

*Daystar: The Days are Numbered Book 1*  
*Teacher's Resource*  
Published by Wombat Books, 2016  
PO Box 1519, Capalaba Qld 4157  
[www.wombatbooks.com.au](http://www.wombatbooks.com.au)

Cover Illustration by Carmen Dougherty  
Inside Cover Illustration by Kayleen West  
Decorative Initials by Rose SK  
Design and activities by Anne Hamilton

© Anne Hamilton 2016

ISBN: 978-1-925139-74-7

National Library of Australia Cataloguing-in-Publication entry available

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in, or introduced into a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form, or by any means (electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise) without the prior written permission of the publisher.

These notes and blackline masters may be reproduced free of charge, provided they are used solely for the purpose of studying the novel *The Days are Numbered Book 1: Daystar* within schools as part of the classroom curriculum. They may not be reproduced, either in whole or in part, in any format for commercial sale or re-sale.

# WonderWord 1

Chapter A<sup>1</sup> ~ Level: *easy*

Directions for words are ⇒ ⇐ ↑ ↓

R	H	P	I	H	W	A
U	O	O	H	C	E	N
N	R	M	I	S	T	C
Y	S	G	A	R	D	E
Z	E	R	I	G	E	L
F	U	R	R	O	W	I
G	R	A	T	I	A	N

*Find the following words:*

- Ancelin
- Gratian
- Ysgarde
- Rigel
- horse
- mist
- whip
- furrow
- echo
- run

There is one left-over letter. What is it? .....



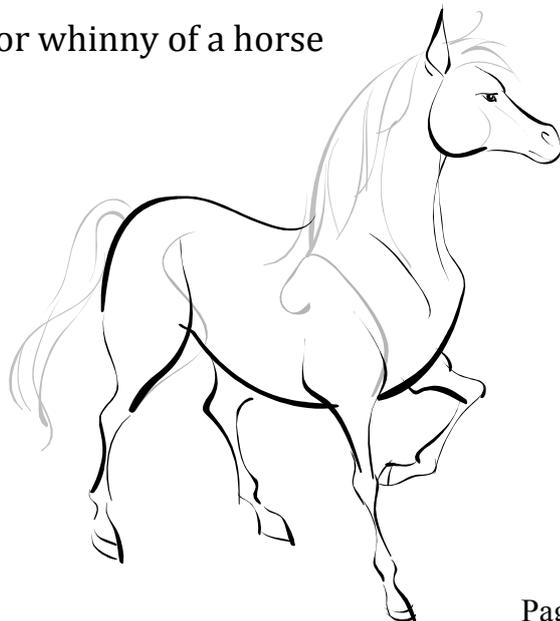
# Vocabulary in Chapter A<sup>1</sup>

---



1. **agitation** a state of shaken emotions
2. **arrogant** overbearing or insolently proud
3. **charger** a horse suitable for riding in battle
4. **contort** twist, bend or draw out of shape
5. **converge** head towards a common meeting point
6. **ferment** to be agitated or troubled
7. **flail** swing freely
8. **furrow** a groove in the ground
9. **pommel** the part that sticks out at the top of a saddle
10. **ruse** a trick
11. **smirk** smile in an offensive way
12. **tortuous** full of twists, turns or bends
13. **whicker** neigh or whinny of a horse

Research what a saddle and pommel look like, then draw both saddle and pommel on the horse at right.



# CLOZE ~ 1

Ansey hears the ringing echo of a \_\_\_\_\_ and pats the horse named \_\_\_\_\_. Only when he sees cloud shadow in the shape of wolf \_\_\_\_\_ flying against the \_\_\_\_\_ does he realise he's been tricked.

He is captured on the edge of a marsh called the \_\_\_\_\_. The soldiers who catch him discover that he was able to tame the savage horse because he has a gift called \_\_\_\_\_.

