

## Activity 1: Childhood dreams

A man finds happiness when sailing for his childhood dreams.

Unknown

 **switch on**


Jot down your answers to the questions.

- What are some of your childhood dreams?
- Have you fulfilled any of them yet?
- Which ones do you intend fulfilling?
- Which, in your opinion, are 'pipe dreams'?

◆ **Skim and scan** the text that follows on pages 110 and 111.

1. Identify the type of text.
2. Identify the keynote speaker and the person who introduced him.
3. Comment on the structuring of the text.
4. Explain why some wording appears in brackets.
5. Explain how we know that this is not Randy Pausch's complete speech.

❖ **Read** Randy Pausch's speech.

1. What is your first impression of the speech? Explain your answer.
2. Point out all the places in the speech where the audience responds with laughter. Why are we surprised by the fact that Randy Pausch uses humour in this speech?
3. What is the reason behind this speech being titled, 'The Last Lecture'?
4. Explain the meaning of these idioms used in his speech:
  - a) There is an elephant in the room (lines 6 and 7)
  - b) Take that off the table (lines 29 and 30)
5. Explain why the audience gave Randy Pausch a standing ovation when he took the stage to give his speech.

Read the following excerpt, taken from the transcript of *The Last Lecture: Really Achieving Your Childhood Dreams* delivered by Randy Pausch.

**Steve Seabolt:**

For those of you who know Randy, Randy brings a particular zest for life and humour, even while facing death. To Randy, this is simply another adventure. It is my great honour to introduce Dylan, Logan and Chloe's dad, Jai's husband, and my very dear friend, Dr. Randy Pausch. [applause]



## RANDY PAUSCH:

[responding to a standing ovation] Make me earn it. [laughter]

It's wonderful to be here. What they didn't tell you is that this lecture series used to be called the Last Lecture. If you had one last lecture to give before you died, what would it be? I thought, damn, I finally nailed the venue and they renamed it. [laughter] So, you know, in case there's anybody who wandered in and doesn't know the back story, my dad always taught me that when there's an elephant in the room, introduce them.

If you look at my CAT scans, there are approximately 10 tumours in my liver, and the doctors told me 3-6 months of good health left. That was a month ago, so you can do the math. I have some of the best doctors in the world. Microphone's not working? Then I'll just have to talk louder. [Adjusts mic] Is that good? All right. So that is what it is. We can't change it, and we just have to decide how we're going to respond to that. We cannot change the cards we are dealt, just how we play the hand. If I don't seem as depressed or morose as I should be, sorry to disappoint you. [laughter] And I assure you I am not in denial. It's not like I'm not aware of what's going on. My family, my three kids, my wife, we just decamped. We bought a lovely house in Virginia, and we're doing that because that's a better place for the family to be, down the road. And the other thing is I am in phenomenally good health right now. I mean it's the greatest thing of cognitive dissonance you will ever see is the fact that I am in really good shape. In fact, I am in better shape than most of you. [Randy gets on the ground and starts doing push-ups] [Applause] So anybody who wants to cry or pity me can get down and do a few of those, and then you may pity me. [laughter] All right, so what we're not talking about today, we are not talking about cancer, because I spent a lot of time talking about that and I'm really not interested. If you have any herbal supplements or remedies, please stay away from me. [laughter] And we're not going to talk about things that are even more important than achieving your childhood dreams. We're not going to talk about my wife, we're not talking about my kids. Because I'm good, but I'm not good enough to talk about that without tearing up. So, we're just going to take that off the table. That's much more important. And we're not going to talk about spirituality and religion, although I will tell you that I have achieved a deathbed conversion. [dramatic pause] ... I just bought a Macintosh. [laughter and clapping] Now I knew I'd get 9% of the audience with that ... All right, so what is today's talk about then? It's about my childhood dreams and how I have achieved them. I've been very fortunate that way. How I believe I've been able to enable the dreams of others, and to some degree, lessons learned. I'm a professor, there should be some lessons learned and how you can use the stuff you hear today to achieve your dreams or enable the dreams of others. And as you get older, you may find that "enabling the dreams of others" thing is even more fun. So what were my childhood dreams? Well, you know, I had a really good childhood. I mean, no kidding around. I was going back through the family archives, and what was really amazing was, I couldn't find any pictures of me as a kid where I wasn't

smiling. And that was just a very gratifying thing. [Shows slides] There was our dog, right? Aww, thank you. And there I actually have a picture of me dreaming. I did a lot of that. You know, there's a lot of wake up's! I was born in 1960. When you are 8 or 9 years old and you look at the TV set, men are landing on the moon, anything's possible. And that's something we should not lose sight of - that the inspiration and the permission to dream is huge. So what were my childhood dreams? You may not agree with this list, but I was there. [laughter] Being in zero gravity, playing in the National Football League, authoring an article in the World Book Encyclopedia - I guess you can tell the nerds early. [laughter] Being Captain Kirk, anybody here have that childhood dream. I wanted to become one of the guys who won the big stuffed animals in the amusement park, and I wanted to be an Imagineer with Disney. These dreams are not sorted in any particular order, although I think they do get harder, except for maybe the first one.

