

**Stage I English Communications**  
**Text Response: Film Study**

# **The Shawshank Redemption**



No. 1 CHARACTER STRENGTH:

# Andy Dufresne

## Hope, optimism & future-mindedness

You expect the best in the future, and you work to achieve it. You believe that the future is something that you can control.

Even though he was an innocent man, convicted of double murder and sentenced to two life terms, Andy maintains hope and encourages others to do the same:

- He frequently tells Red, *“Get busy living, or get busy dying”*.
- He remains optimistic and often discusses his dream of living on a beach in Mexico
- He shows the other prisoners that if you hope for something it will eventually happen. For an example, for ten years, Andy writes letters to government departments and charities to obtain books for the library.
- He expects the best in the future and works to achieve it.

# No. 2 CHARACTER STRENGTH: **Andy Dufresne**

## **Appreciation of beauty and excellence**

You notice and appreciate beauty, excellence, and/or skilled performance in all domains of life, from nature to art to mathematics to science to everyday experience.

**Despite the brutality of Shawshank Prison and the horrific things that happen to him, Andy uses his appreciation of beauty and excellence to help him cope:**

- He carves delicate chess pieces from the rocks he finds.
- He is prepared to endure two months in the “hole” in order to play the Mozart aria through the prison’s loudspeakers, later telling Red: *“That's the beauty of music. You need it so you don't forget... there are places in this world that aren't made out of stone.”*
- He is highly educated and tutors the other prisoners so that they can achieve excellence.

# No. 3 CHARACTER STRENGTH: **Andy Dufresne**

## **Self-control and self-regulation**

You self-consciously regulate what you feel and what you do. You are a disciplined person. You are in control of your appetites and your emotions, not vice versa.

**Andy shows both self-control and self-regulation throughout the film with his reserved personality.**

- In the opening scenes, Red observes that Andy *“had a quiet way about him (and) strolled, like a man in a park without a care or a worry in the world, like he had on an invisible coat that would shield him from this place.”*
- When laundering the money the corrupt Warden Norton brought into the prison, Andy never took any risks. He tells Red, *“If they ever try to trace any of those accounts, they're gonna end up chasing a figment of my imagination.”* Red replies, *“Shit, you're a Rembrandt!”*

## No. 4 CHARACTER STRENGTH: **Andy Dufresne**

# **Creativity, ingenuity and originality**

Thinking of new ways to do things is a crucial part of who you are. You are never content with doing something the conventional way if a better way is possible.

**Although prison life is tightly-controlled and the men are treated like cattle, Andy still manages to be original, creative and ingenious:**

- He uses his spare time creatively by making chess pieces during the day time and tunnelling out of the prison during the night.
- His escape plan was extremely original. As Red observes, *“Andy crawled to freedom through five hundred yards of shit smelling foulness”*.
- Andy’s use of the posters to cover his tunnel and the methods he used to get rid of the dirt were ingenious.

# Caution, prudence and discretion

You are a careful person, and your choices are consistently prudent ones. You do not say or do things that you might later regret.

Andy is very discreet in his actions, careful not to draw attention to himself.

- He never boasts about how smart or successful he was in the outside world.
- He gains the trust of Warden Norton and the prison guards by dealing discreetly with their financial matters.
- He doesn't even reveal to his closest friends that he is planning his escape from Shawshank Prison.
- Despite the close proximity of other prisoners, no-one ever hears or suspects that Andy is digging his way out of his cell.

No. 5 CHARACTER STRENGTH:

**Andy Dufresne**

# The resilience of the human spirit

Andy Dufresne showed a lot of determination, courage and human spirit throughout *The Shawshank Redemption*. Once he found out that the cell walls were fragile and that he could dig an escape hole with his rock hammer, even though he knew it would take decades he never gave up and succeeded his goal of freedom.



# The resilience of the human spirit

Andy's spirit is resilient because although he has had everything taken away from him by being sent to prison he didn't stop doing things that he loved and was good at. When he offered to do the taxes for all of the guards it showed that Andy could still continue his job. He also organizes for a rock hammer so that he can pursue his hobby by making chess pieces out of stone.





# The resilience of the human spirit



In *The Shawshank Redemption* the resilience of the human spirit is very clear. This is shown when Andy always looks on the positive side of everything. He doesn't allow the prison to take away his personality. He likes to do things to help to make him still feel normal and free. Red, and some of the other cell mates, don't have the same perspective as Andy though. Some of them have been in prison so long they can no longer face the outside world.

