



TalkforWriting™

Talk for Writing Home-school booklet

Wonderful Wizards!

by Maria Richards



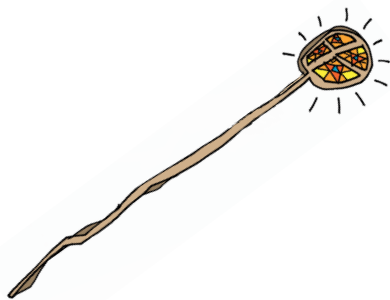
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Welcome to the wonderful world of wizards! Come with me and explore things that will help you with your writing skills and build on the work you do at school.



For thousands of years, humans all over the world have tried to discover the power of wizards. There are many stories about what we do, where we live and the spells we cast. I'm here to introduce you to the world of wizardry and to inspire you to write about wonderful wizards!



Have you ever wondered what it's like to be a young wizard? What if you found out you actually were one? Let's imagine you are! What would you look like? What would you wear? What special powers would you have?

Top Wizard cards

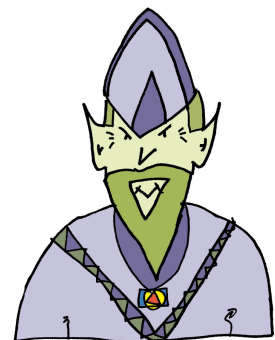
Let's put all your ideas onto 'Top Wizard' cards in Top-Trump style. First, take a look at mine:

PALLANDO KAISTER	
MAGIC POWER	102
COURAGE	87
WISDOM	55
SKILL	90
TEMPER	3
AGE	1001

Create your Top Wizard cards here

MAGIC POWER
COURAGE
WISDOM
SKILL
TEMPER
AGE

★ **Creative challenge** – make a set of wizard ‘Top Trumps’ and play with someone else at home or school. Here are some wizards to get you going but you can create as many as you like.



If you don't know how to play Top Trumps you can find out here: <http://www.toptrumps.com/how-to-play-top-trumps/>

Let's go to wizard school!



So now you are a wizard, there's a place just for you! Take a look at this advert for The School of Wizardry. It is written to persuade you to join the school and learn to be a great wizard. Read it through and see if this is the school for you!

Welcome to the School of Wizardry

Are you a budding wizard, full of spells and magic? Do you long to be the finest wizard in all the land? If so, come along to our School of Wizardry and learn to be a Master Wizard! Don't miss out on this once-in-a-millennium opportunity.

The School of Wizardry offers remarkable education for wizards of all calibres. Learn new skills from highly qualified professors of wizardry and enjoy our stunning curriculum, which boasts a multitude of outstanding classes. The choice of lessons here is unrivalled and includes:

- preparing magic spells and inventing potions;
- broomstick manoeuvres and expert flying skills;
- specialist invisibility and advanced disguise;
- perfection in wand-handling skills.

Our exceptional school is renowned around the globe and places are highly sought after. Study here and we can guarantee you'll pass every wizard exam with flying colours. It is certain you'll be the envy of all your wizard friends.

Study with the best! We have been rated 'Super-Terrific' in a recent inspection by the W.S.B (Wizard School Board) and you won't find tutelage like this anywhere else in the universe. We also have up-to-the-minute equipment, beautifully decorated classrooms and the most divine, freshly cooked school dinners. What are you waiting for? Apply now!

Come, join us. Leave other wizards far behind! Win in the world of wizards!

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You can also listen to the text here:

<https://soundcloud.com/talkforwriting/wizards/s-N2Kss3KDdxd>



What do the words mean?

★ Let's investigate this persuasive text a little more. Take a look at the meaning of some of the words from the advert.

Word:	Definition:
budding	when a plant starts to develop buds or a person starts showing they might become good at something
calibre	the quality of someone's character or the level of someone's ability
multitude	a large number of something
unrivalled	better than anyone or anything
manoeuvres	a number of movements that require care and skill
disguise	to hide or change how you look
renowned	to be famous for something
tutelage	teaching or tuition

Use an example

★ Look at the definitions above. Draw a small image in each box to help you remember the meaning of the word.



multitude	disguise
manoeuvres	tutelage



Which synonym?

- ★ Synonyms are words with the same or similar meanings.
- ★ Match the synonyms below this table to the target words.

★ Can you find any more synonyms to add into the table?

Target word	Synonyms
budding	
calibre	
multitude	
unrivalled	
manoeuvres	
disguise	
renowned	
tutelage	
<p>Which synonyms match the target words?</p> <p>supreme promising famous many teaching movements talents camouflage</p>	



Finish the sentence

★ Using your knowledge of the target words below, finish the sentence so it makes sense.

Disneyland is **renowned** for

Spies often wear a **disguise** so

There is a **multitude** of wildlife in the countryside, such as

The **budding** popstar appeared on

★ **Challenge:** Now write some sentences using any of our new words. I have done one for you:



The driver did some interesting manoeuvres whilst trying to park.

★ Are there any other words you don't know the meaning of? Can you find out the definition? You could ask someone else in your home to tell you, use a dictionary or search the internet. On a separate piece of paper, try and think up an image that represents what they mean and then use the words in a sentence.



