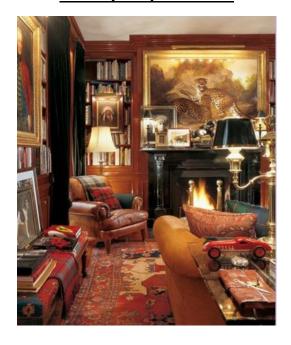
#### **The Mystery Bookcase**



#### **TASK**

Using the picture above for the setting, I would like you to write a **story** about a mysterious bookcase. Read the story I have written below for ideas about what might happen in your story.

Look closely at the example I have written (WAGOLL), the success criteria and the relevant assessment grid.

It is important to plan and draft your story carefully before producing your final piece. Once you have written your story, I would like you to edit your work. Think about how you could improve the vocabulary, punctuation and spellings.

I look forward to reading your stories!

### **Success Criteria**

My story has an interesting title.	
I have described the setting and atmosphere using descriptive	
language.	
I have introduced my character or characters and told the	
reader about them.	
I have explained what is happening at the beginning of the	
story.	
My story has a believable but interesting problem.	
My character/s solve the problem in a believable way.	
I have shown the feelings of my character/characters as they	
deal with the problem.	
I have finished writing effectively to complete the story.	
I have written in paragraphs and each paragraph contains a	
new idea or event.	
I have used interesting language throughout the story to paint	
a clear picture for the reader.	
I have used time connectives to help guide the reader through	
the story.	
I have used different types of sentences to make my writing	
entertaining.	
I have used speech carefully with correct punctuation.	

#### **The Mystery Bookcase**

A fire crackled in the open fireplace, making the modest living room a snug retreat from rain outside. Across the room sat two men. One of the men, who had short auburn hair, was whispering quietly to the other. As Kitty sat in the corner of the room, she tried desperately to remember where she had seen him before.

Slowly, she walked across the room, through the old, wooden door frame, into the kitchen. She strolled across the room to the banquet table where she helped herself to a piece of chocolate gateaux and filled her glass with lemonade. Carefully, she juggled the glass and plate through the crowd, back towards the study where she would ask the man why he was so familiar.

On entering the room, Kitty noticed that the two men had disappeared. 'That's strange,' she thought to herself, 'I didn't see them in the kitchen.' Confused, she sat back down in the old, leather armchair and began to tuck into the slice of cake.

As she raised the fork to her mouth, she noticed that there was a faint indigo glow surrounding the mammoth bookcase. "I must be seeing things," she muttered to herself quietly, blinking hard to clear her mind. Slowly, she opened them. The light was still there.

Kitty put down her plate and stood up. Cautiously, she walked towards the bookcase. It was ajar. The misty haze was coming from inside the bookcase. Kitty reached out her hand and touched the antique pine. It was freezing cold. She edged nearer and nearer. She couldn't see beyond the bright lights. "Hello," she whispered. No-one answered. Every nerve in her body warned her not to go any further. Closer and closer she moved.

Her body froze. She tried to call for help. She couldn't. Her lips wouldn't move. She started to panic. Where was she going? What if nobody noticed she had gone? She closed her eyes. Tears started to roll down her cheeks.

Her throat was dry, her tongue thick and heavy in her mouth. She opened her eyes and couldn't believe what she was seeing.

The magnificent trees stood tall and proud, while a blanket of snowdrops danced towards to glittering ground. Kitty shivered. As she steadied her gaze towards the majestic trees in front of her, she noticed that icicles, which were hanging from every branch, glistened like liquid diamonds. Patches of misty light shone through the gaps in the trees with a trail of fresh footprints heading towards the clearing. She felt uneasy. The hairs on the back of her neck prickled with dread. She took a deep breath and followed the footprints.

# **Sentence Openers**

#### Time

One day One morning One evening After that After a while Before long Afterwards As soon as At last A moment later In the meantime Later on Meanwhile Soon During Now

#### Order

At first
First
Second
Third
Then
Last
Finally
Next

#### Where

In the middle of the...
Under the bridge...
Over the bridge...
In the distance...
Far away...
In a far off land...
Inside of...
At the end of...
On top of the...
Next to the...

Nearby...

Opposite the...

# To add information

Again
Also
Another
Along with...
For example...
As well as

### Comparisons

However
Yet
Despite
Still
Unlike
Even though
Although





Rather than

Using Higher Level Vocabulary: Fiction Writing

## To Describe Settings

attractive awe-inspiring beautiful breathtaking glorious magnificent spectacular

disgusting
hideous
horrible
ugly
unappealing
unattractive
unsightly

grand impressive majestic regal splendid stately lavish

creepy
eerie
frightening
scary
sinister
spine-chilling
unnerving

bustling busy crowded hectic lively swarming teeming

calm noiseless peaceful quiet silent still tranquil



Using Higher Level Vocabulary: Fiction Writing

# To Describe Feelings

delighted
ecstatic
elated
euphoric
happy
overjoyed
thrilled
crestfallen

dejected depressed despondent heartbroken miserable sad angry
annoyed
fuming
furious
incensed
livid
outraged

afraid frightened panic-stricken petrified scared witless terrified terror-stricken anxious
apprehensive
jittery
nervous
tense
uneasy
worried

certain confident convinced in no doubt optimistic positive sanguine



### Using Higher Level Vocabulary: Fiction Writing

### **To Describe Characters**

amiable
charming
delightful
good natured
likable
nice
pleasant

disagreeable
horrible
insufferable
loathsome
nasty
obnoxious
unpleasant

attractive beautiful exquisite gorgeous handsome stunning winsome

grotesque hideous repugnant repulsive revolting ugly vile audacious bold brave courageous fearless plucky valiant

almighty
big
enormous
gargantuan
gigantic
humongous
massive