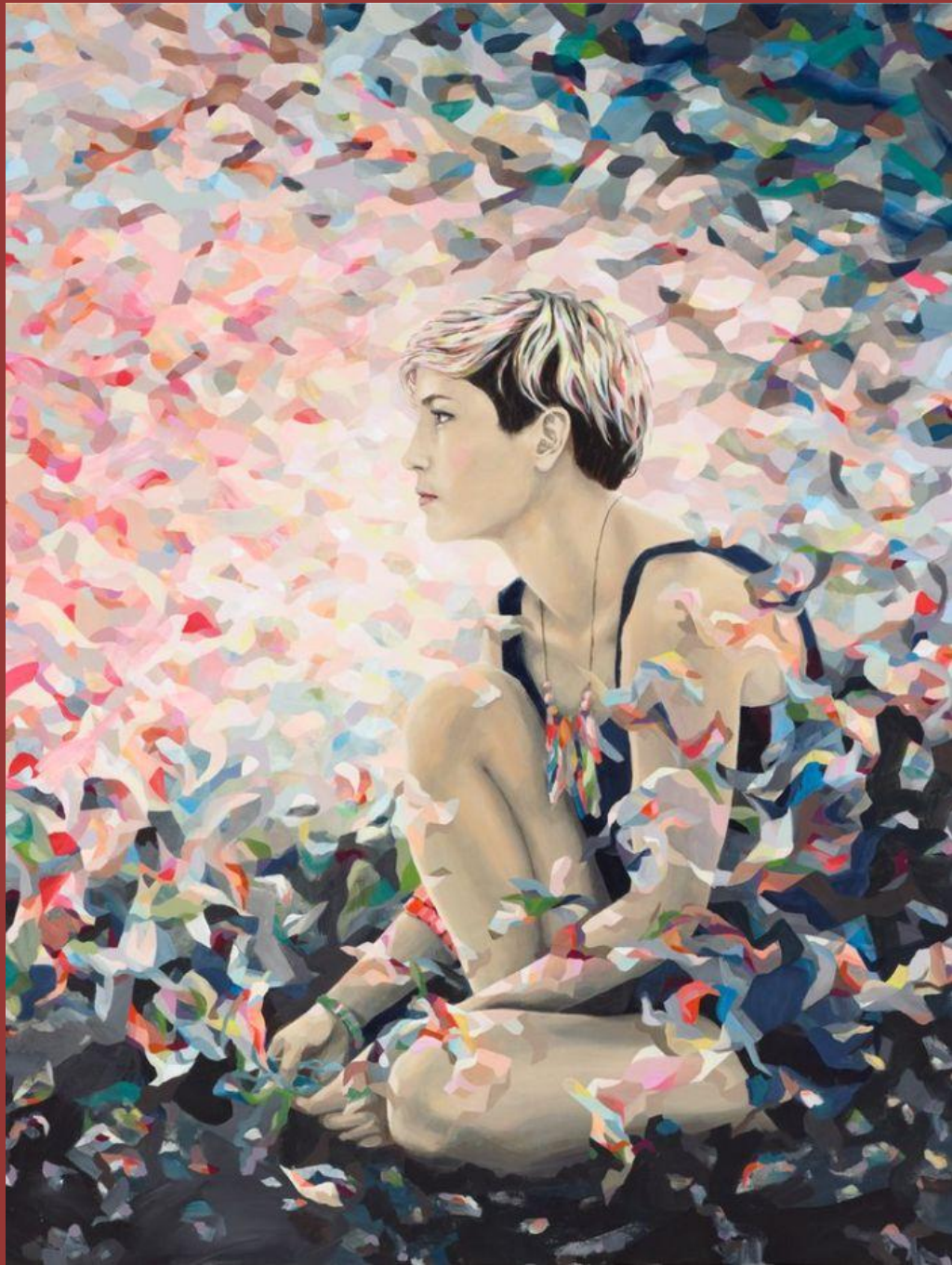
# Art and Poetry







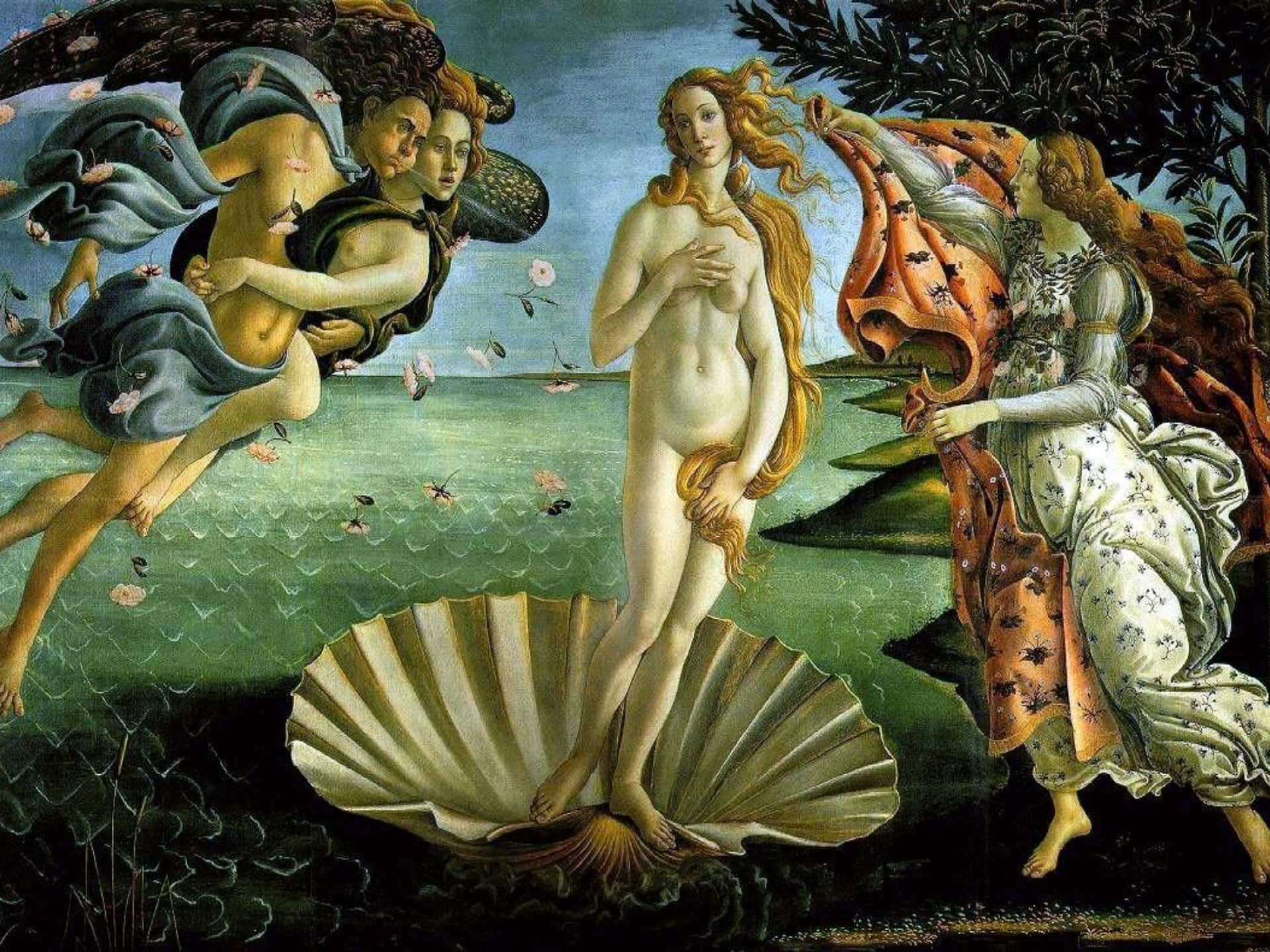
















as beautiful as the night sky

a tunnel of light leading through the darkness

curiosity draws me along the road, towards the light

nothing is impossible for someone who believes

standing up for what you believe in

a road to somewhere important

the embodiment of bravery

★ flowing colours, searching for freedom

sparkling shades, defying darkness

hopeful that my life will soon be colourful

epic colours fill the sky

rainbow swirls of epic colours fill the sky

after the storm, a rainbow

late afternoon light

incredible colours filling the sky

there is no limit

I'll be with you forever

light at the end of the tunnel

the world is a big place

every single thing is beautiful

you are my world

nothing is impossible

a sky full of magic

rainbow-coloured

facing your fears

light as a feather

in the spotlight

follow your own path

on top of a mountain

stronger together

believe in yourself

as free as nature

free as the wind

with his heart on his sleeve, he carried on

like nothing was impossible

★ strong life-force, like the earth's heart

as bright as life

her eyes were like searchlights, looking

for land

★ as wild as a lion on Sunday

blurry life, like a kaleidoscope

as beautiful as a night sky

as magical as a fairy

as spectacular as an all-powerful supernova

as fluid as the sparkling ocean

as mysterious as a cat, alone in the shadows

as beautiful as late afternoon light

as swirly as a sky full of magic

shining like a diamond

as bright as a handful of balloons

lonely, like little raindrops

his free-spirited nature is like an armful of helium balloons

as fast as a GM rabbit

the seemingly never-ending expanse of desert feels almost as hot as the sun itself

★ as crazy as a curly-haired hippy

★ as sad as a dead woman's ghost

### The only rules:

- it has to have an optimistic feel...
- it has to be at least 8 lines in length
- it's not allowed to rhyme
- you have to choose **THE BEST WORDS** possible

Possible structure:

Line 1: a feeling

Line 2: a simile or metaphor

Line 3: description of one of the five senses

Line 4: a simile or metaphor

Line 5: more description

Line 6: a simile or metaphor

Line 7: more description

Line 8: more description

Line 9: a philosophical observation

***Memories*** by Lauren Grant

These memories follow me everywhere.

They are as beautiful as a night sky,

Also as terrifying as what lies within.

