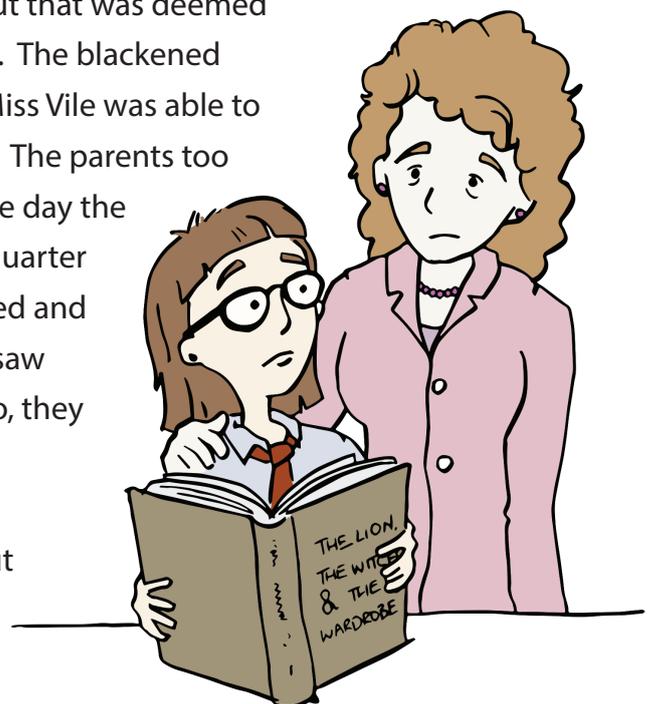


## Chapter 2

Mrs Rose struggled on in her role as deputy headteacher for several weeks more, but it was clear it was taking a great deal out of her. Each week that went by she was getting weaker and weaker, and by May she was no more than a bag of bones. But still she insisted on dragging herself into school. She would often arrive before anyone else and would usually be the last to leave. One day she confided in Amber. "I'm the only one preventing a catastrophe at this school," she told the girl. They were alone in the library. "I believe that when I go there will be no one to stop Miss Vile from achieving her wicked goals." She took Amber by the arm and led her into a corner so that they could not be overheard. "There's something about you, Amber Dripping. I want you to promise me that..." She was unable to finish her sentence. Miss Dawn had entered the room. "Hurry up and choose your book, Dripping," she said instead before limping out of the library. (That was to be the last time she would speak to Amber for a very long time!)

Amber was always very concerned that Miss Wand (or Miss Dawn as she now liked to call herself) would recognise her. Ever since that assembly, she had been on tenterhooks fearing she would remember her. However, she had never been taught by Miss Wand when she was at Spellcaster, and Miss Wand seemed oblivious to her presence. After leaving Spellcaster Academy, Amber was, for all intents and purposes, just like any other primary school pupil. She never practised any witchcraft, or attempted any magic (not even at home). There was no reason to suspect that once she had been a trainee witch herself.

As for Mrs Rose, she had attempted to tell the school governors about her concerns, but when they inspected the school they had observed exemplary behaviour and excellent academic progress being made. True, there was an unusually high fence surrounding the school grounds, but that was deemed quite necessary for the security of the children. The blackened windows were considered a bit extreme, but Miss Vile was able to offer plausible explanations for their presence. The parents too had the wool pulled over their eyes. During the day the school was virtually run like a prison, but at a quarter past three exactly the school gates were opened and the parents were allowed to enter. What they saw then was simply a well-disciplined school. Also, they had never experienced children so keen to do their homework and get on with their studies. They certainly weren't going to complain about that! Mrs Rose's concerns fell on deaf ears!





Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## I can use prepositions of time.



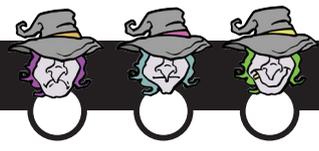
There are a number of prepositions that can be used when talking about time.

after      at      between      by  
during      for      from ... to      from ... until  
in      on      since      within

Underline the prepositions of time in these sentences:

- 1 The children came back to school after the half-term holiday.
- 2 Most of the teachers had left since the day Miss Vile had been appointed headteacher.
- 3 On the first day back, the children were told they had a new deputy headteacher.
- 4 But Mrs Rose staggered into school during the first assembly.
- 5 She struggled on as deputy for a few more weeks.
- 6 Between nine o'clock and a quarter past three the children were made to work.
- 7 At exactly quarter past three the school gates were opened.
- 8 After school the children were keen to complete their homework.
- 9 In a matter of weeks Mrs Rose was nothing more than skin and bone.
- 10 From Mondays until Fridays, the children's life was a torment.
- 11 Within a term, Miss Vile had completely changed the atmosphere in the school.
- 12 Mrs Rose tried to be at school from dawn to dusk.
- 13 She wouldn't be able to go on like this for much longer.
- 14 By the end of May, Mrs Rose could stand it no longer.

**Extension** Use the prepositions you have identified to write your own sentences.



I can use prepositions of time.

There are a number of prepositions that can be used when talking about time.

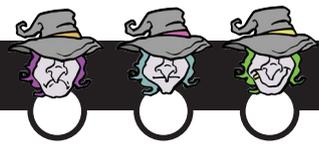
- |        |     |             |                |
|--------|-----|-------------|----------------|
| after  | at  | between     | by             |
| during | for | from ... to | from ... until |
| in     | on  | since       | within         |

Choose the most appropriate prepositions of time from the brackets to complete the sentences below.

- The children came back to school ..... the half-term holiday. (*after / between*)
- Most of the teachers had left ..... the day Miss Vile had been appointed headteacher. (*within / since*)
- ..... the first day back, the children were told they had a new deputy headteacher. (*At / On*)
- But Mrs Rose staggered into school ..... the first assembly. (*after / during*)
- She struggled on as deputy ..... a few more weeks. (*for / by*)
- ..... nine o'clock and a quarter past three the children were made to work. (*Since / Between*)
- ..... exactly quarter past three the school gates were opened. (*At / After*)
- ..... school the children were keen to complete their homework. (*Within / After*)
- ..... a matter of weeks Mrs Rose was nothing more than skin and bone. (*In / At*)
- From Mondays ..... Fridays, the children's life was a torment. (*by / until*)
- ..... a term, Miss Vile had completely changed the atmosphere in the school. (*Within / Since*)
- Mrs Rose tried to be at school from dawn ..... dusk. (*to / at*)
- She wouldn't be able to go on like this ..... much longer. (*in / for*)
- ..... the end of May, Mrs Rose could stand it no longer. (*Within / By*)

**Extension** Use the prepositions you have identified to write your own sentences.





I can use prepositions of time.

There are a number of prepositions that can be used when talking about time.

after          at          between          by  
 during          for          from ... to          from ... until  
 in          on          since          within

Choose the most appropriate prepositions of time from the box above to complete the sentences. (You will need to use some prepositions more than once.)

- 1 The children came back to school ..... the half-term holiday.
- 2 Most of the teachers had left ..... the day Miss Vile had been appointed headteacher.
- 3 ..... the first day back, the children were told they had a new deputy headteacher.
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**Extension** Use the prepositions you have identified to write your own sentences.

