

What to do today

IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

1. Read the article: Flutag Explanation

- Read the article '*Flutag Explanation*' and then watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kmEUuai-tE>
- Explain Flutag to somebody else, so that they are clear about what it involves and know three facts about it.
- Highlight and name all the punctuation that you can find in *Flutag Explanation*.

2. Revise linking clauses using semi-colons, colons and dashes

- Use the *PowerPoint* or the *Revision Card* to remind yourself about using colons, semi-colons and dashes to link clauses.
- Complete either *Linking Clauses 1* or *Linking Clauses 2*. (Version 2 is more challenging).

Explain your answers to a grown-up. Explain why you chose particular punctuation.

3. Now for some writing

- Look at the design for a *Giant Flying Techno Badger*.
- Write some sentences about this – include clauses separated with semi-colons, colons and dashes. Maybe use some of the *Example Sentences*.

Try these Fun-Time Extras

- Find out more about Flutag. Which is your favourite machine? Look again at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kmEUuai-tE>
- Design a Flutag Flying machine of your own.

Flugtag Explanation

Flugtag (German for flight day) is an event in which competitors attempt to fly home-made, human-powered flying machines. Teams that enter the competition are judged according to three criteria: distance, creativity and showmanship.

The crafts are limited to around 10m and 150kg. They must be powered by human-effort and gravity. The designs have to be unsinkable: they ultimately end up in the water. The flying machines are usually launched off a pier about 30 feet (9.1 m) high into the sea.

Most competitors enter for the entertainment value; the flying machines rarely fly at all. A design, in 2013, that paired a glider with a launch-tower, flew over 63m and broke the world-record.

The original format was invented in Selsey, a small seaside town in England, under the name Birdman Rally.

Flutag competitions happen each year – you could plan to take part one day!

Revision Card – Linking Clauses

Using Semi-Colons to link clauses

Semi-colons are used in formal writing.

Semi-colons can be used to link two independent clauses that are *closely related*.

We tried as hard as we could. We crashed within seconds.

We tried as hard as we could; we crashed within seconds.



Our machine had taken months to build; it was now in pieces.

We swam for the shore; the crowd applauded and laughed.

The **semi-colon** emphasises the close link.

It links main clauses like a co-ordinating conjunction. The two clauses have *equal weight*.

To link two clauses: replace the full stop with a semi-colon and then use lower case to start the second main clause.

Using Colons to link clauses

Colons are used in formal writing.

Colons are used slightly differently.

They also show a link between clauses, when *the second clause expands the first*.

She flew a record-breaking distance. Her craft was aerodynamic.

She flew a record-breaking distance: her craft was aerodynamic.



She deserved her success: she had planned her design carefully.

She was overwhelmed: she had not expected to break the record.

The **colon** emphasises how the second clause expands on the first.

It links clauses like a subordinating conjunction. The second clause has *less weight* than the first.

To link two clauses: replace the full stop with a colon and then use lower case to start the second main clause.

Using Dashes to link clauses

Dashes are used in informal writing.

We can use **dashes** like colons and semi-colons.

They indicate grammatical breaks.

They are used in informal writing—the rules are less precise.

My heart was beating like crazy—it was awesome .



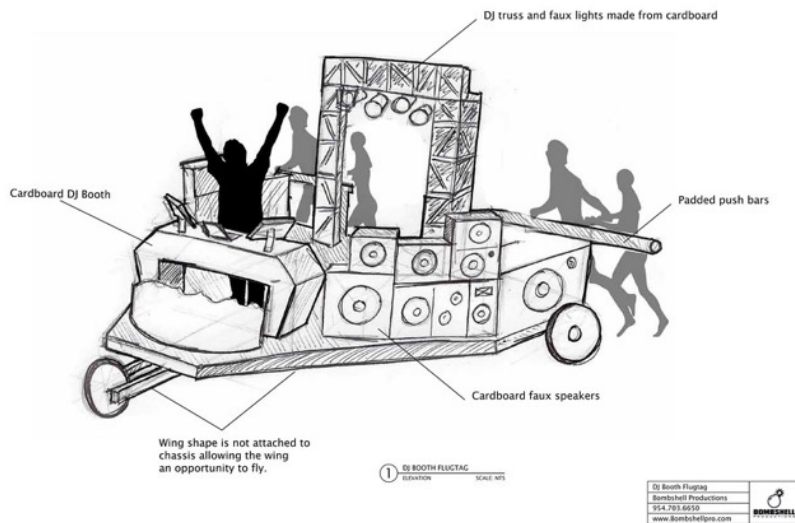
I'm so proud—I can't wait to tell Nan.

