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JLLKKS



THE KIDS' CANCER PROJECT
WRITE A BOOK IN A DAY

Parameters Form

Team Details

STATE: VIC
DIVISION: Middle School
SCHOOL/GROUP: Box Hill High School (BOX HILL)
TEAM NAME: JLLKKS
TEAM ID: 888

Parameters and random words

Parameters

Primary character 1: Charity worker
Primary character 2: Games developer
Non-human character: Carnivorous plant
Setting: Tennis courts
Issue: Journey to the unknown

Random words

ruby
melts
shiver
tasty
sponge

Instructions

- Start no earlier than **8am**
- Write an original story:
 - based on all **five parameters** (above)
 - including all **five random words** (above) as written, and in bold type
 - with some identifiable **Australian content** (in theme or setting or characters, etc)
 - keeping within the allowed word count (remember every word on every page counts!)
 - include this parameters form in your book **immediately after the front cover**
- Remember: **Every** word on **every** page counts. This includes your front cover, back cover, blurb, acknowledgements and copyright form.
- **Be sure to give yourself enough time to submit your book and complete the following checklist before 9pm**

Log on to the Team Coordinator Portal to:

- Check the spelling of your team name and team members' names (how these are spelt on submission will be how they are displayed on certificates)
- Complete the Declaration
- Submit your finished book in **both** PDF and plain text format by 9pm

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Prologue

Blurb:

Amelia and Charlie had grown up with a childhood dream of being professional tennis players, but both were guided by the path of professional tennis, or so they thought. Amelia's parents stopped her from fulfilling childhood dream, while Charlie was so close, but then was no longer able to play because they were discriminated against. They will play tennis together and relive their childhood memories and have the happiness they forgot about. their lives on the line with each match, doing all this just to get back home, but will they make it?

Chapter 1: Introduction

It was a dark rainy day in Melbourne Victoria, inside and out. In a little, red brick cottage lived a small Siamese cat with grey with white stripes. It lived with a twenty-one-year-old game creator who had a talent for making interesting and creative tennis-based games. Because it was raining cats and dogs outside, Amelia was full of happiness and joy, and she was as glad as when she found out about creating games because her mother would always remind her to go outside and do something fun and active. Suddenly the doorbell rang, and Amelia got up with a groan as she dragged herself to the door, where there was an envelope just sitting on the doorstep with her name written on it, she picked up the mysterious letter and went back inside.

Meanwhile, the sun shone in the sky, as Charlie, a twenty-one-year-old charity worker in Darwin was protesting for gay rights at Frog Hollow Park. Charlie would protest daily, because those who didn't support them were also the ones that stopped them from pursuing their dreams. They had the same feeling when they were just about to play their finals match in a youth tennis competition but even after they had worked so hard, and risked so much just to play, they had still not been allowed to play because of their biased referee and missed out on the opportunity of becoming a real-life famous tennis player. They felt scared and were worried that they would make a mistake or if they would get out in the first round but the only thing to make them feel better was playing tennis and even if they lost. After an hour or so of endless shouting, Charlie decided to stop for the day and headed home. When they got to their front door, Charlie saw a small envelope lying on their doorstep.

They both read through the contents of their letters and as they reached the end their eyes lit up. They had been invited to a tournament for those who wished they could play tennis but missed their opportunity! Both Amelia and Charlie were eager to go to the tournament, but something was holding them back. What if they were not good enough? What if they were beaten in the first round? Amelia's thoughts went with her to work. She thought about how she could have

been a professional, had it not been for her parents who had discouraged her from pursuing her dreams because they thought she would not make it in life as a professional tennis player.

Charlie was having similar thoughts as they were brought back to the memories of when they used to play tennis. The rush of joy, the laughter, everything that made Charlie happy back then was on the tennis court. The times spent on the court created happy memories for both Amelia and Charlie. The risk of losing, at this mysterious tournament worried them, but the opportunity to relive their childhood memories was something that neither of them could give up!

Both packed, prepared to face anyone and anything that would stand in the way of their childhood dream! So, they set off to the tournament that was being held in Brisbane.

Chapter 2: Tennis Time

When both Amelia and Charlie arrived at the tennis tournament in Brisbane, what the two did not know was that the Tennis tournament was private and there were no professionals there.

As Amelia walked towards the tennis courts, she spotted another person who was also walking to the tennis courts. She was thankful that there was going to be at least one other person there that was her age.