They take him across the countryside which shows wrinkling and \_\_\_\_\_. The soldiers think that dark \_\_\_\_\_ has cursed the land and that it's not as \_\_\_\_\_ from one place to another as it used to be. Ansey tries to escape when an \_\_\_\_\_ occurs but does \_\_\_\_\_ succeed.

# Choosing Names 1

The names of the characters in *Daystar* are very carefully chosen. In ancient times, naming was a sacred trust. Sometimes children did not receive their names for a long time. They might have had to wait until they were baptised at church or had gone through a ceremony of dedication or until the tribal elders had observed them for long enough to know what their name should be so that it would reflect both their identity and their destiny.



If you were to **receive a name for the first time** today, **what meaning would suit you?**

If you were named after an animal, would Tiger or Panda be more appropriate? If you were named after a bird, would it be Sparrow or Hawk or even Sparrowhawk? If you were named after a plant, would it be Rose or Dandelion or Thorn? If you were named after a colour, would you be Scarlet or Cobalt or Xanthe?

Divide up the following tasks amongst the members of your group.

- Research animal names in your group. List them on the back. Try to find at least one for each letter of the alphabet.
- Research bird names in your group. List them on the back. Try to find at least one for each letter of the alphabet.
- Research plant or flower names in your group. List them on the back. Try to find at least one for each letter of the alphabet.
- Research colour names in your group. List them on the back. Try to find at least one for each letter of the alphabet. (And yes, there is one for X!)

Now that you have the information, share it with your group. Now answer the following:

An animal name I think suits me:

An animal name the group thinks suits me:

A bird name I think suits me:

A bird name the group thinks suits me:

A plant or flower name I think suits me:

A plant name the group thinks suits me:

A colour name I think suits me:

A colour name the group thinks suits me:

Choose two from the list to make a new name, eg. Lilac Yak or Moss Falcon:

My real name:

A new name that suits me:

# Alluring **Alliteration** Always Appeals

According to Candle, one of the great dwarf poets said: ***Bitter bulbs breed baleful blossoms.*** But he didn't say it quickly.

*Try to say it quickly. Time yourself and see how long it takes you to say it properly without stumbling over the words.*

Other examples of alliteration are:

- Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepper.
- She sells sea shells by the sea shore.

*Try to say these quickly. Time yourself and see how long it takes you to say it properly without stumbling over the words.*

1. What is alliteration? .....
2. Write down your name or nickname: .....
3. Using this as your base, create an alliterative sentence to describe yourself.  
.....  
.....
4. How fast can you say this sentence? .....
5. Choose one of the characters from *Daystar*: .....
6. Write down an alliterative sentence to describe that character.  
.....  
.....
7. How fast can you say this sentence? .....

# ORDER THE EVENTS 2

Order the events which occur in Candle's story of the demon driver

<b>1</b>	The coach reached the Fyrzentsou border
<b>2</b>	The driver tried a cloud-shadow deception to throw off the pursuit
<b>3</b>	The tutors were told they had to flee for their lives
<b>4</b>	The back wheels of the coach fell off
<b>5</b>	The driver took the coach down the Face of Harrowfell
<b>6</b>	Old Greywhiskers found a bee-keeping outfit
<b>7</b>	Much was banged on the head by Greywhiskers for saying, 'Shh!'
<b>8</b>	Old Greywhiskers thought a new bee species had been discovered
<b>9</b>	Harper smacked a guard's head with the butterfly net
<b>10</b>	Old Greywhiskers sang a bee-keeping song

## True or false?

Statement	True	False
Ansey has always wanted to be a knight		
The queen rewarded Ansey's tutors with gold		
Candle likes eating toffee-covered grapes		
Gratian knows the secret of wolf's-tail clouds		
The king agreed to allow Ansey to be a squire		
Gratian is one of Ansey's tutors		
Tybold is a dwarf and is Candle's son		
Ansey is happy that all his tutors have gone		
The demon driver was Captain Gratian		