Rhetorical Questions.

**L.I.- To develop an understanding of rhetorical questions and how they are used in persuasive writing.**

**S.C.- I can explain what a rhetorical question is.**

**- I can identify rhetorical questions in a persuasive piece of writing.**

A rhetorical question is a question that does not need to be answered. Rhetorical questions are used in persuasive writing to make the audience think about the topic and make the reader think that the answer is obvious.

**Activity 1- Highlight the rhetorical question/s in this persuasive piece:**

I can’t believe that zookeepers think that it’s OK to lock animals up in cages. Honestly, are they crazy? Animals belong in their natural habitats, eating their natural foods, socialising with other species and moving about freely. They shouldn’t be trapped in a tiny, disgusting cage with big, cold metal bars. How would those nasty zookeepers like being locked up all day? The animals must get so bored being stuck in the same place all day, every day. Is this the life they deserve?

**Activity 2- Match the correct rhetorical question to the statement:**

Who does she think she is? Aww, isn’t that sad?

How could that possibly work? Seriously, how hard could it be?

Who would want one of those? Is this the thanks I get?

Politicians are complaining that they have to pay for their own dinner.

Simon is saving up to buy a worm farm.

Sarah is demanding another pay rise.

Jimmy is having trouble building his new shed.

After I went to the trouble of making him dinner, look what he has done.

Steve thinks that we should reduce the number of staff on duty.

**Activity 3- Write your own persuasive paragraph for each of these rhetorical questions:**

Does that sound fair to you?

When will you learn?

Have you lost the plot?

Are you serious?

When will this end?

What choice do we have?

Does anybody care?

Doesn’t that sound a bit strange?