

Brain Freeze

Author:
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Synopsis

A crazy collection of funny short stories from the wacky mind of bestselling Thai-riffic! author, Oliver P, featuring characters who are all finding a way to step up and be brave.

From a dog who accidentally becomes the first animal on Mars, a hopeless chess player dealing with his sports-mad dad, and a girl whose dreams are getting too big for her bed, to a boy who has had 1000 names - so far.

Not to mention, the strange boy who never seems to get brain freeze (until...), these short stories will blow your mind.

Author Bio

Oliver Phommavanh loves to make people laugh, whether it's on the page writing humour for kids or on stage as a stand-up comedian.

He also shares his passion for writing with kids, using his experience as a primary school teacher. Oliver has performed at various comedy and writers festivals around Australia and Asia.

Oliver's recent books include Don't Follow Vee and Natural Born Loser, and he is best known for Thai-riffic!, Con-nerd and The Other Christy.



Curriculum Links

Year 5 English

- ACELY1608** Identify aspects of literary texts that convey details or information about particular social, cultural and historical contexts
- ACELY1704** Plan, draft and publish imaginative, informative and persuasive print and multimodal texts, choosing text structures, language features, images and sound appropriate to purpose and audience

Year 6 English

- ACELT1616** Identify, describe, and discuss similarities and differences between texts, including those by the same author or illustrator, and evaluate characteristics that define an author's individual style
- ACELT1618** Create literary texts that adapt or combine aspects of texts students have experienced in innovative ways
- ACELY1714** Plan, draft and publish imaginative, informative and persuasive texts, choosing and experimenting with text structures, language features, images and digital resources appropriate to purpose and audience

Similarities and differences between texts.

If you have read any of Oliver Phommavanh's book before, you might recognise some of the characters in these short stories.

- What characters do you recognise?

If you liked the short stories you might want to read a novel by Oliver Phommavanh

- If you have read more than one of Oliver Phommavanh's novels, what would you say the similarities between them books are?



Write Your Own Story

At the back of the book Oliver Phommavanh has a template for a story cube.

Using Oliver's as an example, create one to show the class how they work.

As a class write a story. Use the story cube to help.

****See the attached Narrative Plot Structure Template to help plan your story.***

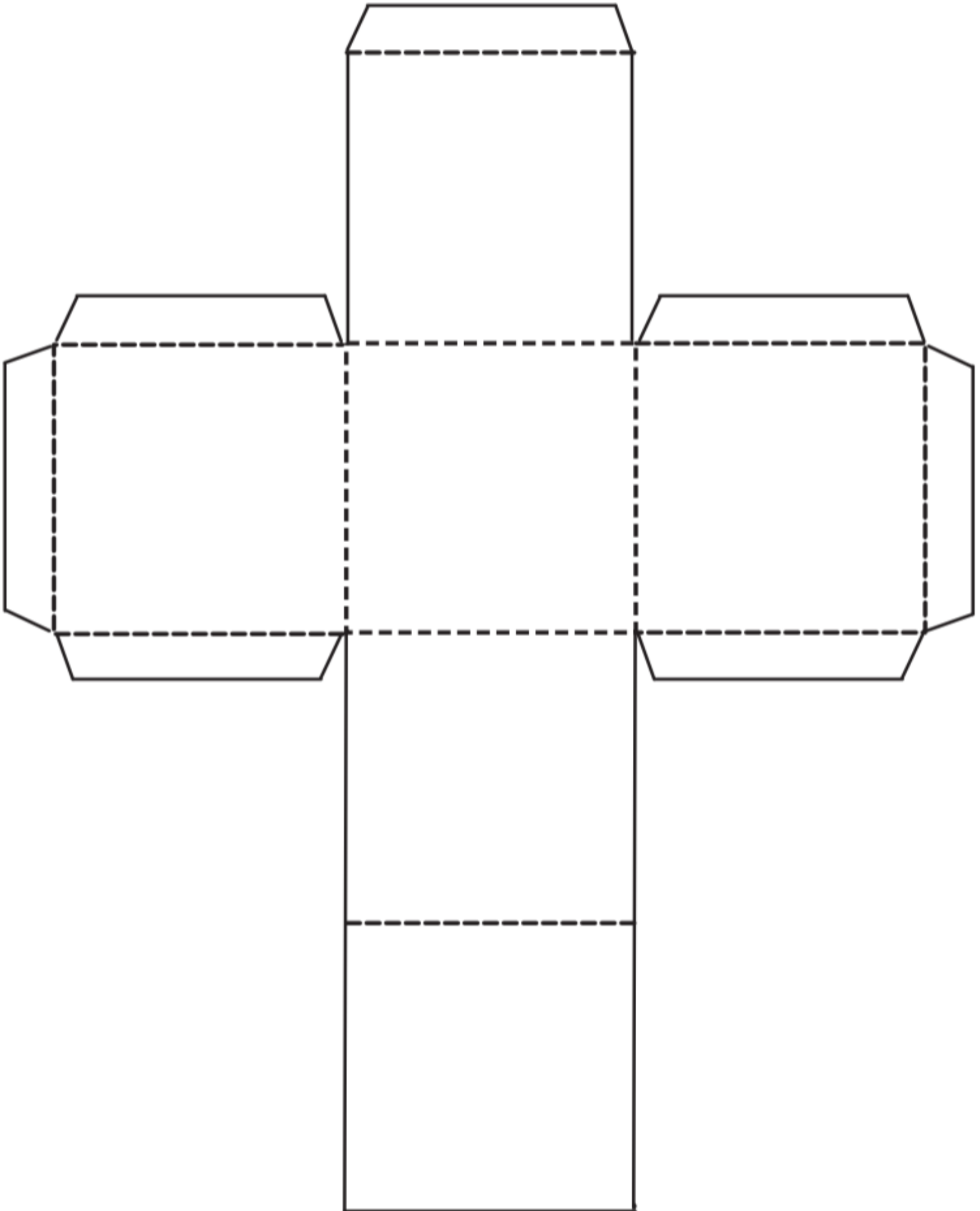
After creating a story as a class, ask each student to create their own Story Cube.

These story cubes can then be swapped between the students, so that they don't use their own cube to write their story.

- After they have written their story, discuss how using the story cube helped them?
- Did the ideas on the story cube take their story into a different direction that the one they may have planned if not using the story cube?

Story Cube Pattern

Cut on solid lines - Fold on dashed lines



Narrative Plot Structure Template

