Lesson Three Super-Funny

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Objective:

To identify and analyse moments of comedy in David Solomons' writing

Outcome:

A piece of writing using comedic elements

Extract:

The most important five minutes in the history of the world and I had missed them because I needed a wee. "I bet if I'd been here, Zardoz the Decoder would have chosen me," I grumped.

"His name was Zorbon the Decider. And you weren't here." Zack shrugged. "Should have held it in, shouldn't you?"

It was so unfair! I was beyond acting like a normal, sensible person. "Get him back. Tell Bourbon the Diskdriver he made a mistake and he has to come back and give me superpowers too."

"Zorbon the Decider," corrected Zack once more.

Lead-in task: Where do you think Luke is in this extract?

- 1. Why is Luke grumpy?
- 2. How many times does Luke get Zorbon's name wrong? List them here.
- 3. Why does Luke feel as though he can't act like 'a normal, sensible person'?



Task 1:

Match the following technique cards to a word, phrase or sentence in the extract:

REPETITION	EXTREME EMOTIONS
SILLY WORDS	FUNNY DIALOGUE
EXAGGERATION	CONFLICTING OPINIONS

Task 2:

Using the example, try to write your own funny short paragraph about your Superhero/ Supervillain character. Use one of the following scenarios to get started:

- A funny argument with a friend or sibling
- A rescue mission that has gone wrong
- A first meeting with your Evil Twin

Don't forget to include at least one of the techniques from the last task!

Task 3:

Share your writing with someone in your group. Can they match the technique cards to phrases or sentences in your work?