

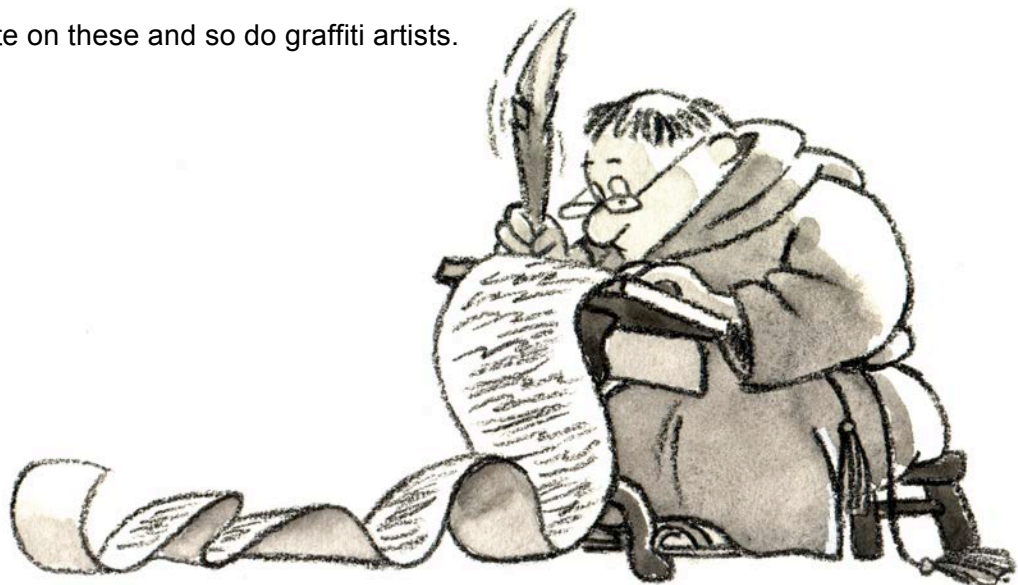
Task 1 – Vocab word search: What did people write on in the past?

Six words are hidden in the word search. They are all written horizontally. Read the clues and see if you can find them. The first one is done for you.

M	Z	P	A	P	Y	R	U	S
K	P	A	P	E	R	W	X	V
P	A	R	C	H	M	E	N	T
V	Q	Y	Z	S	L	A	T	E
W	A	L	L	S	Q	W	A	X

Clues

1. Romans wrote on tablets made of this. *wax*.
2. The Chinese invented it in 100BC. We write on it every day.
3. The Egyptians wrote on this plant.
4. School children wrote on it 100 years ago.
5. People wrote on this material in medieval times.
6. Cavemen wrote on these and so do graffiti artists.



Task 2 – Instructions for making parchment

The Magna Carta was written on parchment, which was made out of animal skins. The process was long, complicated and smelly. The recipe below was torn up by mistake and stuck back together in the wrong order. Can you work out the correct order?

PARCHMENT INSTRUCTIONS	
Stretch the skin and scrape it again until it is really smooth.	
Soak the fleece in a bath of lime to loosen the wool.	
Wash the smooth skin in warm water and dry before using.	
After a few days, take it out and scrape off the wool with a knife.	
Cut the fleece off the dead sheep.	
Find and kill a sheep.	1

a fleece (noun) : the skin and wool of a sheep

lime (uncountable noun) : a mineral that is used to break down skin and bone

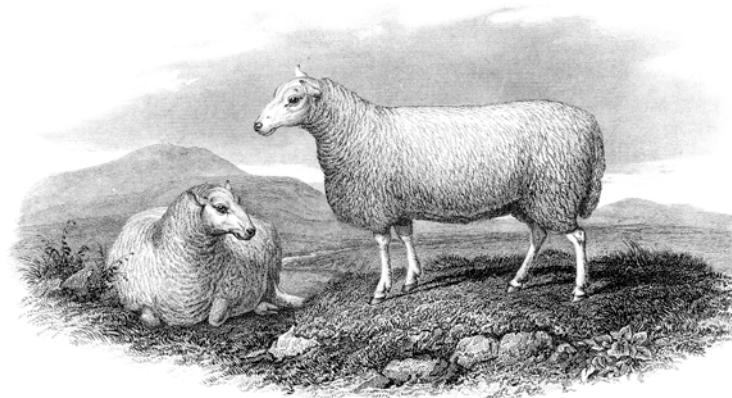
Task 3 – Describing a process

Now turn the instructions into a process. Then see if you can add some of the words in the box to make the order clearer. The first one is done for you.

Firstly, Secondly,	Next, Then,	After this, Finally,
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1. *Firstly a sheep is found and killed.*

- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.



Task 4 – Proofreading a scribe’s letter

Writing on parchment was the job of a scribe. They used a quill pen, made from a long feather which they dipped in a special ink.

There were no photocopiers in the 1200s and, after the Magna Carta was agreed, scribes had the job of making copies for cities around England and Wales. Scribes often had to work quite quickly and it was easy for them to make mistakes.

It is 1215 and King John is trying to make sure that important people stay loyal to him by writing them all letters. In the picture he is dictating one of these letters to his scribe.

However the overworked scribe has confused single and double letters.



Can you find and correct the eight mistakes in the letter below?

Dear Godfrey,

I am very worried about my future. I am loosing my friends. I am runing out of money. My ennemies are hopping that I will give in to their demands. However, I am determind to win in the end. Wil you remain faithfull if I reffuse to give up?

Yours sincerely,

King John

Task 5 – Understanding and writing job advertisements

Look at the job advert for a knight, a medieval soldier who fought for the king.



KNIGHT IN ARMOUR.
MS. Reg. 2 A. 32.ii.
Late Thirteenth Century.



Write a job advert for one of the following:

- a parchment maker
- a scribe

Use some of the words and phrases below in your advert.

able to work under pressure
no sense of smell
hard-working
educated
fast worker
physically fit

intelligent
a team worker
good sense of humour
attention to detail
non-vegetarian
not interested in gossiping

Task 6 – Writing a letter of application

Write a letter of application for the job advert written by the other group.