As I walk into the night,

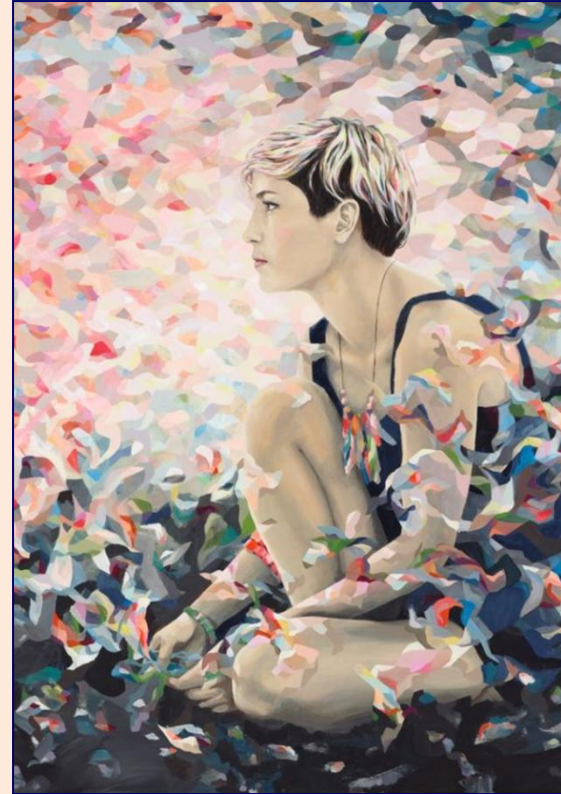
I feel as mysterious as a cat in the shadows,

But as wild as an untamed lion.

This world is a big place,

But I am no longer hiding in the shadows.

My life is now filled with beautiful colours.



Artist: Kate Tucker

A painting of a forest path with a person walking away. The path is a light blue-grey color, and the trees are tall and thin with light green and yellow foliage. The person is a small figure in the distance, wearing a red hat and a blue coat, walking away from the viewer. The overall style is soft and painterly.

## ***There is a way*** by Calvin Summersides

Standing up for what you believe in  
is the way you know that you are an individual.

When you stand up for yourself  
You always have a sense of pride.

You have a feeling that nothing can touch you,  
Nothing is impossible.

Life is an adventure,  
Live every day like it is your last.

Sometimes life gets turned upside-down,  
But there is always a way you can fix it.

Life can get you down,  
But there are people that can pick you up.  
From the darkness there is always light.

Artist: Tahlia Eidam



# *The Exciting Future* by Scott Paech



Artist: Tim Storrier

I am very excited about  
what's going to happen today,  
Tomorrow, next week,  
next month, next year,  
even next decade.

I may be as clueless as a spider  
about what's going to happen in the future,  
but I never let it bother me.

Even my eyes can see that the future is bright.  
As mysterious as the future is, it is just as exciting.  
Who knows what sort of hobby I might have  
in a few decades' time?

To some people, the future is as scary as a tiger,  
But I always stay optimistic no matter what the future may hold.  
The more I think about the future, the more excited I get.  
Life is a rollercoaster,  
Only more unpredictable  
And more enjoyable for everyone.

Getting a hug, wearing comfy underwear and being told you look thinner came out top in a survey to discover the simple things in life that make a woman happy. But what about the everyday annoyances that make her curse and rage? CLAUDIA CONNELL takes a big breath

# DON'T YOU HATE IT WHEN...



**Catching your sleeve on a door handle**  
If you wanted to do this, you'd never be able to in a million years, so how come every door handle is a stealth sleeve catcher?

**Not being able to pull off your gumboots**  
One of life's mysteries is why the rubber boots can go on with such ease, but have to be removed by a two-man team.

**Stepping on Lego**  
There is no pain quite like accidentally standing barefoot on a piece of Lego. It usually makes you leap back on more ego and, before you know it, you are trapped in a world of Lego-induced torture.

**ATM dawdlers**  
You want to withdraw \$50 and go, but you are stuck behind somebody who is checking their balance, ordering a mini-statement and repeating the process on another two cards.

**Men who sit with their legs apart in public transport**  
At some point in her life, every woman will find herself crushed next to a man on a train who insists on sitting with his feet in apart while she is crunched to a corner.

**People who use the last drop of milk**  
You have none for your cuppa and have to drink it black, which puts you in a bad mood for the rest of the day.

**Men who don't throw away empty jars**  
Instead, they put them back in the fridge or cupboard, luring you into thinking there is juice and Vegemite when there is none.

**Scratchy clothes labels**  
They rub, itch and make you seethe. You will invariably cut the label out - making a huge hole in your new jumper or making it even more itchy and annoying.

**The stand still brigade**  
These are the people who get to the top of an escalator and stop. Undoubtedly the same people who also stop in the middle of a footpath or a shop doorway.

**Peel-here packaging**  
It takes forever to separate the tab from the cellophane and then merely peels off a tiny silver of plastic, leaving you to angrily tear it open with a knife.

Chupa Chups, we're looking at you.

**Getting lemon juice in your eye**  
There can be no fruit that gets sworn at more than a lemon.

**A tissue in the wash**  
One tissue is all it takes to leave all your washing covered in white specks. And you know it's going to take at least another three loads before anything exits tissue-free.

**You don't mind coins, do you?**  
Always uttered when the assistant is already unloading 19 dollar coins into your hand.

**Having to get assistance at the self-serve checkouts**  
You use the self-serve scanners to save time. But every time you look sideways at the machines you have to call over an assistant, so your shopping takes twice as long.