Wizard words

★ Let's have some fun with words. To cast a spell, you need wizard words. Take a look at these:

'Explode-ium' 'Farm-ius' 'Shade-iorum' 'Pen-iosa' 'Sprint-lorus'

These are everyday words turned into wizard words by adding a 'spell' ending. You say the endings like this:

How it is spelt:

-ium

-ius

-iorum

-iosa

-lorus

How you say it:

ee-um

ee-us

ee-or-um

ee-oh-sa

law-us

So, for Explode-ium, you would say Explode-ee-um. Have a go at saying the wizard words now:

'Explode-ium' 'Farm-ius' 'Shade-iorum' 'Pen-iosa' 'Sprint-lorus'

Your challenge is:

- ★ Choose an everyday word from group 1.
- ★ Match your word with any ending from group 2.
- ★ Write it in the table below and say your new words aloud.

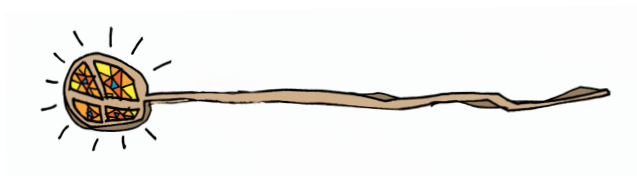
Group 1		Group 2
explore	read	-ium
match	care	-lorus
pat	exceed	-iosa
lamp	coat	-iorum
board	zip	-ius

The wizard word game

New wizard words for spells:	

★ **Challenge:** Now write some spells! String **THREE** wizard words together and don't forget to separate them with a comma to make a list. This creates your spell. Now practise saying your spells aloud. We always say the third word the loudest, so end with an exclamation mark to show this. For example:

Farm-ius, Shade-iorum, EXPLODE-IUM!





Wizard comprehension!

Here's a quick-fire reading quiz about the wizard advert. How many questions can you answer?

How can you become the finest wizard in the land?

Does *budding* mean you are becoming good at something or you are old?

Anyone can go to the School of Wizardry. TRUE or FALSE?

Which phrase in the text means the same as *latest*?

Which two lessons will make you better at casting spells?

Find and copy four words that show you this school is great and make you really want to go.

Why might the school have been rated 'Super-terrific'?

Why might you be the envy of your friends if you go to this school?

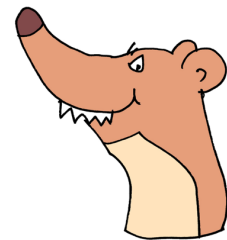


What makes good persuasive writing?

★Let's investigate some of the words and phrases that would help make your writing persuasive and be useful when writing an advert.

Weasel words

Weasel words are used to make you think everything is absolutely wonderful. They are boastful and they exaggerate the claims you are making. Below, the weasel words are boastful adjectives, describing the things in the School of Wizardry. Take a look at some examples:



We provide **remarkable** education.
Our curriculum has **outstanding** classes.
The choice is **unrivalled**.
Our school is **exceptional**.
We have **highly qualified** professors.
Enjoy our **stunning** curriculum.
Up-to-the-minute equipment.
Beautifully decorated classrooms.
The **most divine** school dinners.

Here are some more adjectives that can be used to be boastful. If you're unsure about what some of them mean, find out the definition. You could ask someone else in your home to tell you, use a dictionary or search the internet.

astounding	astonishing	breathtaking	sensational
awesome	spectacular	extraordinary	unbelievable
wondrous	amazing	staggering	incredible



The 'fill the gaps' game

Let's try to use our weasel words in another advert. Choose a boastful adjective to fill in the gaps below. Make our Wizard Hotel sound wonderful!

Come along to the _____ Wizard Hotel. The view is _____, with _____ skies and _____ scenery. The _____ rooms are _____. You can laze by the pool and enjoy _____ service from our _____ staff.

- ★ Why not have some fun? Swap the weasel adjectives for negative ones that make the hotel sound terrible! I've done the first one for you.



Come along to the crumbling Wizard Hotel. The view is _____, with _____ skies and _____ scenery. The _____ rooms are _____. You can laze by the pool and enjoy _____ service from our _____ staff.

- ★ Writing tip: Using these boastful adjectives in a sentence of three can be very powerful. Take a look at this from the text:



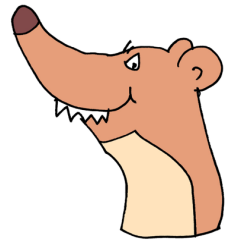
We also have up-to-the-minute equipment, beautifully decorated classrooms and the most divine, freshly cooked school dinners.

Have a go at finishing this one for the Wizard Hotel:

The wizard hotel has

Weasel phrases

As well as weasel words, there are also persuasive weasel phrases in the school advert. These draw you in by speaking to you personally and try to make you believe everything the writer is telling you. They make you feel like you must do what the writer says or have what they are offering. Look at the ones below.



Places are highly sought after.

We can guarantee ...

You won't find ... like this anywhere else!

You'll be the envy of ...



Try using some of them to write some sentences about our Wizard Hotel. I've done one for you. Remember to speak directly to your reader by using the word *you*.

We can guarantee you the best holiday ever!

Add in imperative (bossy) verbs

Telling your reader what to do in a bossy way is a much-used persuasive technique. For this you use imperative verbs that get straight to the point. Advertisers love them because they instruct the reader to do something.

Study with the best!

Don't miss out on ...

Come along to ...

Learn new skills ...

Enjoy our stunning curriculum ...

Study here ...

Apply now ...