Sweat dripped down Charlie's face as they walked toward the tennis court like chocolate that **melts**. Even though they had not started training, they were already boiling, and worried to see how hot it would get during the actual games. Charlie glanced up to see a girl their age looking at them, and immediately decided to greet them.

As the two faced each other they introduced themselves and got into a conversation about why they chose to attend the tournament.

“My parents had always discouraged me from playing, so this is finally my chance to have a go at an actual tournament.” Said Amelia

Charlie on the other hand spoke about how they had almost gotten to a professional level but then quit because they were treated unfairly for being gay. As their conversation continued, a boom echoed around the tennis court and a voice began to speak.

“Welcome to the tournament of the dreamers!” the voice boomed, “Everyone attending this tournament had a childhood dream of playing tennis, and each of you will fulfill that dream here.”

As Charlie and Amelia looked around, they realized that there were at least thirty others also listening to what was being said. “The tournament will be played in a doubles format who have been randomly paired.”

The voice went on to announce the pairs, and Charlie and Amelia found out that they would be playing side-by-side for the rest of the tournament. The two then became remarkably close and as they played in the next two matches together, they realized that the voice telling everyone what to do was beginning to make them uncomfortable and their curiosity grew making them want to know more about this voice. So, the two made the decision to go to the man organizing the tournament and ask him about the announcements.

When they entered the office of the organizer, their eyes immediately went to the giant Venus Fly Trap-like creature in the middle of the room which sent a **shiver** down Amelia's spine. It had one giant mouth that was surrounded by spiky bits of dark green skin, the leaves were unfurled with little white hairs that seemed to be constantly moving as though they were trying to grasp something that was too far away.

"Hello," said the Fly Trap, "What are you two doing in here?" it continued, revealing its **ruby** red mouth. "What are you, where is the organizer of the tournament?"

"There is no organizer, there has only ever been me!"



Chapter 3: Eaten



BANG! The Giant Venus Fly Trap closed its mouth around Charlie and Amelia!

“AMELIA!” Charlie cried out “ARE YOU OK!?!”

The two were sent flying in different directions trapped in the stomach of the Fly Trap as they tried to stay still, fighting against the stomach of the plant that was puffy and squishy like a **sponge**. They screamed out to each other making sure that they were safe. Amelia was thinking about how to get out immediately. She started to think as if they were in a video game, looking around for something sharp enough to pierce the Venus Fly Trap’s tough skin.

“Do you have anything strong enough to cut this monster's skin?” asked Amelia.

“Huh? No clue.” Answered Charlie blankly. “BUT I THINK THAT THIS VENUS FLY TRAP IS TOTALLY UNCOOL!” Charlie said with a burst of anger.

“Sure. Totally uncool.” Amelia was rolling her eyes, wondering how Charlie was not more serious about this.

“Did you eat me...” Charlie started to say, “CAUSE I’M GAY!?!?!?”

Suddenly, Charlie and Amelia felt a watery substance seep out from the Venus Fly Trap's skin. "IT'S ACID!" exclaimed Charlie. "Venus Fly Trap is let out acid to digest their prey! IT'S GOING TO MELT US!"

Amelia was shocked, was this the end? It could not be Amelia thought I have so much to do in my life! Will I never see my mother and father again!

Charlie was fearing for their life they never thought the way a charity worker would end up would be getting digested by a carnivore's plant!!

Charlie and Amelia were terrified, so terrified that they did not realize when their eyelids began to feel heavy, and they both passed out...

Chapter 4: Unknown land

They woke up, finding themselves lying on a purple slimy, goopy floor. There were random structures, in random places, as though someone had tried to make something beautiful but ended up with so many scattered objects that it looked worse than a toddler's playroom. Charlie tried to get up while their arms were practically sinking into the ground. Amelia managed to get up by using her momentum and pulling herself up, and then quickly pulling up Charlie. The two looked around, processing this new, unknown land.

"WHERE ARE WE!" screamed Charlie, desperately.

"Calm down, I see this happen in video games all the time." said Amelia calmly.

"DOES THIS LOOK LIKE A VIDEO GAME!?!!" shouted Charlie dramatically

"First we must analyze our surroundings." Amelia said, as though narrating a book. "We must see if we are in danger."

She was about to ask Charlie what they thought, when Amelia realized that Charlie was already walking away. She shouted after Charlie frantically trying to catch up but constantly failing due to the squishy floor, wondering how they got so far so quickly. Charlie turned around to see Amelia.

"I think we should walk in this direction," said Charlie "It's just a thought."