It just kept going—you're a complete hero.



To link two clauses: replace the full stop with a dash and then use lower case to start the second main clause.

Linking Clauses 1



Link the independent clauses using semi-colons.

1. The theme of the craft is a night-club it will include a booth.
2. The lights and speakers are made of cardboard the main chassis will be wooden.
3. Power will be provided by the team pushing from behind the pilot will simply enjoy the ride.

Link the independent clauses using colons

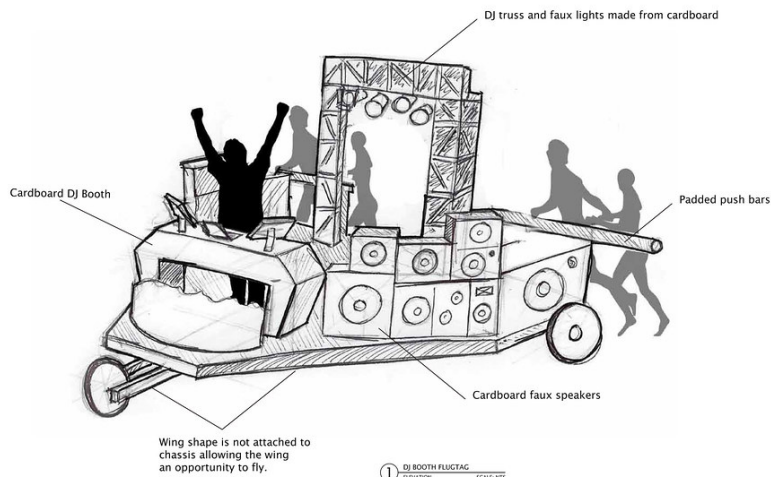
4. The design uses a lot of cardboard it is an environmentally friendly material.
5. The push bars are padded they will be more comfortable for the team.
6. The lights and speakers are not real they avoid the dangers of using electricity.

Link the independent clauses using dashes

7. I will stand at the front and wave my arms I'm just along for the ride!
8. We don't think we will get actually fly we hope to look cool rather than go far.
9. It's been great building it now let's see whether it flies!

Write explaining why we can choose semi-colons, colons or dashes to mark independent clauses.