**Tiny bags for big purchases**  
Staff - mainly at pharmacies and cosmetics stores - who insist on cramming all your items into one doll-sized flimsy bag.

**The servo chocolate pushers**  
When was the last time you went into a service station without them trying to flog you a Picnic bar or an oversized bottle of Coke?

**Forgetting to turn on the dishwasher**  
You loaded it full of greasy dishes, but when you go to empty it the next day you find a machine full of smelly crockery and a detergent tablet sitting patiently in the drawer.

**Getting fluff on nail polish**  
You've done a perfect paint job when a speck of fluff appears from nowhere and settles in the middle of one nail, meaning you have to start again because, as we all know, it is impossible to remove nail varnish from just one nail.

**Shoulder bags that won't stay on**  
Any bag on a long strap will always fall off when you are loaded down with shopping and unable to hook it back, so you have to carry it dangling in the crook of your elbow.

**An invisible snag on your fingernail**  
It's catching on your tights and in your hair, but no matter how many times you file your nail you can't seem to get rid of it.

**Loo roll that shreds**  
The edge is glued down so you try to pick it free but a tiny strip comes off. You try again until you're left with something only suitable for lining a gerbil's cage.

**Misjudging kettle water levels**  
You boil it for a nice cup of tea and somehow there's only enough for half a mug. By the time you fill it and reboil, the half mug you have will be cold and stewed.

**Never-ending phone menus**  
You just want to speak to a human but have to work your way through six different phone menus - only to be told they're busy and to ring back later.

**People who 'reply all' on emails**  
You only know the person who sent the email, now 30 of her friends are sending you their round - robin funnies.

**Getting an itchy nose while washing up**  
Trying to relieve it with your shoulder hasn't worked so you're going to have to stop, remove the rubber gloves and scratch. And no matter how careful you are, you'll get bubbles on your nose.

**People depressing the button at a pedestrian crossing**  
You arrive at the crossing at the same time as someone else. You press the button first and they immediately press it after you. You know how to press a button!

**The battery running out in your remote**  
You shake the handset, wave it around, press the buttons six times or - horror of horrors - get up and manually switch channels.

**Useless ribbon loops sewn into clothes**  
Supposedly they're for ease of hanging but all they ever do is pop out of your clothes and flap around your neck. And then break if you use them to hang

**TV channels that synchronise ad breaks**  
Your favourite show has gone into a break, so you have a flick - only to find adverts running on every commercial channel.

**Cold callers asking for security details**  
The man on the phone probably is from your bank - but you didn't ask him to ring, and you're certainly not going to give him all the information he is stupidly demanding before he can attempt to sell you something you don't want anyway.

**When the screen freezes at the end of your online order**  
It's taken you an hour and now all you've got on screen is that little blue circle of doom as you wait to see if your order is being processed. You risk biting refresh and the whole thing

**Don't you LOVE it when...**



**... there's been a  
run of 40 degree  
days and suddenly  
the heavens open  
and rain pours  
down?**

*Courtney*

# Don't you LOVE it when...



... the crazy hot northerly wind is playing havoc with your hay-fever and you suddenly realise you're not wearing makeup and can rub your eyes? Bliss!

*Ashleigh*

# Don't you LOVE it when...

**your team wins??!!**

*Your team is behind on goals and it's the final push and score two goals to win the game.*

Chloe



# Don't you LOVE it when...

... your crush notices you?

You're walking home from school lost in a daydream, when your crush rides by. Amazingly, he stops to talk, tells you he is on the way to football training, then ends up being late because the two of you were having so much fun.

