

Extended Writing Activities

CHAPTER ONE:

1. **Analysing the novel:** Looking at Plot, Character, Setting, Language and Themes. How the writer creates a particular effect in the novel. See Resource Sheet P4 in *Millions* Teacher Pack.
2. **Devising Titles for the Chapters:** The chapters are only numbered 1-20 in the novel. After reading each chapter discuss a suitable title for each chapter and write reasons for your choice. (Can create a wall chart, showing title preferences. See Resource Pack P5)
3. **Excitement Rating and Graph:** Using 1-10 as the rating, where 1=dull and 10=very exciting, rate each chapter in terms of excitement. Draw a graph or table in your book and come back to it after reading a new chapter. See Resource Pack P5.
4. **How the Author Creates the Character of Damian:**
(This can also be continued in Chapter 2 with the character of Anthony.) Use the overhead/typed extract by Damian on 'Moving House'. (See Resource Pack-P11.)
5. **People I Admire:** Write your own essay on people you admire. Who are they? What have they done? Description

of their personality. Why they are so special in your eyes?

6. **Saint Profile:** If you can access www.totallysaints.com OR www.catholic-forum.com/saints complete the following task. St. Clare, St. Roch, St. Francis, St. Lidwina and St. Catherine are some of the saints Damian mentions in the novel. Log on to the above website. Select a saint of your choice. Create a saint profile. Who? What? Where? When? Why? Miracles? Dates? See Resource Pack P51.
7. **Damian and his Saints:** (Based on reading of Chapters 4, 9, 11 and 14) Damian has five visions. Use the links to find out more about them. What was Damian doing each time a saint appeared. See Resource Pack P51.

CHAPTER TWO:

1. **How the Author Creates the Character of Anthony:**
Use the overhead/typed extract by Anthony on 'The European Monetary Union'. (See Resource Pack-P11.)
2. **Gathering Information on Damian and Anthony:** See Resource Pack P14. Use information on pages 2 and 13 in the novel to help you gather your information.
3. **Similarities and Differences Between Damian and Anthony:** (Resource Pack P14-15-Scaffolded Writing

Frame included.) Spot the similarities between Damian and Anthony. Provide EVIDENCE to support your ideas.

CHAPTER FOUR:

1. **Design a poster** persuading your local neighbours to come to the Portland Meadows Homewatch Meeting. Include the 5W's (Who? What? Where? When? Why?) of the meeting and a bright colourful picture.
2. **Terry's Diary Entry:** Write Terry's diary entry based on the first time he met Damian and Anthony and how the Homewatch meeting went?

CHAPTER SIX:

1. **Huskisson House-Another Point of View:** Read the chapter and discuss the things that the Educational Psychologist says and does to show that she is surprised by Damian. Also discuss what Damian says and does to show he is nervous. See Resource Pack P18.
2. **Educational Psychologist's Report on Damian:** Complete the Educational Psychologist's Report based on your findings from the previous exercise. See Resource Pack P19.

CHAPTER SEVEN:

1. **Diary Entry:** Write the diary entry of the shopkeeper based on what happened in the shop that day after school with Damian and Anthony.
2. **Inventions:** Think of a machine/food item/product of any kind and find out as much information as you can about it. Visit <http://inventorsabout.com>

CHAPTER EIGHT:

1. **If I Had Millions...:** What would you do if you had millions? See Resource Pack-sheet after Psychologist's Report on Damian. Use the questions to develop your thoughts into paragraphs.

CHAPTER NINE:

1. **Poetry Composition:** See Resource Pack P36. Compose your own poem from the point of view of St. Francis on Damian setting the birds free. Describe what you saw and thought. Visit www.totallysaints.com OR www.catholic-forum.com/saints to remind you about St. Francis.

