What to do today

1. Listen to a story
   - Listen to the Reading of the second part of Way Home, start the video at 6.14, where you ended it yesterday https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjzP18bsSdQ.
   - Did the story end as you predicted? What could happen in a sequel to the story?

2. Revise informal language
   - Use the PowerPoint on informal language or, if this is not possible, remind yourself using the Revision Card about this.
   - Complete Formal and Informal.

3. Now for some writing
   - Read Through the Windows. This is what Shane says to the cat as they look through the three sets of windows in the book.
   - Look at Windows. Pick one window and imagine what Shane would say to the cat about it. Write 2 or 3 sentences of speech, making sure that you keep to Shane’s informal style.
   - Challenge yourself to write about the other windows or to imagine and write about other windows.

Well done. Show your writing to a grown-up. Show them the informal features that you have included in Shane’s language. You can look at possible answers to Formal and Informal at the end of this pack.

Try the Fun-Time Extra
Can you imagine Shane coming to your school? What might he say in the classroom, in the playground, to your friends and to your teacher? Write some of your ideas.
Revision Card – Informal Language

Audience and Context
The register depends on situation and audience. The same person will use different registers in different contexts.

- At home with family
  - You’re going to wear that, are you?
  - Informal
- In school with the headteacher
  - When will we be going on the museum trip?
  - More Formal
- In formal writing
  - I wonder, might I be permitted to enquire about progress?
  - Very Formal

Contractions
Contractions appear in informal language.

- I’d
- what’s
- mustn’t
- we’re
- you’re
- haven’t

Spoken language often contains contractions... but written formal language uses the longer versions of the word/s.

- We might write:
  - Do not say that I did not warn you.
- But we are more likely to say:
  - Don’t say I didn’t warn you.

What are the formal versions of the contractions above?

Question Tags can be used in informal language.

Tags are questions added to a clause to encourage a listener to respond.

- Main clause
- Tag
- You’re joking, aren’t you?

- Main clause
- Tag
- Look at that Fatcat, will you?

Tags can be used to soften a command.

- Main clause
- Tag
- We’re mates, aren’t we?

In very informal speech right and yeah can be used as tags.

- Main clause
- Tag
- You’re ready, yeah?

Breaking Grammar Rules!

Ellipsis (omitting words) has not changed the meaning but the grammar is now incorrect. This is common in informal spoken language.

- Nobody lives in them – no way.
  - Nobody lives in them; there is no way that they are occupied.

Slang can be used to write realistic dialogue. Slang can help to make the speech sound authentic.

- Whadda you reckon?
  - What do you think about that?
Formal and Informal

Annotate these sentences to show any informal features. Rewrite them in a formal style.

(Informal features: vocabulary, question tags, contractions, slang, ellipsis)

“Whaddo you reckon, Catlegs?”

“Take a look at that Fatcat, will you?”

“You’n me together.”

“Act kinda cool. Cool, right. That’s us.”

“Uh, oh, they’re coming. Gotta get out of here. Away from them.”

“You and me in a Jag. Vroom vroom.”

“We gotta go down right now.”

“But we got each other, right?”
Through the windows

The other cat

“Take a look at that Fatcat will you? I’m telling you that cat’s a loser. Eats fancy mince, no kidding. Heaps of it. Right there at the window. Disgusting. And get that collar. What a joke!”

Car showroom

“You can come out now Whiskettes.

No worries. Hey, just take a look.


Huh, but they’ve only got red...and we want green.”

Chinese restaurant

“See they cook stuff right on the table in front of you.

Stacks of meat and things.

But don’t get ideas, Hungry.

No pets allowed, places like this.”
Windows
Through the Window

Write your speech for Shane here.
Formal and Informal – Possible Answers

Annotate these sentences to show any informal features.
Rewrite them in a formal style.

(Informal features: vocabulary, question tags, contractions, slang, ellipsis)

“Whaddo you reckon, Catlegs?”
What is your opinion, Catlegs?

“Take a look at that Fatcat, will you?”
Please look at the fat cat in the window.

“You’n me together.”
We are united.

“Act kinda cool. Cool, right. That’s us.”
Behave causally as that would be our typical style.

“Oh, oh, they’re coming. Gotta get out of here. Away from them.”
I am concerned that the hostile group are approaching and believe that it is important for us to depart rapidly.

“You and me in a Jag. Vroom vroom.”
I am imagining driving in a Jaguar car with you. I think we would enjoy the sound and power of the engine.

“We gotta go down right now.”
We have to go down immediately.

“But we got each other, right?”
We are able to look after one another.