"Okay." replied Amelia.

The two walked in the direction that Charlie had suggested, still unsure of where they were. Soon they began to see what they thought was a tennis court in the distance with little figures moving around. Charlie's suspicions might have led them to the actual game.

Chapter 5: More Tennis

“Welcome to the Tennis Tournament” the announcer said, “the true tournament has finally begun!!”

“More tennis, that’s strange...” Charlie exclaimed.

What the pair did not know was that they were not the only ones there. They looked over at the other contestants that came up to the bench.

“You will now battle it out to go back to ‘your’ world, the tournament will go on as it was before, but now, losing means you will be eaten by my Venus Fly Trap, a carnivorous plant! The pair who win will get to go back and live their lives normally and have everything needed to fulfill their dreams of being a professional tennis player, but everyone else will stay down here as food for my beloved plant. So be prepared to play some of your best tennis, and hope that you survive!” The announcer said in a teasing way.

Amelia and Charlie stood in shock, realizing what was at stake if they lost even one match. The two knew that they needed each other more than ever, and trust was vital if they wanted to make it out of this place alive. For the rest of the day Amelia and Charlie played tennis nonstop. Then as they were walking to the bench Amelia suddenly bumped into someone.

“Urgh, move out of the way. Do you know who I am?!” Chloe shouted.

“Oh, uh” Amelia started to blush “I’m so sorry I did not mean to do that.”

“You better be sorry!”

Charlie ran over to the commotion, they put their hand on Amelia’s shoulder.

“Don’t talk to her like that!”

Amelia smiled as they both walked away from the bench.

“You know what I just realized?! It has been ages since I have had something **tasty!**” Charlie groaned, in hopes that it would distract Amelia from the incident that happened.

“We’re stuck in this weird place, and you’re concerned about food!?!” said Amelia

“Well... I mean” said Charlie, “Food’s important!”

“Sure. Just forget about food and help me prepare for the next match.” said Amelia sarcastically.

Chapter 6: Competition

Amelia and Charlie had played many games, and had finally reached the finals, if they won this they would be going home! Their next doubles game is against Chloe Janvier and Ivy Blanchet, they had met before but not in a situation like this. Their opponents looked at Amelia and Charlie in a way as if they had no use of any kind in the world.

When Charlie served the ball, they accidentally hit Chloe in the face with the ball, leaving a round, red mark on her face. If it hit any other place on her body, it would have wounded her in a way that she would have never been able to move around freely. She screeched and fell to the floor with a thud.

She yelled the words “HELP! TIME OUT! FOUL!”

Her teammate, Ivy Blanchet dragged her to the time out table as she continued to whine about getting hit in the face. Both Charlie and Amelia had some time to process what had happened. They went over to the break room and had some time to relax, not knowing that at the same time Chloe was generously handing money to the referees. Both Chloe and Ivy had come from money, and the thought of not making it back home scared them. The two then went on to bribe the referees and even oil Amelia's racquet!

As the players returned to the tennis court, Amelia noticed that her racquet felt different, but she did not know what it was. The referee blew his whistle and Chloe served the ball! It flew right to Charlie who hit it back without hesitation, making it go right passed Ivy before she could react, and scoring a clear point. Then Amelia served, but just as she was about to hit the ball, her hand slipped randomly, and she missed, letting the ball just drop to the floor. Chloe and Ivy let out two wicked, matching laughs as Amelia's cheeks flushed red.

“Hey, don't worry, its one point that we can get back easy peasy!” Said Charlie reassuringly. Amelia let out a deep breath and nodded thanks.

It was Chloe's serve, and she softly hit the ball letting it drift right to Amelia who went to hit the easy pass, but once again missed, her hand slipping on the racquet handle. The pattern went on for some time, until Chloe and Ivy had doubled

Amelia and Charlie's points. Not only that, but half the time when Charlie would score a point, the ref deemed that it did not count because Charlie's stance was wrong, or they were standing in an illegal spot. Both Charlie and Amelia were convinced that Chloe and Ivy were cheating!



Chapter 7: Success

“Charlie! Get over right now!” Amelia shouted standing at the edge of the court.

“Gee, calm done!” replied Charlie hastily

“We have 5 minutes to talk over a plan to beat Ivy and Chloe, and then that's it!”
Said Amelia in a shaky voice.

They spoke about their strategy to beat them, and I think we both know that they are cheating! Amelia told Charlie about her faulty racquet, and they both agreed on the biased referee. Then just as they finished planning the ref blew his whistle again.