*Sarah*

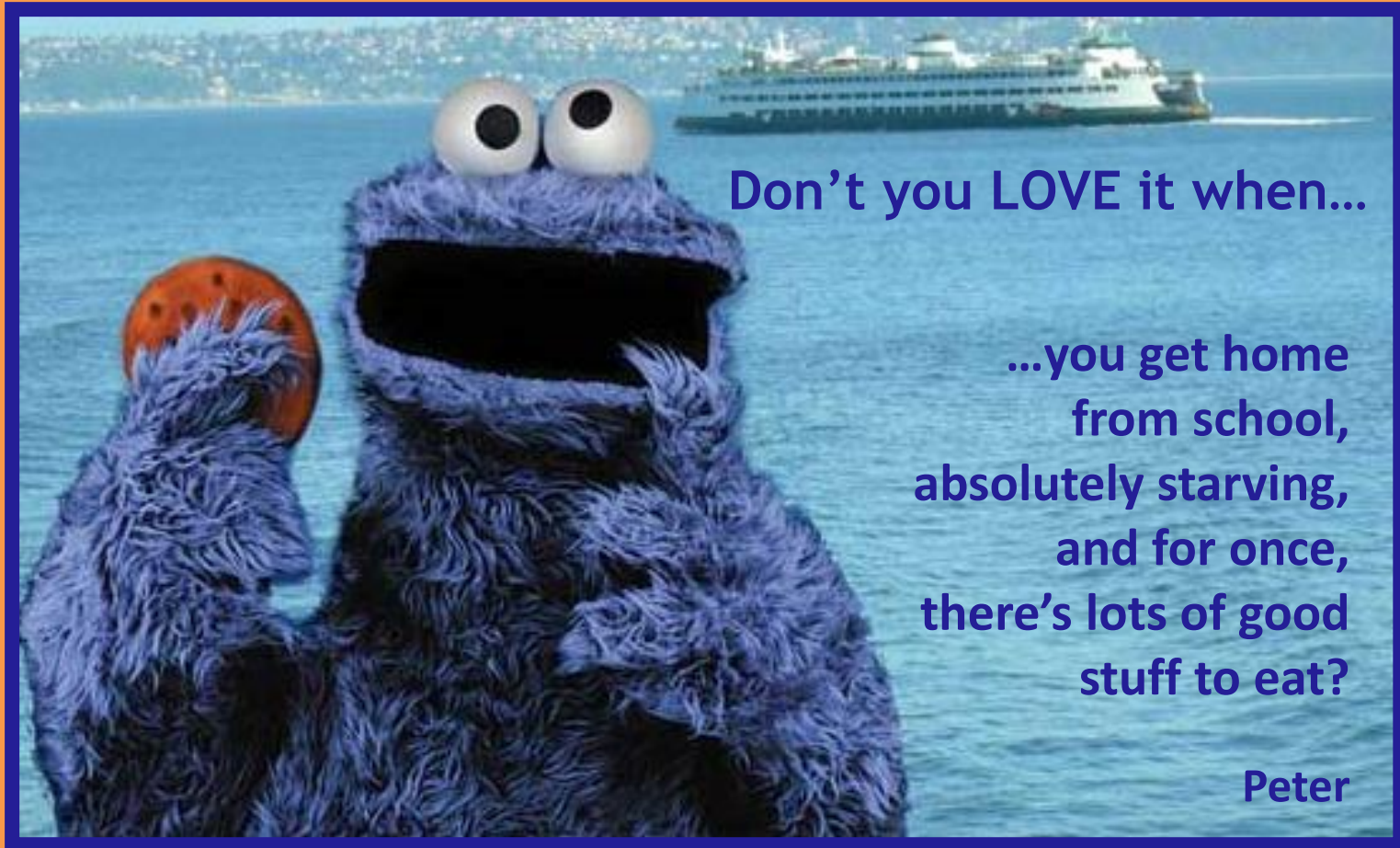


**Don't you LOVE it when...**



**...you stop at traffic lights and pull faces at the annoying kids in the next car when their parents aren't looking?**

*Ella*



**Don't you LOVE it when...**

**...you get home  
from school,  
absolutely starving,  
and for once,  
there's lots of good  
stuff to eat?**

**Peter**



# **Don't you LOVE it when...**



**YOU'RE FEELING DOWN BUT  
THERE IS THAT ONE FRIEND  
WHO IS THERE TO HELP.**

**You're having a horrible day  
and that friend says/does the  
one thing which makes almost  
everything better.**

**John**

# Don't you LOVE it when...

You get home from school feeling tired and grumpy and instead of your mum nagging you to clean your room or do your homework, she suggests you make pancakes together then go to the movies!

Erin





**Don't you LOVE it when...**

**...you haven't done your homework  
and the teacher decides  
not to check it?**

You spent all night having fun and forgot  
to finish your homework.  
The next day you're sitting in class scared  
and the teacher forgets all about it.

***Franz***

**Don't you LOVE it when...**



**you correct a  
teacher?**

**The teacher's sure she has  
the right answer but you  
prove her wrong.**

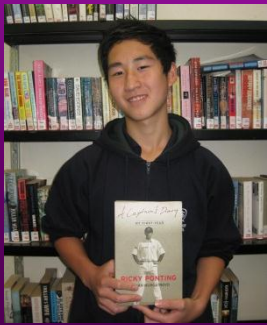
**John**

## **“Dream” homework**

**Over the next week, you need to give this sentence beginning plenty of consideration and write your most thoughtful sentence ending. Then, you need to ask three other people to do the same – a friend, a family member and the oldest person you know.**

**When I dream of the future, I dream of...**

# Year Eights' ideas:



When I dream of the future, I dream of...  
my life being full of music and  
everything involving music.

TC



When I dream of the future I dream of...

a world without bullying for everyone, for everyone to be happy and to know they won't be judged on their appearance, or picked on for any other reason.

Bree Davis



When I dream of the future, I dream of...

becoming a professional  
photographer.

Emily Baker

# More Year Eight ideas:



When I dream of the future, I dream that cancer will no longer exist.

*Raisa*

*When I dream of the future, I dream of...*

**ponies, rainbows and lollipops.**

*Casey*



When I dream of the future I dream of...  
a world made of candy and  
chocolate.

**Niki**

# Their friends' ideas...



When I dream of the future, I dream of monkeys flying cars.

Raisa's friend, Chloe Noble

*When I dream of the future I dream of...*

everything being chocolate and you can eat and eat and never get fat.

