

Writing task Tuesday 2nd and Wednesday 3rd June

You are a prisoner arriving on Alcatraz- give a detailed description of your journey, feelings, thoughts and first impressions of your new home. How do you settle and spend your first night?

Writing to Model at the beginning of the lesson – point out interesting features (tasting things that aren't food, feeling things that aren't physical, personification of the walls and the birds, WOW words, how negative it is). Point out that it is in the present tense, as if it is happening now. Look at the punctuation used. It could be improved with question marks maybe? Explain that explanation marks might not be appropriate because they show excitement – full stops, ellipses and question marks would be much more suitable.

As the boat pulls into the dock, I feel dread, doom and despair begin to drown me. The boat rocks dangerously as I step onto the pier, hands cuffed and guards at my side. A rush of sea air stings my nose as the realisation sets in; I'm going to be here for a long, long time... We walk from the pier to the cell block and I can taste the anticipation in the back of my throat. The old stone walls stare down at me, sizing me up, daring me to even attempt to get out of them. I can hear the birds, the pelicans, calling out goodbye as the guards open the impenetrable door. I step through, into my reformatory.

