammar mistakes.

LIST A (x2)	LIST B (x1)
<p>1) Imagine you are Jude and write a diary entry charting your time on the run</p> <p>2) Imagine you are Mrs. Hadley and write a diary entry for the day you decided to pay for Kelani Adams' services</p> <p>3) Using the given extract, answer the question "How does Malory Blackman create a vivid picture of the bomb and its aftermath in the readers' heads?"</p> <p>4) Using the given extract, answer the question, "How does Malorie Blackman show the differences between the noughts and Crosses?"</p> <p>5) Imagine you were in the public gallery of the courtroom in which Ryan McGregor was tried. Write a letter of complaint to Judge Anderson about the unfair treatment Ryan received.</p>	<p>6) Write your own short story about any of the issues raised in the novel. Try to emulate the style of Malorie Blackman.</p> <p>7) Write a short script based on the conversation between Mr. Jason and Mr. Costa. Write a commentary about your script. (Chap 30)</p> <p>8) Write your own prologue to the novel.</p> <p>9) Create a newspaper front page covering the story of either the Dundale Shopping Centre bombing or the trial of Ryan McGregor.</p>

- 1) *Imagine you are Jude and write a diary entry charting your time on the run OR***
- 2) *Imagine you are Mrs Hadley and write a diary entry for the day you made your decision to pay for Kelani Adams' services.***

Remember when writing a diary entry:

- It should be written in first person (“I...”) because you are the person (either Jude or Mrs Hadley).
- Diaries should include events, thoughts and feelings. Use what you know about the story – show me that you have understood what you have read.
- Uses supporting evidence from the story as your foundation for your diary entry.

YOU SHOULD WRITE ABOUT 500 WORDS FOR THE ENTRY.

3) Using the given extract, answer the question “How does Malorie Blackman create a vivid picture of the bomb and its aftermath in the readers’ mind?”

This is based on the extract we covered in class so you should be very familiar with it.

SEPHY:

“There was a flash like the very air was alight, followed a fraction of a second later by the most colossal boom. I was blown off my feet and into the air like a dry leaf in a high wind. And even from where we were, I could feel the intense heat on my back. I landed flat on my face, my arms outstretched. There was a strange ringing sound in my ears and it wouldn’t stop. For I don’t know how long, I lay in a daze. Was I dead? Was this what it felt like to die? I closed my eyes tight and covered my ears, trying to block out the incessant ringing sound – only it was inside my head, not outside. I swallowed hard and my ears popped, and the ringing stopped. Twisting around, I turned to see what an earth had happened. Billowing smoke shot out of the shopping centre. For a moment it was eerily quiet, like the end of the world. I wondered panic-stricken if the explosion had deafened me. And I heard screaming and sirens and all hell was let loose.”

Discuss the effect of:

- Nouns
- Adjectives
- Verbs
- Adverbs
- Similes
- And anything else you think adds to the picture in your head.

You can use this sentence to start your answer off:

“Malorie Blackman makes the aftermath of the Dundale Shopping Centre bombing very vivid for the reader by using very interesting and useful words and phrases.”

Useful phrases:

“The writer uses an interesting verb. For example, “billowing”. This is effective because it makes me see that the smoke is all around Sephy and seems to be taking of the sky.”

YOU SHOULD WRITE ABOUT 500 WORDS FOR YOUR EXPLANATION.

4) Using the given extract, answer the question, “How does Malorie Blackman show the differences between the noughts and Crosses?”

“Our car drew up outside Hewmett Prison. Ten to six. There were cars ahead of us and cars behind and people walking in on foot. All the noughts walking through the pedestrian entrance were dressed in black and not one of them spoke. Every expression was the reflection of the before it and the one after. When we reached the entrance of the prison, Dad flashed his ID card at the two security guards by the gates. We were waved straight through. What an earth were we doing at Hewmett Prison?

...We were taken into the prison courtyard...I looked around, puzzled. All the noughts were standing. Some were looking at the scaffold, a few were crying, some were looking at us Crosses in our seats, burning hatred on their faces...

‘Ladies and gentleman and noughts, we are here today to witness the execution of Ryan Callum McGregor.’”