Kelsey's friend, Rebecca



When I dream of the future I dream of...

a world where Minecraft is EVERYTHING and every part of every day is a competition.

Josh Norris' friend, Matt





# More Year Eights' friends' ideas:



*When I dream of the future, I dream of...*

**a world with no wars  
and no violence**

**Andrew, TC's friend**

**When I dream of the future, I dream  
of being a carpenter and having a  
happy family.**

**Marcus' friend, Joe Wynne-Williams**



**When I dream of the future, I dream of...  
being a graphic designer or designing  
guitars.**

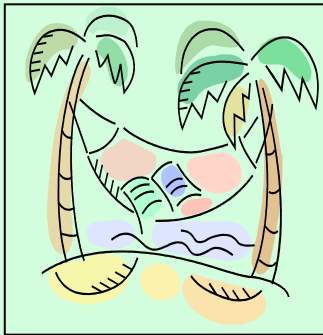
**Ashleigh's friend, Alannah Danielse**

# Their family members' ideas...



**When I dream of the future I dream of...**  
the world being a safer place for everyone, and for there to be no violence.

**Bree's grandma**



**When I dream of the future, I dream of.....**  
**palm trees, lagoons and sunny days on**  
**my dream island.**

**Emily Baker's grandmother Meredith**

**When I dream of the future, I dream**  
**about being happy and having good**  
**health.**

*Marcus's Nana Irene*



# More family members' ideas...



**When I dream of the future, I dream of...**

no more wars and that we are equal whether we are male or female, gay or straight. I also dream that no man, woman or child ever has to deal with cancer.

**Selina's mum**

*When I dream of the future I dream of...*

**...peace, happiness and a place where animals are treated well.**

*Riley's grandpa*



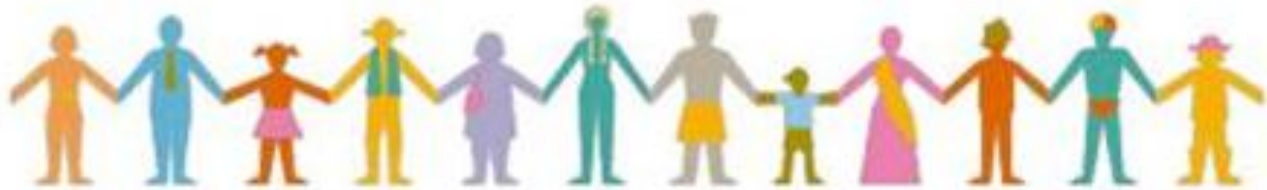
**When I dream of the future I dream of...**