CHAPTER TEN:

1. **The Banquet at Pizza Hut-Manager's Report to Head Office:** (See Resource Pack P41-42. Writing Frame

- included.) Imagine you are the manager in Pizza Hut and you received a complaint from a customer about Damian, Anthony and *The Big Issue* Sellers. You must write a letter to your boss explaining what happened that day.
2. **Diary Entry:** Write the diary entry from the point of view of the girl in the parka that was selling *The Big Issue* on the day she met Damian and Anthony.
 3. **Writing to Argue, Persuade or Advise:** Compose your own argument for/against giving £100 to *The Big Issue* seller. See Resource Pack P46-47.
 4. **Pamphlet for Water Aid:** Design your own pamphlet persuading people to give money to Water Aid. See Resource Pack P48.
 5. **Letter Writing:** Your cousin has won £500. Write a letter to him/her advising him/her on how to spend it. See Resource Pack P49

CHAPTER ELEVEN:

1. **Letter Writing:** Damian's letter to Water Aid and why he wants to help this charity.
2. **Diary Entry:** Damian's thoughts when he discovers the hermitage.

CHAPTER TWELVE:

1. **Principal's Report on Damian and Anthony:** Write the report Mr. James would have written based on what Damian and Anthony told him in the office.
2. **Writing to Inform, Explain, Describe:** Find out as much as you can on Water Aid. Use the 5W's-Who? What? Where? When? Why? Include pictures in your final presentation. (Can be completed as a PowerPoint or poster.)
3. **Toys 'R' Us:** Write about a time when you bought or received something and it didn't work! Focus on thoughts and feelings as well as explaining if it was a special occasion, e.g., Christmas etc.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN:

1. **Writing to Instruct:** Think of your favourite food. Find out the recipe and create your own instructions/method to make it. Include images. Add a paragraph at the end explaining why you like it so much. See Resource Pack P50.
2. **Diary Entry:** Write Anthony's diary entry based on the night Dorothy was at his house and his thoughts on the Mormons getting robbed.

3. **Design a Poster:** Design a poster alerting the residents of Cromarty Close about the burglaries and who to contact etc.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN:

1. **St. Peter:** Re-read the chapter and focus on the section on St. Peter. Create a drawing with labels of what you think St. Peter looked like based on your reading of pages 173-178.

CHAPTER FIFTEEN:

1. **Writing to Explore, Imagine and Entertain:** Write about a time when you were really afraid. Focus on thoughts and feelings and what actually happened. Don't forget to include information on the setting to help build atmosphere.

CHAPTER SIXTEEN:

1. **HORROR!!!-Creating Dramatic Effect:** Focus on Damian when he meets Glass Eye. See Resource Pack P24-25. Read extracts from the novel and use the writing frame to select words and phrases that make it frightening.
2. **Creating Dramatic Effect:** See Resource Pack P26. Pupils develop their own scenario creating tension and

excitement. Use suitable words and phrases to create tension and excitement.

3. **Newspaper Report:** See Resource Pack P52-53 and writing frame included. Write the newspaper report based on the spate of burglaries in Cromarty Close. Use the 5W's in your introduction. Who? What? Where? When? Why?
4. **Diary Entry:** Write Dad's diary entry based on the events that night when he got home. Include information on the nativity play, finding Damian in your old house as well as the horror of finding your home ransacked.

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN:

1. **Creating Tension and Excitement:** See Resource Pack P21-23. Choose words and phrases that create tension and excitement and explain their effect.
2. **Diary Entry:** Anthony's diary entry based on what they did that day.

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN:

1. **Choose a Charity:** Select a charity of your choice and write a persuasive letter to Damian convincing him to give money to your cause.

CHAPTER NINETEEN:

1. **Diary Entry:** Complete Damian's diary entry based on your reading of Chapter 19, having met his mum and his decision to burn the money.

WHOLE NOVEL EXTENDED WRITING ACTIVITIES:

1. **Themes in the Novel:** See Resource Pack P27-29.
List/Sort themes in order of importance. Give explanations for your choices.
2. **Book Review:** See Resource Pack P30-32, includes a writing frame to complete the book review.
3. **Table Quiz:** Use the *Who Wants to be a Millionaire* format. Pupils are split up into groups with a selection of chapters to focus questions on. Pupils must provide the correct answer and three 'false' answers.