

## A Monster Calls ~ Writing activities

**Thursday** – Discuss with your adult positive and negative dreams (nightmares). How do you feel during a nightmare and as you emerge from sleep?

Sometimes events in our real life can influence nightmares. In the story, 'A Monster Calls', a boy called Conor has been told that his mother is very ill. How do you think this might affect his sleep, his worries and life in general?

Write three paragraphs about:

- Positive and negative dreams and what these could entail
- How you feel during a nightmare and as you emerge from sleep
- How Conor might be feeling after being told his mother is very ill and how it might affect his sleep and his life in general.

Please handwrite these three paragraphs, making sure you remember your capital letters, apostrophes and check your spellings. I expect a high standard of presentation – use a black handwriting pen.

**Friday** – List-Like Phrases: Using the following images, write down some vocabulary that describe the sights, sounds and reactions to the horror. Try to put alliterative adjectives together, for example: horrifying, horrendous; spooky, spine-chilling.



Using this model, write **at least two** of your own sentences that include four phrases and alliteration:

**Conor had a nightmare: the horrifying, howling wind; a torturous trickle of blood; sudden, short breaths; and a sinister, shadowy figure.**

Short Sentences: Imagine that Conor is awaking from his nightmare. Come up with different fear-based verbs, for example: gasping, trembling, gripping, pounding. Using this model, write **at least two** of your own sentences that include your own powerful verbs:

**He woke. He woke gasping. He woke trembling.**

Fronted Adverbials + Rhetorical Questions: Try to add some more ideas of your own.

| <b>Fronted Adverbials for Conor's manner of waking</b> | <b>Rhetorical Questions</b>                                  | <b>Synonyms for 'change'</b>     |                                |
|--|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Groggily,<br>Barely conscious,<br>In a daze,           | What was that?<br>What was going on?<br>Was he imagining it? | altered<br>suspicious<br>dubious | strange<br>unfamiliar<br>weird |

**Only semi-conscious, Conor sat up in bed. "What was that?" he thought. Something was unfamiliar... something was different... something was very unfamiliar and very different.**

Use the model above to: start a sentence with a 'how' adverbial phrase and follow it with one or two rhetorical questions. End with repetition about the noticeable feeling of change.