**...happiness for my children.**

**Raisa's dad**

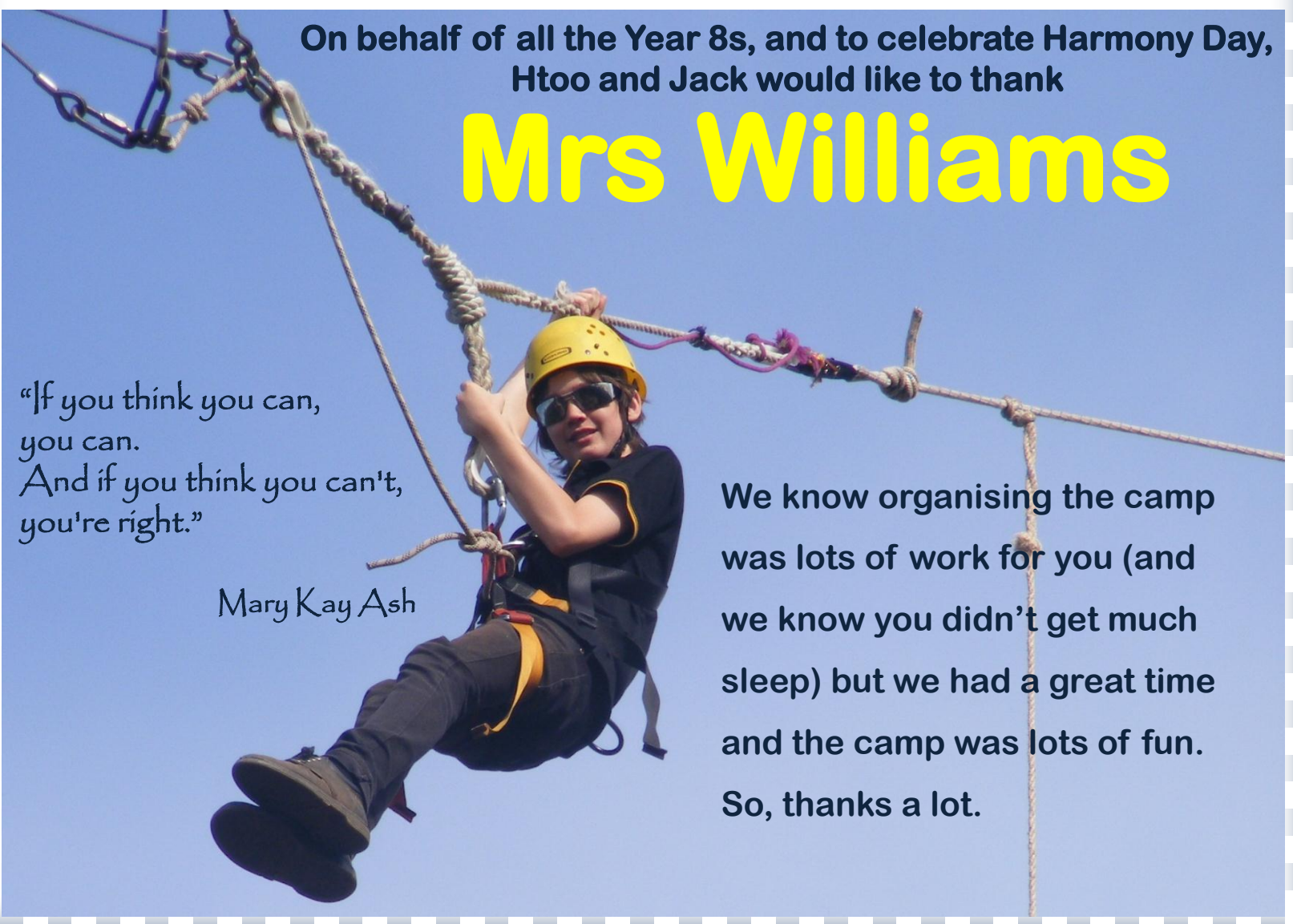
# Gratitude

You are aware of the good things that happen to you, and you never take them for granted. Your friends and family members know that you are a grateful person because you always take the time to express your thanks.



Many Stories - One Australia

**HARMONY DAY**



On behalf of all the Year 8s, and to celebrate Harmony Day,  
Htoo and Jack would like to thank

# Mrs Williams

*"If you think you can,  
you can.  
And if you think you can't,  
you're right."*

*Mary Kay Ash*

We know organising the camp  
was lots of work for you (and  
we know you didn't get much  
sleep) but we had a great time  
and the camp was lots of fun.  
So, thanks a lot.

On behalf of the Year 8s, and to celebrate Harmony Day,  
Ryan would like to thank

# Brian Pearce



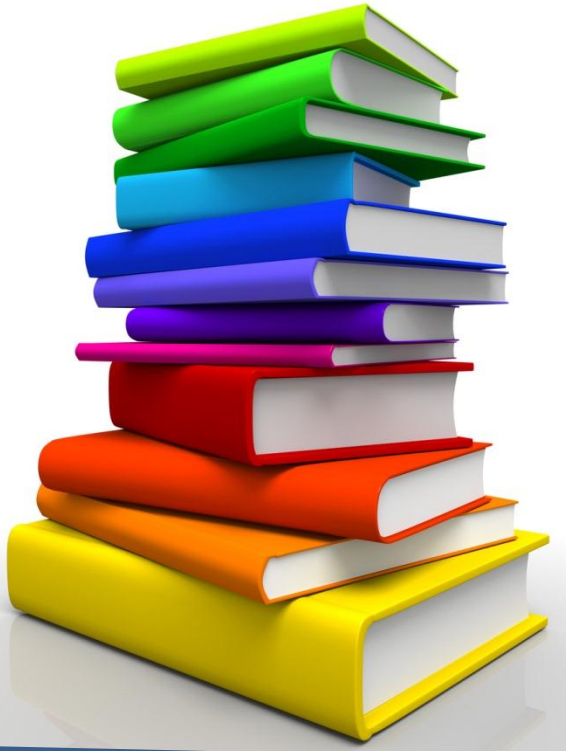
You are a nice friendly bus driver who always says hello. You brighten up our day in the most thoughtful ways. I'd like to thank you for always being friendly and driving safely.

*"To believe in yourself and to follow your dreams, to have goals in life and a drive to succeed, and to surround yourself with the things and the people that make you happy - this is success!"*

Sasha Azevedo

On behalf of all the year 8s, and to celebrate Harmony Day,  
Scott would like to thank

# Mrs Toome & Mrs Cummins



Thank you for having the  
library open at lunchtime and  
keeping it in full order the  
whole time for everyone.

**“Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you will  
land amongst the stars.”**

*Jill McLemore*

On behalf of all the year 8s and to celebrate Harmony Day,  
Liam Knotts and Bradley Bateman we would like to thank

# Mrs Steele and Mr Kerley



**Thank you for all the work you do to make our  
school look good and to fix things when they break.**

**“You must be the change you wish to see in the world.”**

***Mahatma Gandhi***



On behalf of the year 8s, and to celebrate Harmony Day, Joseph and Dylan would like to thank

# Mr Clements

**Thank you for being such a fantastic teacher and showing us areas around the school when we couldn't find them in the very first week. I personally would also like to thank you for not sending me to BP for going on the roof to get the soccer ball down for the year 9s. We would also like to thank you for being such a great helper and more importantly for doing your job so well. If we could afford it, we would buy you a car like this** ⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨⇨



**“Be careful eating fruits and nuts;  
you are what you eat”**