

5. The job

Aim

The aim of this chapter is for the children to write persuasively in letter format. Having met the character of Mr Wizzy in the previous activity, the children should be able to use their knowledge to persuade Mr Wizzy to give them a job.

Text

Read the text 'The Drinks Fountain' (5a) with the whole class. Ask questions to check for understanding, for example:

- What is the Drinks Fountain?
- Why does Mr Wizzy travel a lot?
- Why does he not use animal products?
- Why does Mr Wizzy need help?
- What must the designer be able to do?

Look at the advertisement that Mr Wizzy has placed in all the national newspapers. Tell the children that they will be writing to Mr Wizzy in order to apply for the job. There will be lots of people applying so how could they persuade Mr Wizzy to choose them? Discuss this point with the children. They need to 'sell' themselves to him, that is, show that they can do all the things he is asking for and more. Give the children five minutes to write down some ideas in pairs.

Next, give each child a photocopy sheet to suit their ability. Sheet 5b has less lines. Sheet 5c extends the more able child to use paragraphs and to write more. Revise letter format if necessary, ie address, date, 'Dear Sir/Madam' or 'Dear Mr Wizzy', 'Yours sincerely' or 'Yours faithfully'.

Let the children write their letters in draft. These letters may be checked for errors and re-drafted in another session.

Plenary

Bring the group together again. Ask some volunteers to read out their letters. Discuss which letters are the most persuasive in terms of language.

More able children could write a letter of complaint. They are not happy with one of Mr Wizzy's drinks and they must persuade him to improve it.