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<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~pausch/Randy/pauschlastlecturetranscript.pdf>



Watch Randy Pauch's *Last Lecture* on You Tube at:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ji5\\_MqicxSo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ji5_MqicxSo)

Set some time aside - the video lasts 1 hour 16 minutes.  
 It might just change your life!





## TEST YOURSELF

◆ Refer to Randy Pausch's speech on pages 110/111 to answer these questions.

- A.
1. According to Randy Pausch, what is 'the elephant in the room'? (2)
  2. Explain the meaning of this **metaphor**: 'We cannot change the cards we are dealt, just how we play the hand'. (Lines 13/14) (3)  
Refer to **#jog your memory** on page 57.
  3. Explain the **irony** in this statement: "And the other thing is I am in phenomenally good health right now." (Lines 18/19) (3)  
Refer to **#jog your memory** on page 40.
  4. Why do you think he did push-ups on stage? Why did the audience respond the way they did? (Line 21) (2)
  5. Explain why Randy Pausch says at this point: "If you have any herbal supplements or remedies, please stay away from me." (Lines 25/26) (2)
  6. What is his reason for not talking about his family? (3)
  7. Explain the humour in this comment: "And we're not going to talk about spirituality and religion, although I will tell you that I have had a deathbed conversion...I just bought a Macintosh (Computer)." (Lines 30-32) (2)
  8. Why do you think he purposely paused - see [dramatic pause] - before he revealed his 'deathbed conversion'? (3)
  9. What is the topic of his *Last Lecture* and why has he chosen to talk on this subject? (2)
  10. Randy Pausch believed we should all be allowed to do this one important thing in our childhood. What is it? Quote the words. (2)
- B.
1. Find **synonyms** in the text for:  
a) records from the past b) **slang** for studious people (2)
  2. Explain why 'wandered' is used in line 5, and not 'wondered'. What do we call words like this? Refer to **#jog your memory** on page 41. (2)
  3. Identify an **abbreviation** in the text. Find out what it stands for. Refer to **#jog your memory** on page 49. (2)
  4. 'Childhood' is a **compound word**. Explain why. (2)
  5. How should this line in the speech have been transcribed? Show the correct punctuation.  
Being Captain Kirk, anybody here have that childhood dream. (2)

Total : (35)



## #jog your memory#slang#compound word

**slang** - words or expressions that are not standard written English; casual, spoken language, often restricted to a particular context or group of people

- Examples:
- **sick** meaning **awesome**
  - **fine** meaning feeling **insecure**, **neurotic** and **emotional**
  - **Howzit, ma' lekker lightie**

**compound word** - a word made up of two or more existing words

Example: blackboard

## Activity 2: Gifted

How good are you at reading and retaining information?

### PART 1

Read this text.

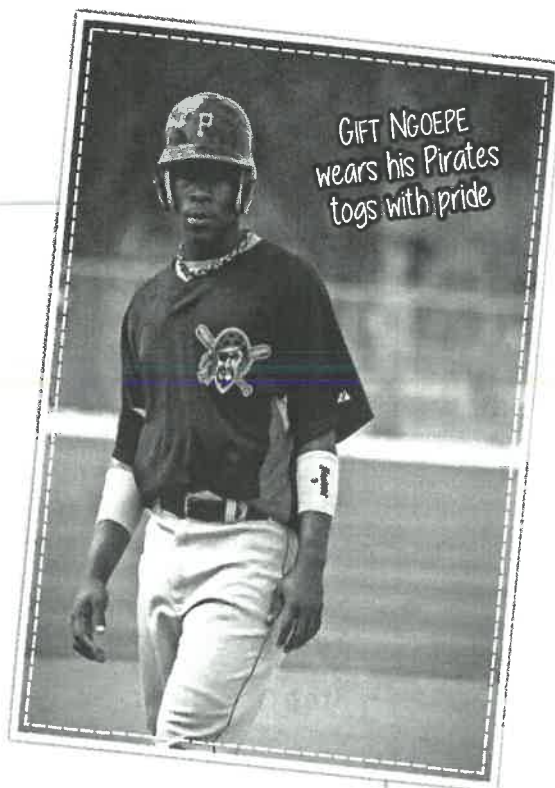
**S**ometimes, a person is born with a name that makes him stand out. Such is the blessing bestowed upon baseball player, **GIFT NGOEPE**.