Linking Clauses 2

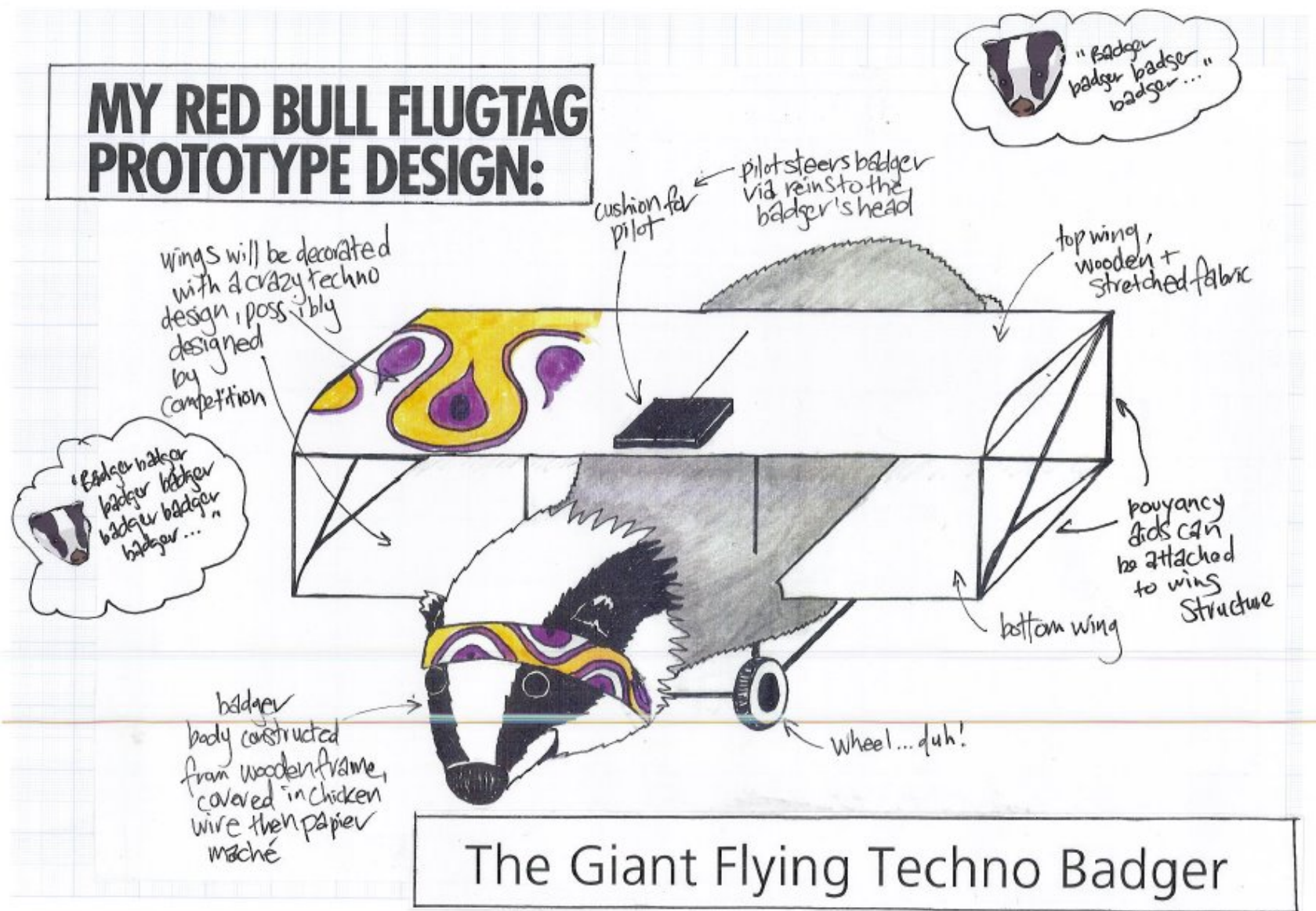


Choose semi-colons, colons or dashes to mark the independent clauses. Think carefully about which you choose.

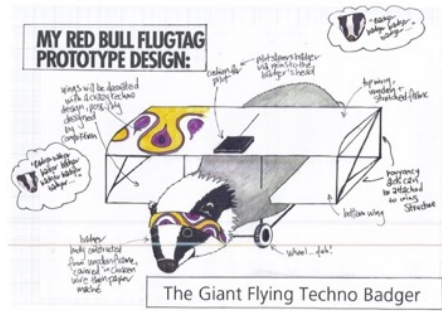
1. The theme of the craft is a night-club it will include a booth.
2. We don't think we will get it to actually fly we hope to look cool rather than go far.
3. The lights and speakers are made of cardboard the main chassis will be wooden.
4. The lights and speakers are not real they avoid the dangers of using electricity.
5. The design uses a lot of cardboard it is an environmentally friendly material.
6. The push bars are padded they will be more comfortable for the team.
7. I will stand at the front and wave my arms I'm just along for the ride!
8. Power will be provided by the team pushing from behind the pilot will simply enjoy the ride.
9. It's been great building it now let's see whether it flies!

Choose three of your sentences and explain why you chose that particular piece of punctuation.

MY RED BULL FLUGTAG PROTOTYPE DESIGN:



Example Sentences



You will need to add semi-colons, colons or dashes to these sentence.

1. The design includes the following components*
decorated wings, an animal nose-piece, a cushion for the pilot and a wheeled base.
2. The badger body is made from papier maché*
the wings will use stretched fabric.
3. The design combines two elements* style and fun.
4. Buoyancy aids are essential* the craft will end up in the water.
5. The pilot will need many qualities* balance, bravery and a sense of humour!

Giant Flying Techno Badger

Write sentences about the flying machine.

Use some sentences that have two clauses that are separated with semi-colons, colons or dashes.

You could use some of the Example Sentences, but try your own too.



A large rectangular writing area with a decorative orange and black zigzag border. The interior is white with horizontal lines for writing.

Linking Clauses ANSWERS

Link the independent clauses using semi-colons.

1. The theme of the craft is a night-club; it will include a booth.
2. The lights and speakers are made of cardboard; the main chassis will be wooden.
3. Power will be provided by the team pushing from behind; the pilot will simply enjoy the ride.

Link the independent clauses using colons

4. The design uses a lot of cardboard: it is an environmentally friendly material.
5. The push bars are padded: they will be more comfortable for the team.
6. The lights and speakers are not real: they avoid the dangers of using electricity.

Link the independent clauses using dashes

7. I will stand at the front and wave my arms - I'm just along for the ride!
8. We don't think we will get actually fly - we hope to look cool rather than go far.
9. It's been great building it - now let's see whether it flies!