The second Amelia and Charlie went back to the court. Charlie screamed that the referee was biased.

“HE IS TOTALLY BIASED! CHLOE AND IVY ARE CHEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEATERS!”

Charlie went on for the next ten minutes, their charity work experience finally paying off. Amelia was surprised, but at the same time proud to have Charlie on her team. After Charlie's rant, the referee was replaced, taking away one of their troubles. Chloe served; the ball went swiftly to Charlie who smashed it to the other side, scoring the first point of the set! The two teams went back and forth, Charlie and Amelia gaining points rapidly! Then the ball went to Amelia who missed the ball. Amelia could not take it anymore, Charlie scoring all the points and she was constantly missing. So, she lifted her racquet and smashed it with her knee breaking it clean in half! Charlie stared at her, before throwing her the tennis racquet.

“We'll take turns, when it goes to you, you to take the racquet, and same for me.”
Charlie smiled kindly, showing their understanding.

They went on scoring point after point until they were tied with thirty seconds left on the clock. Charlie served quickly, letting the ball speed towards Ivy who quickly hit it back to the corner on Amelia's side of the court. Charlie knew that they

would have to pass it to Amelia quickly and threw it as Amelia broke into a dive to get the ball. The racquet went perfectly into her hand mid dive and Amelia managed to hit the ball perfectly so that it dashed to the other side and right to the opposite corner before Chloe or Ivy could get to it. They scored a point. The referee blew his whistle. THEY HAD WON! Amelia and Charlie stood still for a couple seconds, realizing what had happened.

“WE WON!!!” Shouted Charlie after processing what had happened.

“WE DID!” Amelia replied, and then wrapped Charlie in a bear hug barely letting them breathe!

“Congratulations to Ivy and Chloe” said the referee loudly

Amelia and Charlie look at each other puzzled.

“Oh, my mistake...” The referee started saying.

“Did you choose them because I’m GAY!?” shouted Charlie angrily, “How dare you!”

The announcer continued ignoring Charlie's comment “Congratulations to Amelia and Charlie!”

“Urgh! How dare you! We were supposed to win!” groaned Chloe.

“Yeah!” said Ivy, “We even bribed the referee!”

There was silence, as Ivy realized what she had said.

“I mean.... We did not cheat. We really did not”

They had won the private Brisbane tournament, and as promised by the Venus Fly Trap and the announcer, they were sent back to their own world. Charlie and Amelia stayed connected, and slowly became good friends, some might even say the best of friends that anyone has ever met. Amelia spoke to her parents about tennis and told them that she was going to play in doubles competitions with someone she had met in a ‘friendly’ tournament. They played together, making one of the greatest duos in Australia, and never heard from anyone that participated in the tournament. Amelia never stopped despising Chloe and Ivy for their cheating no matter how much time had passed and made sure that she never cheated in Tennis so that everyone would be able to play fairly and not be

pressured the same way she was. She also went on to create some of the most popular tennis-based video games on Earth.

Meanwhile in Darwin, Charlie had continued their charity work, but soon started to expand on their charities. Making it so that they could be seen in a different park everyday protesting for climate change, animals, but never once ceasing their interest in the gay rights charity. However, one new thing was that both Charlie and Amelia became able to speak their mind and stand up for themselves as they moved up in life, becoming not only great tennis players, but a renowned charity worker, and a legendary gaming developer.



5 YEARS LATER

“No, it cannot sell for just 1.4 million! I am only selling it for 2 million,” shouted Amelia.

There is no way I am letting my best game go on at such a low price, thought Amelia as she picked up her phone again to call Charlie for advice. Charlie was in Indonesia, doing charity work for new houses to be built in dangerous areas with many homeless people.

Charlie was wearing a high visibility vest and construction helmet when their phone buzzed. They picked it up to immediately hear Amelia shouting at them.

“HOW DO I ARGUE WITH PEOPLE FOR A HIGHER PRICE!?!” Shouted Amelia

“Why do you think I’d know?” said Charlie in reply.

“You technically beg people for money as your job.” said Amelia.

The two went back and forth until Charlie finally began to help Amelia with her original problem. When they were done, the topic of the conversation turned to tennis and Amelia told Charlie about one of the upcoming tournaments.

“Anyways, we should totally go! We’d crush them and win!” said Amelia

“You know what, I’m flying back in a few days,” said Charlie, “LET’S DO IT!”