Mpho 'Gift' Ngoepe was signed **by** the Pittsburgh Pirates in 2008. So far, the South African-born infielder has spent three seasons in the minor league. Born in Randburg, Gauteng, he became the 1st black South African - and the 6th South African - to sign a professional contract. Ngoepe has been around baseball for a great portion of his life; his mother was a clubhouse attendant for the Randburg Mets where his family lived. A member of the South African National Baseball Team at the World Baseball Classic, he was invited to attend the Major League Baseball Academy in Italy, where the Pittsburgh Pirates noticed and signed him.

Gift's journey to the baseball diamonds of USA is a fascinating one. His story 'A Gift From Africa' was featured in Sports Illustrated in 2009. Warm-hearted Ngoepe has always been driven to succeed and is described as "a guy people gravitate to" who "leads without people even knowing he's leading." Ngoepe is widely recognised for his many talents: his speed, very strong arm and exceptionally quick hands. His sharp batting eye and solid knowledge of the strike zone got him voted as Pirates best defensive infielder **by** Baseball America in 2013.

Apparently, Ngoepe's challenge is figuring out how best to use his talents. Critics claim that he strikes out too often for a player of his calibre. "The ball needs to be hit **by** Ngoepe with more authority," says David Hill. "This will prove he is more than just a speedster with a glove." Ngoepe however set career-highs in games played in 2014 and, in 2015, he was invited **by** Pirates to spring training.

It would be a great story if gifted Ngoepe were to make the major league if only to make good on a promise he made to his mother. Ngoepe believes he can make it. "You've got to have that belief," he says. "Otherwise you're just out there playing a game."



Word Count: 346

Compiled from articles at: [www.wikipedia.org](http://www.wikipedia.org) and [www.post-gazette.com](http://www.post-gazette.com) and [www.rumbunter.com](http://www.rumbunter.com)

## SUMMARY WRITING

### ◆◆ Practise Now

Read the text on page 113 to yourself.

Make an effort to remember **important points** about the **subject**; not the details, just the facts.

Cover the text and run through the facts that you have remembered in your head.

Tell your partner about the subject, using only these facts.

Then listen to your partner doing the same.

Use this checklist with your partner to make sure you both got it right. →

If you were able to give your partner a short, factual account of what you read, then you are mastering the art of summarising.

### Checklist

- ☒ Did you both include any of the same facts? If so, which ones?
- ☒ Decide if these are indeed main ideas or just extra details.
- ☒ Did you both exclude the same details? If so, which ones?
- ☒ Decide if these are indeed extra details or important facts.

- ◆ Now write your own summary of the text in 80-90 words. You have already accomplished part of Step 1 with your partner.

#### Step 1 Plan

You have found the main points (who, where, what, why)  
Write them now in key words.

Steps  
2,3,4

#### First Draft, Revise, Edit

Refer to page 77 and follow the steps using similar questions.

## PART 2

- ◆ 1. **Scan** the text on page 113.  
Notice all the sentences in which the preposition **'by'** has been highlighted.  
What do you notice about the way these particular sentences are constructed?  
Are you used to reading sentences presented in this way?
- 2. Each sentence can be reworked to make it appear shorter and, as a result, perhaps easier to understand.  
Example:

#### Passive Voice: (original)

Ngoepe, however, set career-highs in games played in 2014 and, in 2015, he was invited **by** Pirates to spring training.

#### Active Voice: (reworked)

Ngoepe however set career-highs in games played in 2014 and, in 2015, Pirates invited him to spring training.

## Paper 3 : Writing

### Question 1 : Essay

You have practised writing different types of essays throughout the year.

