

# Stone Cold

## KS3 Activity Book



UPDATE V1.1, AUGUST 2014

Suitable for the New National Curriculum

KS3 English  
(2014)



POD 1655

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# Teacher's Introduction

This booklet has been created as a supplement for any scheme of work on the novel *Stone Cold*. These worksheets ensure that every chapter of the novel has its own unique task for pupils to complete, therefore making this booklet an invaluable tool for anyone teaching the novel.

The booklet features a vast array of tasks which vary from comprehension questions to media activities, and creative writing projects to challenging quizzes.

To maintain a level of differentiation there is often a more challenging task at the end of each chapter's activities, which provides an extension activity for the more able pupils of the class.

A brief commentary on some of the more difficult tasks has been included for teachers who are not so familiar with the novel.

## Update v1.1, August 2014

Front pages and formatting updated

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\* resulting from minor specification changes, suggestions from teachers and peer reviews, or occasional errors reported by customers

## Teacher's Notes

Teachers can find guidance here on some of the more challenging questions. The title and chapter number of each task has been included to assist the teacher.

### A Family Portrait

#### Page 3

Carole's reason for leaving home is only broadly hinted at by Swindells, and sex abuse will obviously need to be handled carefully.

### Worst Christmas

#### Page 11

Link's decision to go to London is a culmination of the cruel treatment he has suffered from his stepfather Vince, and his frustration of his mother's weakness in supporting him. London provide him with a fresh start, where nobody would know his name, and good prospects in finding a job.

### Daily Routine 4

#### Page 13

Sappho was the name of an Ancient Greek female poet, and therefore a very unusual name. Once again Shelter is keen to project the image of himself as a kind and cultured man.

### Daily Routine Orders 5

#### Page 17

Swindells prepares the reader for a violent crime by placing the preceding paragraph in a grim weather. Pupils should understand that the writer is hinting to the reader that a crime is about to come.

Whilst ensuring that the novel remains a text suitable for pupils, Swindell's detailed description of the murder, allowing the reader to imagine themselves how it might have appeared. Nevertheless, it is Shelter's casual narration of such a callous and brutal act makes the deed so much more sinister.

### Daily Routine Orders 7

#### Page 27

Pupils need to be made aware of the concept of serial killing at this stage of the novel.

### Daily Routine Orders 9

#### Page 46

Shelter calls his murdered victims "recruits"; in his insane mind he believes he is taking them from the streets to "make soldiers of them".

The third victim is not so easily duped by the killer; he is more suspicious and presents a greater challenge for Shelter.

Swindells' use of dramatic irony is amusing here: the homeless person volunteers to join the army, whilst not realising that Shelter is a staunch supporter of the military. The reader can feel the murderer's blood boil.

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## Captain Hook

### Page 50

A discussion here about the harsh and unbearable conditions experienced by ships in their hundreds is useful in getting the pupils to envisage conditions and understand the writer's allusion to this historical horror.

## Link in Love

### Page 71

Falling in love causes Link to: *forget about his missing friend Ginger, gain a strength much easier to bear the winter weather, and to recover from his traumatic experience*

## Daily Routine Orders 13

### Page 76

Shelter calls his recruits the "Camden Horizontals" due to their close location to London and the fact that his murdered victims are lying horizontally under the ground.

## 9 Mornington Place

### Page 87

Pupils who have finished reading the novel could surmise that because Gary could have bribed Captain Hook for the address of Shelter's flat.

## Who am I?

1. Ginger
2. Link's landlord – "rat-face"
3. Link's stepfather Vince
4. Ginger's female friend Toya.

## Happy Ending?

### Page 98

Homeless People – it is important here for students to discuss Swindell's perspective on a homeless person. How do the pupils now perceive homeless people? Have they changed their attitudes? A discussion of what Stone Cold has achieved in encouraging public awareness of the homeless would be an effective means of reviewing the novel.

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## **A Family Portrait**

*Page 3*

1. Describe Link's mum's character. Use a quote from the text to support your answer.
2. Describe Vince's character. Make a list of all the descriptive words used to portray his character.
3. Describe Carole's character. Use a quote to support your answer.
4. Why did Carole leave home?
5. Why did Link become homeless?

## **Daily Routine Orders 1 & 2**

*Page 2 & 6*

1. How does Shelter describe his name on page 2? Use a quote to support your answer.
2. Who does he describe as needing shelter?
3. Explain the different meanings that "I'm ready for you" have.
4. How does he describe getting used to his new name on page 6?
5. Make a list of the words (language) used on page 6 that Shelter is up to no good.