Points to think about:

- How the noughts, and the Crosses arrived at the prison
- The mood of the noughts, entering the prison
- How easy it was for Sephy and her family to get into the prison – would it be as Easy for the noughts?
- The location of the noughts, and Crosses in the courtyard
- The reaction of the noughts when they look at the Crosses
- The way the Governor addresses the crowd.

You could use this sentence to start your answer:

“Malory Blackman makes it very clear that there is a big difference between the noughts, and Crosses in this extract through the way they are treated and their reactions to each other.”

Remember, you must use an example to prove your point and explain yourself fully:

“The author shows there is difference between the noughts, and Crosses by the way they enter the prison. For example, the noughts, are “walking on foot”, whereas Sephy and her family are in a car.”

YOU SHOULD WRITE ABOUT 500 WORDS.

5) Imagine you were in the public gallery of the courtroom in which Ryan McGregor was tried.

Write a letter of complaint to Judge Anderson about the unfair treatment Ryan received.

It is up to you whether you are a nougat defending a fellow nougat or a Cross speaking out against this injustice.

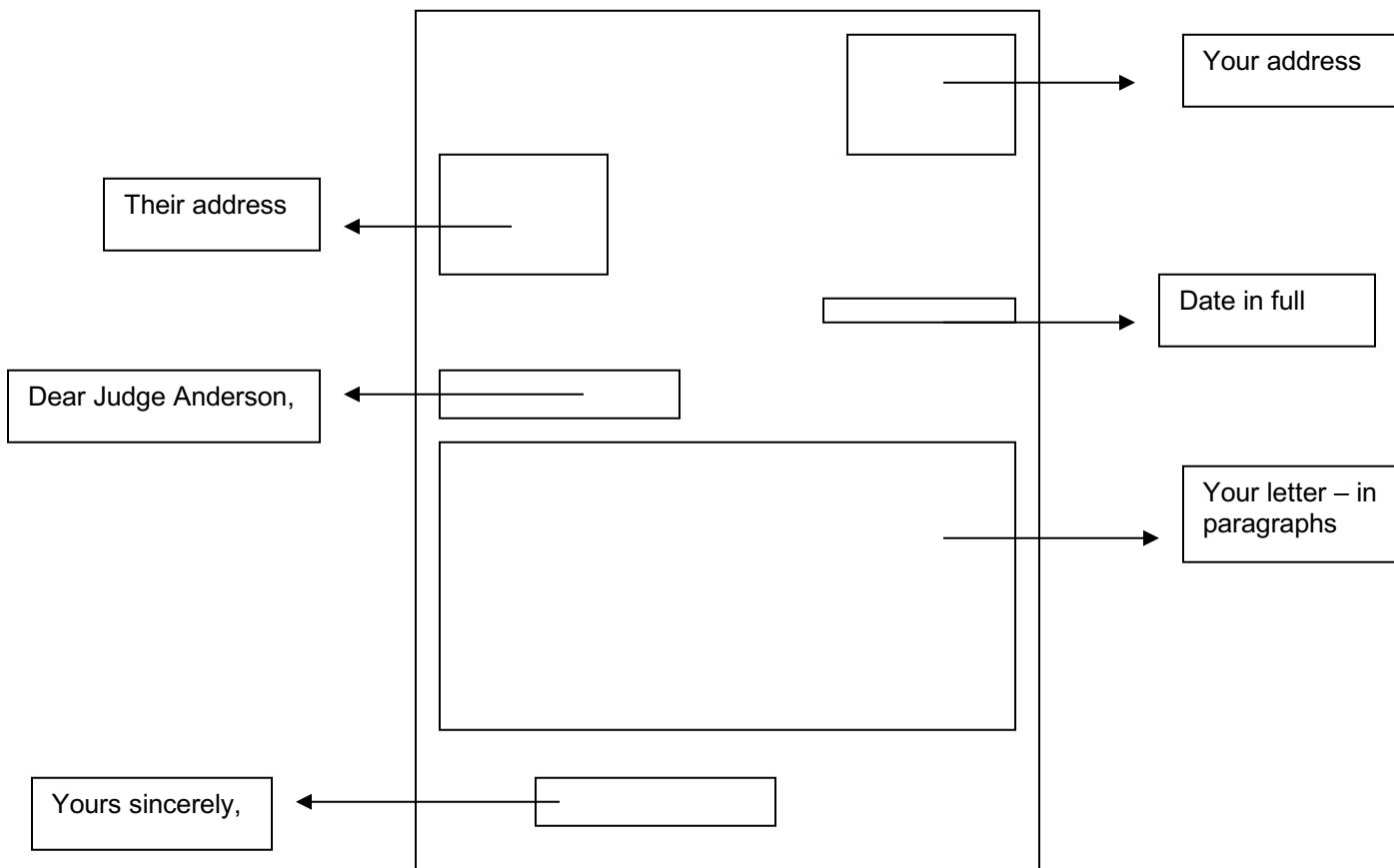
This should be written in **Standard English**:

