

Writing Tasks

After you have read 'The Knock at the Door', select one of the writing tasks below and respond in about 300 words.

1. 'The Knock at the Door' ends with a knock at the door while Joey and his mother are sitting in the dark house eating pizza for dinner.

Who do you think it is knocking at the door? Could it be Joey's father? The pizza man? The man who comes back from the dead in the book that Joey is reading? Or could it be someone else?

Decide who it is knocking at the door and write an extended ending to the story.

2. You are Johnny Carter, Joey Carter's father. You have just been released from prison. You haven't seen your wife or your son Joey in about eight years. The last time you saw Joey, he was in kindergarten. Now he is 13 years old. You want to see him again, but you are not on speaking terms with his mother, your ex-wife.

Write a letter to your son. Tell him how sorry you are for the things you have done and for not being there for him. Give him fatherly advice about what you have learnt through your hard experiences. Tell him that you love him and would like to see him again some day.

Sign your letter 'Johnny Carter'.

3. You are a police officer investigating a murder that took place a short while ago. It is a dark and stormy night. A middle-aged man was found murdered in a pond near an old house on a hill. You found the address and telephone number of the old house in the man's wallet. You tried calling the number, but you were unable to get through because of the storm.

You knock at the door. A young boy opens it. There is a woman standing behind him. It is dark inside the house. They have been eating pizza for dinner. You ask if you could come inside and interview them about a recent murder in the area.

Write a script of the interview between the police officer and the mother and her son.