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## Life on the Streets

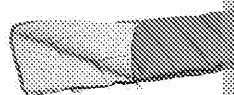
Page 7

1. Which people was Link embarrassed to see when begging?
2. Where did he go "once or twice" a week?
3. Make a list of all the negative aspects of living on the streets.
4. Why is there "nowhere you can run to" when living on the streets? to support your answer.

## Daily Routine 3

Page 9

1. Find a quote that tells us which type of people Shelter dislikes.
2. Who did Shelter previously work with?
3. Find a quote that shows us what he used to train people for.
4. What does Shelter believe is happening to the country?
5. Using your knowledge of this character so far, draw a picture of his most stern characteristics.



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## **Worst Christmas**

*Page 11*

1. Why did no one employ Link? (page 11)
2. Describe, using quotations, the Christmas present Link
3. Make a list of the words Vince uses to describe Link.
4. Why did Link decide to go to London?
5. Imagine you are Link, arriving on the streets of London  
entry describing your fears and concerns.

## **Daily Routine 4**

*Page 13*

1. Locate the word in the first paragraph that tells  
very careful organiser.
2. Why has Shelter acquired a cat? Find a quote to
3. Why does he call the cat Sappho?
4. What do you think Shelter is planning to do?

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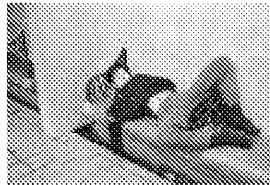




## Life in London

Page 14

1. In what time of year did Link arrive in London? Use a quote.
2. Find a quote on page 14 that shows us how innocent and naïve Link was when arriving in London.
3. Describe the character of the man with a room to rent.
4. Which other places does Link go to during his first day in London?
5. Using the text on page 15, draw the ad that was in the shop window.



## Daily Routine Orders 5

Page 17

1. Find a quote that describes what the weather was like on the day the story begins.
2. Why has the writer chosen to use such weather in the story?
3. What does Shelter “make up” when talking to the homeless man?
4. What simile does the writer use to portray the homeless man? Why is this effective?
5. Describe what you think happened to the victim. Why do you think it happened? Include exactly what happened?

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## Evening and Rent!

Page 19

1. What types of places did Link look for work in?
2. How does Link's landlord treat him?
3. How did Link become one of the "homeless kids"? (page 20)
4. Write a play script of the dialogue between Link and his landlord. How would Link say? Imagine how desperate he would be when being faced with the streets.

## My Own Chapter

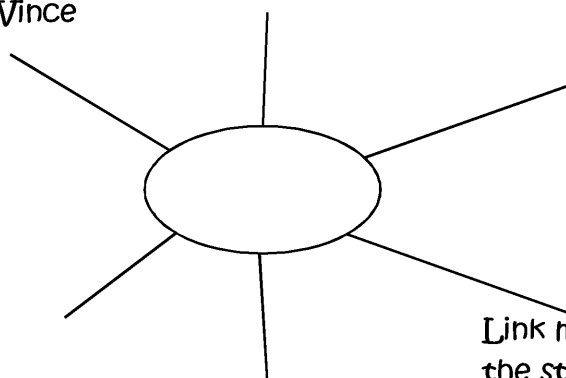
Sometimes when we read a novel we can be let down with what happens. What if that something different had happened to the characters. Good writers can produce their own ideas for what events could occur in a story.

With the person sat next to you discuss all the different possibilities. Write them down in your next chapter of Stone Cold. Here are some ideas to help you.

- Could you use a character that hasn't appeared in the story yet?
- Maybe you could give a minor character a major role within the chapter.
- What could be the funniest, scariest, or most interesting thing that happens?

Draw and complete this brainstorm. Can you devise the most interesting storyline in the class? Once you have finished this you can write your own chapter of the novel!

Link decides to go home  
and confront Vince



Link meets Sheela  
on the streets

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# Missing Punctuation

*These two paragraphs have punctuation missing. Copy the books, inserting the missing capital letters and full stops. All punctuation is included.*

the book i am reading is called stone cold it is written by  
is the author the main character link is forced to live on  
the cruel treatment of his stepfather vince

the other main character of the novel is shelter, who helps  
for the homeless people he pretends to be a nice person  
offering shelter to the people on the streets, but instead  
them

## Daily Routine Orders 6

Page 21

Using pages 21 and 22, answer these crossword clues.