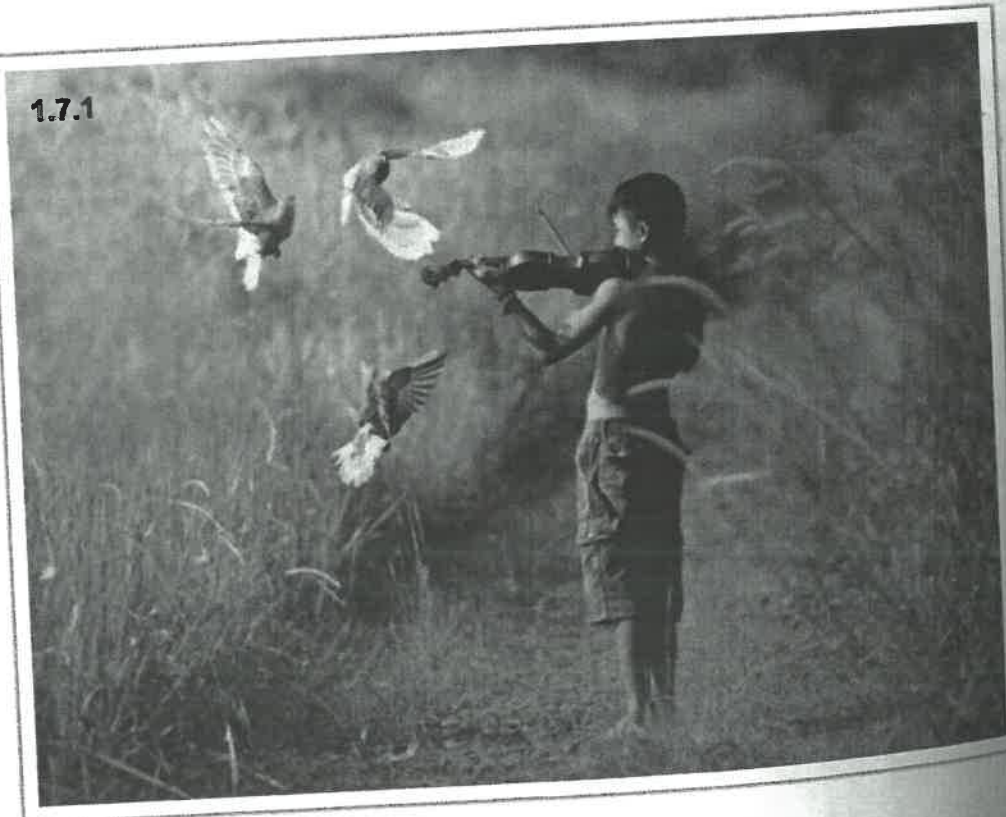
Write an essay of approximately 2 pages (350 - 400 words) on **ONE** of the following topics.

Total : (50)

#### TOPICS :

- 1.1 If you can't beat them, join them.
- 1.2 Discuss this statement:  
*A global language will solve the world's problems.*
- 1.3 Refugees
- 1.4 *Handwriting is becoming a dying art.*  
Do you agree or disagree?
- 1.5 Looking back, I can safely say it was all worth it.
- 1.6 *"Words are like eggs dropped from great heights; you can no more call them back than ignore the mess they leave when they fall."*  
(Jodi Picoult - author)  
Write a response to these words.
- 1.7 The images that follow may evoke a reaction or feeling in you - or stir up your imagination.  
Select **ONE** and write an essay in response.

1.7.1



1.7.2



1.7.3



1.7.4



## ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

	40-50	30-39	20-29	10-19	0-9
Content, Planning	24-30	18-23	12-17	6-11	0-5
Language, Style & Editing	12-16	8-11	4-7	0-3	0
Structure	5	4	3	2	1

Refer to pages 340/341

## WEIGHTING

Total	50
Content, Planning	30
Language, Style & Editing	15
Structure	5

## Question 2: Transactional writing

You have practised writing different types of texts using different formats this year.

Choose **TWO** of the following.

The body of your writing must be 180 - 200 words in length (about 20 - 25 lines).

Pay careful attention to:

- format
- choice of words and language structures
- audience, register, tone and style.

**Total : (25 x 2)**

### TOPICS :

#### 2.1 Motivational Covering Letter

**TABLET TUTOR:** We are looking for an enthusiastic, bright, technologically-minded learner who loves working with children to help out in our TABLET LAB during the school holidays. No experience required! You'll be trained in all aspects of tablet technology before tutoring our junior students.

Write us a motivational letter telling us why you believe you are the perfect candidate for this holiday job.

#### 2.2 Interview

You have the opportunity to interview a character of your choice from one of your literature set works. Write up the interview that takes place between you and this person.

#### 2.3 Letter to the Editor

*"Tablets to be used in South African schools"*. Write a letter to the editor of THE INDEPENDENT in response to this headline.

#### 2.4 Formal Speech

You have been asked to introduce a famous author who will be guest speaker at a Literary Festival in your hometown. Use your imagination - the author's name and the information about him/her that you share does not have to be factual. Write your **introduction** AND follow it up with your **vote of thanks**, which you will give at the end of his/her speech.

#### 2.5 Review

Write a review on your most favourite communication device. Use your imagination - the information you share does not have to be technologically correct.



#tablettutor#tabletlab#saschools

### ASSESSMENT RUBRIC

	20-25	15-19	10-14	5-9	0-4
Content, Planning & Format	12-15	9-11	6-8	4-5	0-3
Language, Style & Editing	8-10	6-7	4-5	2-3	0-1

Refer to page 342

### WEIGHTING

Total	25
Content, Planning & Format	15
Language, Style & Editing	10

**GRAND TOTAL : ESSAY AND TRANSACTIONAL WRITING : 100**