

Answer the following questions:

RECALL

1. Whose biography did you read on Wednesday?
2. What was this person's greatest achievement?
3. What did you like about this biography that you could use yourself?

LO: HOW TO WRITE A GOOD BIOGRAPHY

Some will even write what other things they would include in the biography.

Some will answer questions about author's intentions and techniques.

Most will answer questions about the biography.

All will summarise a biography.

GUIDED PRACTICE

Today you will read another example of a biography and answer some questions about it.

INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



Read the biography and summarise it.

Rachel Williams – giving children a gift I am writing about Rachel because she has helped so many children learn to read.

Rachel was an only child who spent a lot of time on her own. She was never lonely though, because she read so many books. Every summer she went to stay with her grandparents in the countryside in Sussex. She would spend most of her days playing outside in the woods and fields, sometimes on her own and sometimes with a friend who lived next door to her grandparents. They would play wonderful games where they imagined themselves to be anyone from Robin Hood to the animals from *The Wind in the Willows*.

When she was 18, Rachel went to university in Birmingham. After that, she wasn't sure what to do with herself. She had heard there was a shortage of teachers, and she thought she might have a go. So she did! She had always wanted children to feed their imaginations through reading, just as she had. As a teacher she read with her pupils and to them every single day.

As well as teaching, Rachel worked in a very special children's bookshop called 'Bags of Books'. Every Saturday morning, 'tring!' went the bell and in marched one of her pupils, Daniel Moore. "What you got then?" he would ask, a smile spread across his face. Daniel is one of Rachel's greatest achievements. All the other teachers had given up on trying to help him learn to read. To Rachel it was simple: she let him choose his own books instead of giving him 'easy' books to read. From this, Daniel blossomed into a confident person who loved reading.

INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



Read the biography and summarise it.

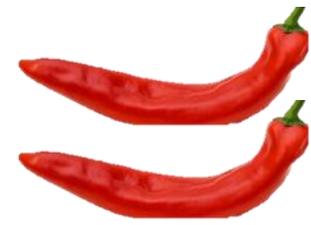
Rachel has always remembered and built upon this moment as it seemed to her to be the biggest gift she could give to children. She said: "I always thought that helping children with reading was like giving them food - helping them to grow."

She still meets pupils who have grown up and remember learning to read from her teaching, and she is still helping new children to find the pleasures in the world of reading.

I think Rachel is a very important person, and I am happy to write her biography. She has made a difference to the lives of many children over the years, and she is still teaching and writing every day. Also, she is my mum and I have her to thank for my own love of reading!

Thanks, Mum!

INTELLIGENT PRACTICE



Read the biography and answer the questions about the biography.

Do you think Rachel had a happy childhood? Why/Why not?

Why did the writer decide to write about Rachel?

What was Rachel's greatest achievement?

What was the main difference between Rachel and other teachers?

What was surprising about this biography ?

INTELLIGENT PRACTICE

Read the biography and answer the questions about how this biography was written.

What was the diamond moment of this biography?

Highlight the speech in the biography and explain why the writer used it.

How do you know the writer interviewed Rachel before writing the biography.

What did you like about this biography?

What would you use in your biography?

What were the things you didn't like about it?



DIVE DEEPER

What other things would you add to this biography? What changes would you make?