1. Killing (6 letters)
2. A chief function of a soldier (5 letters)
3. They don't jail you for killing ----- of the country (7 letters)
4. Another word for the *hiding* of the body (9 letters)
5. Soldiers don't have to ----- the bodies of victims (7 letters)
6. How easy is killing? (4 & 4 letters)
7. A way of disposing of a body (13 letters)
8. Which floor is Shelter's flat (6 letters)
9. Bodies don't smell when they are ---- (4 letters)
10. Shelter now believes the streets are ----- (6 letters)

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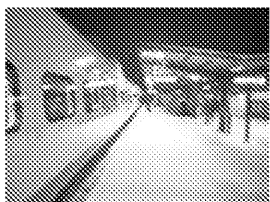


## Mugged

Page 23

Here are the key events of this chapter:

- Link finds a good deep doorway, and rests for two hours.
- Link goes to a train station to use the toilet.
- Link is almost caught for not paying to use the toilet.
- Link has his watch stolen by another homeless person.



Draw a comic strip with a picture for each event.

Divide the page in your exercise book into four sections.

Label each picture with one quotation from the chapter.

## Daily Routine Orders 7

Page 27

1. What does Shelter mean when he says killing is like parachuting?
2. What is the pattern that serial killers make?
3. How does the writer describe Shelter's next victim?
4. How does Shelter trick the lady to go into his flat?
5. Describe what type of murderer you believe Shelter is.

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## Ginger

Page 30

Copy this table into your book, and fill in the information about L

Name	Ginger
Appearance	"Just a shadow framed in
Accent	
Habits	
Street Knowledge	
Good or Bad Friend?	
Source of Income	

## Begging

Page 35

- Using the text on page 35, make a bullet point list of the people have when they see a beggar. Can you find 6 different things Ginger receives when begging for money?
- Explain what the two types of "givers" are. (page 36)

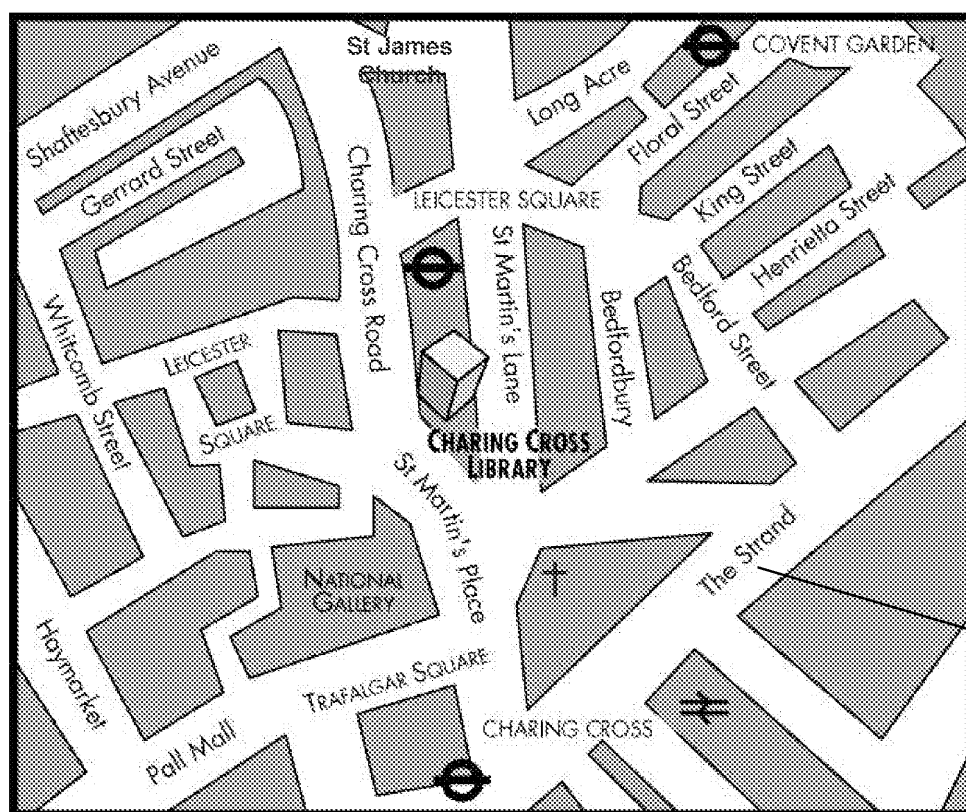
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## In the City Centre

Page 39



## Sleeping Rough

Page 41

1. Using page 41, write down three disadvantages of
2. Name three other disadvantages from page 42.
3. Using the disadvantages from questions 1 and 2, write about yourself sleeping on the streets of London. Use your five senses.