- No slang
- No contractions (“Don’t” should be “do not”)
- A formal tone should be adopted (remember the passive voice from your work on Reports?)

Points you could include in your letter:

- Mr. Pingule’s attitude toward Ryan
- Judge Anderson’s attitude to Ryan
- Kelani Adams’ positive attitude toward Ryan – perhaps this is how Crosses should behave in the courtroom?
- You hope to see other nougats more fairly treated in future

YOU SHOULD WRITE ABOUT A 500 LETTER.



6) Write your own short story about any of the issues raised in the novel. Try to emulate the style of Malorie Blackman.

Malorie Blackman uses first person narrative to express her characters' innermost feelings. She also tells the story through the eyes of two different narrators so two different points of view are expressed. In your short story, **use this technique** so your reader gets both sides of your story.

Themes you could write about:

- Racism
- Young love
- Teacher-pupil relationships
- Parent-child relationships
- Suicide
- Imprisoned family members
- Crime

Remember when writing a story, you need to make it as interesting as possible by employing techniques that you have noticed and studied in the past.

Some advice:

- Use paragraphs
- Make your adjectives juicy and not boring
- Deliberately choose words and phrases that will have the desired effect on the Reader
- Try your very best to ensure your spelling, punctuation and grammar is accurate

7) Write a short script based on the conversation between Mr. Jason and Mr. Costa. Write a commentary about your script.

This is a very challenging task, as you are required to **evaluate your own work**.

Part One: Write a short script based on the conversation between Mr. Jason and Mr. Costa.

Remember, Mr. Jason is the nasty history teacher who Callum discovers in half nought (mixed-race). Mr. Costa is the Heathcroft School's headmaster. The conversation should be Mr. Jason telling Mr. Costa that he is half-nought. How would Mr. Costa react? How would Mr. Jason break the news?

When writing a script:

- Use stage directions to show how the character says something or what they are doing while they say it
- You must get across emotions mainly through what the person says – think carefully about what you make them say.

For this section: YOU SHOULD WRITE ABOUT A PAGE (500 words).

Part Two: Write a commentary about your script.

Here you will explain why you made certain choices and evaluate how successful you think you were.

Think about certain lines or stage directions you chose:

- What effect were you hoping to create?
- What reaction were you hoping to get from the other character and the reader?

Here is an example:

"I chose to make Mr. Costa "red in the face" when he first hears the news because I wanted him to seem very, very angry."

For this section: YOU SHOULD WRITE ABOUT A PAGE (500 words).

8) Write your own prologue to the novel.

This is a very challenging task. The original prologue is set three years before the action of the novel. It focuses on Callum and Sephy as children and the relationship between their mothers.

What could your prologue focus on?

When will you set your prologue? How many years before the action?

Perhaps you could set it at exactly the same point as the original prologue but zoom out from Mrs. Hadley and Mrs. McGregor and zoom in on Callum and Sephy playing in the garden. That would mean that Callum would be thirteen and Sephy would be eleven.

Remember to make hints about the future action of the novel as we know what happens.

Make your writing interesting by using description and dialogue.

Make your writing accurate by checking your spelling punctuation and grammar carefully.

YOU SHOULD WRITE ABOUT 800-1000.

9) Create a newspaper front page covering the story of either the Dundale Shopping Centre bombing or the trial of Ryan McGregor.

A newspaper article should have an opening

Paragraph that includes the 5 W's:

- Who?
- What?
- When?
- Where?
- Why ?

