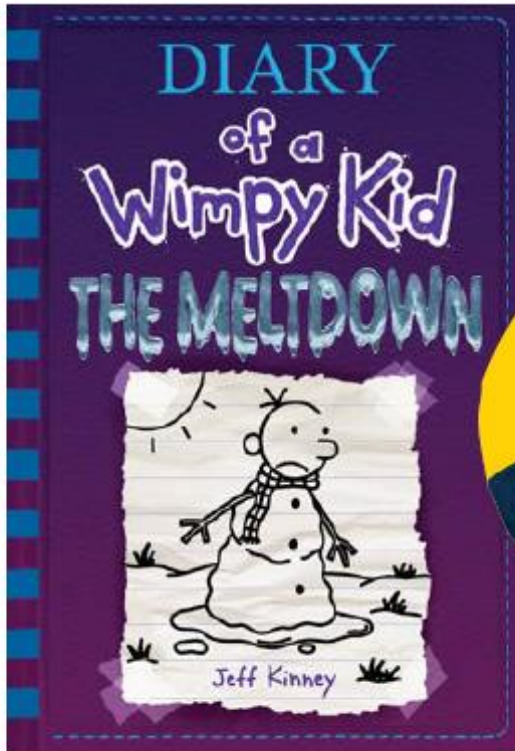


JEFF KINNEY: TELLING FUNNY STORIES



Activity 1:

Jeff Kinney is inspired by things in everyday life that make him laugh. He loves listening to and telling jokes. In fact, his ideas for Diary of a Wimpy Kid often start with a list of jokes... it's how you tell 'em!

Consider how Jeff Kinney makes jokes funny in his stories. How does he tell them?

Jeff Kinney uses lots of comic devices in his writing to make it funny. **Look at the extract from *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown*, find examples in the extract of the following comic devices: USE OF CAPITAL LETTERS, INFORMAL WORDS, ONOMATOPOEIA, USE OF CARTOON, REPETITION, FUNNY SCENARIOS.**

For each comic device listed, think about how it helps to make the story funny.

Activity 2:

Jeff explains that he always wanted to be a comic book writer. As inspiration for Diary of a Wimpy Kid, he came up with the idea that he would write as a kid writing his diary - and that way he could sneak his hilarious cartoons in too!

Using some of the comic devices from Activity 1, create a six-panel comic book of your own. Your comic book story should be based on something funny that has happened to you recently in your everyday life - either at home, or at school. Remember to write a list of jokes or funny things before you begin.