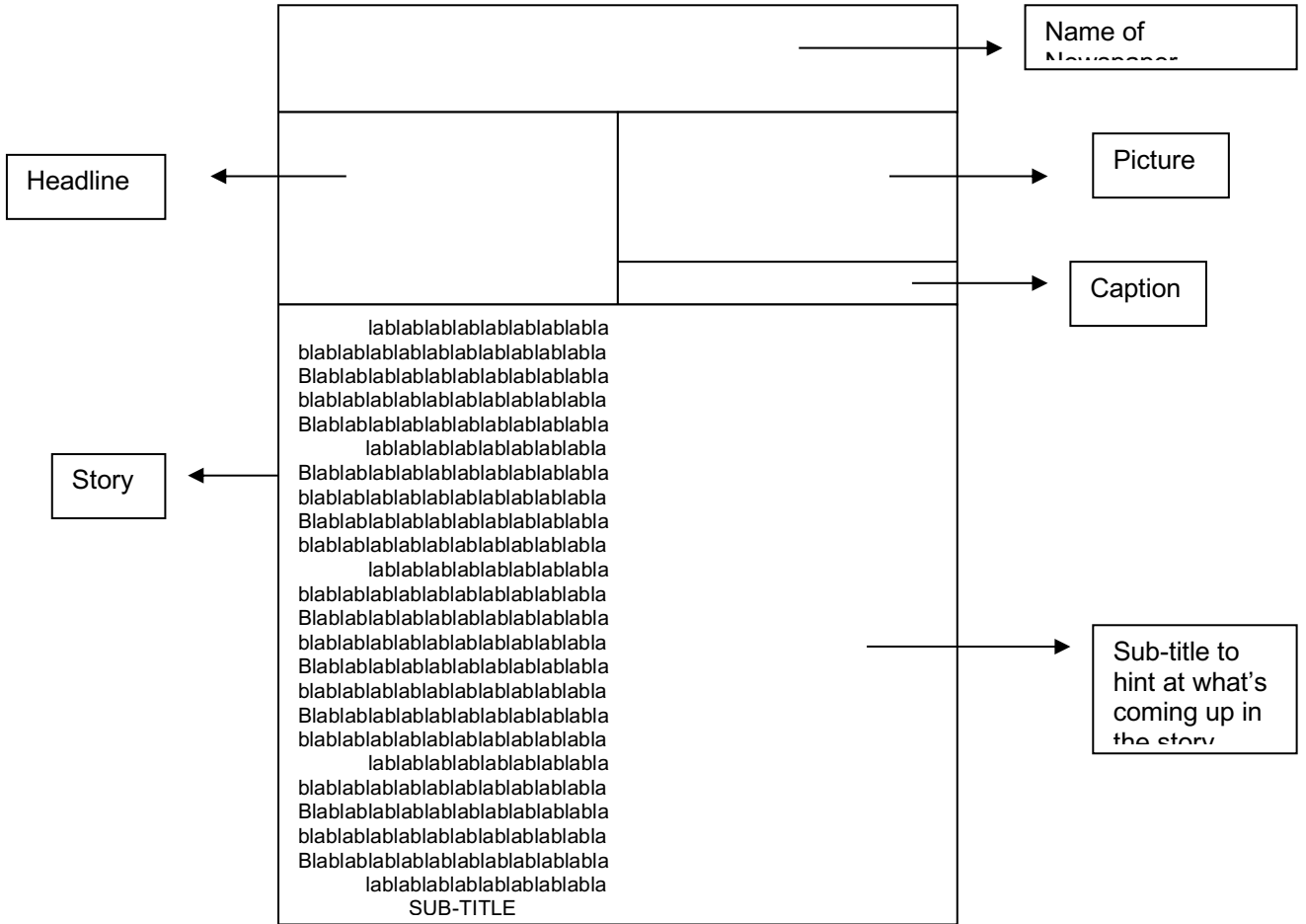
A successful **headline** will employ one of the following techniques:

- Alliteration
- Pun
- Rhyme

If you are unsure, see if you can find a tabloid newspaper at home at study the techniques the writers have used.

This ensures that the reader knows the important details of the story straight away.

You must also use the appropriate layout for a newspaper front page. Here is an example



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