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## Daily Routine Orders 9

Page 46

1. What does Shelter mean by “three recruits”?
2. How is Shelter’s third victim different to the first two?
3. What lie does Shelter tell this time?
4. How does the writer make this passage more interesting inside reaction to what the victim talks about.
5. Using the information on pages 46 and 47, design a missile. Include his description and last seen whereabouts.

## Captain Hook

Page 50

1. Describe the business “Captain Hook” runs. Is it safe?
2. Look at the description of Captain Hook (Probyn) on page 50. How does the writer make the character seem repulsive and nasty?
3. What other type of ship does Link compare the barge to?
4. Describe what the atmosphere on the barge is like. Use a simile. Have you ever enjoyed the experience.
5. Find three advantages and three disadvantages of Captain Hook’s text from the chapter to help you.

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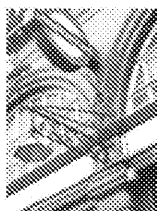
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## Vanishing

Page 57

1. Why were the last days of January so difficult?
2. Why did Link and Ginger make a placard?
3. Describe Link's physical appearance and condition in January.
4. Why was Link hurt about Ginger's trip to Holborn?
5. Make a list of three possibilities for Ginger's disappearance. Which is most likely?



## Daily Routine Orders 11

Page 61

**Write each half sentence (1 to 7) into your exercise book. Then write the correct other half in the box below (A to G).**

1. Shelter plans to cruelly murder
2. Ginger leaves Link, taking
3. Shelter watches Link all
4. When Ginger comes back,
5. Shelter pretends that he has
6. Ginger rushes to the flat,
7. Shelter went to the station to do

- a. a tube to see
- b. and is murdered
- c. the same to Link
- d. Ginger for later
- e. day, waiting for
- f. run Link over
- g. Shelter sneaks

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**Toya and Gail**  
*Page 64*

Draw this table into your exercise book, filling in the columns for the new female characters of the novel.

	Toya	
Appearance		
Street Knowledge		
Helps Link?		
Future in novel?		

**Link in Love**  
*Page 71*

1. Why is it more difficult for a "dosser" to get a girlfriend? Give your answer. (page 71)
2. Make a list of the Romantic actions and things that Link and Gail do.
3. What facts and actions about Gail make the reader suspicious?
4. Name three effects that falling in love has upon Link.

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## Daily Routine Orders 13

Page 76

1. Make a list of famous combinations of seven. (see page 75)
2. Why did Shelter choose a black victim?
3. Explain why Shelter calls his 'recruits' the "Camden Homeboys".
4. Why does Shelter buy shoes from several shops?
5. Write an eye witness account by one of Shelter's neighbours about different people that come back to his flat. Choose an incident for your writing, using specific language to portray their character.

## A Worried Father

Page 78

1. Why did Link become so intent upon getting a job? Use a key word in your answer.
2. How does the writer portray the character of Toya's father?
3. What information did Captain Hook give to the worried father?
4. Write a play script between Shelter and Toya. How would they feel about going back to his flat? Would it be easy or difficult?

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# Shelter's Seven Victims

Fill in this table with details from the text about the seven homeless people that shelter murders in the novel.

Victim	Description of Victim	Method of Murder
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		

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## Detective Work

Page 82

1. Who is Nick, and what new information does he give you?
2. Imagine you are a journalist for a National paper reporting on the increasing number of disappearing homeless people. What questions you could ask Nick in an interview.
3. Describe the character of the Police Sergeant.
4. Devise your own plan for Link and Gail of investigating the disappearances. What could they do?

## Daily Routine Orders 15

Page 85

1. Who does Shelter receive a visit from?
2. What sort of character does Shelter pretend to be in front of the others?
3. Make a list of the vocabulary that Shelter uses to give orders. How does the writer use language to portray a character differently?
4. Name three different ways that Shelter makes himself a character in this chapter.

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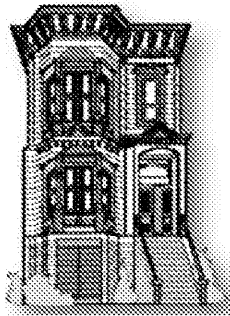
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## 9 Mornington Place

Page 87

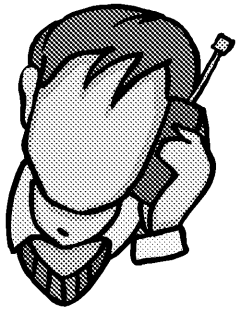
1. How does Gail get the address of Shelter's flat?
2. Look at the description of the house on **page 88**; what the writer use to make Shelter's home appear ominous?
3. How does Shelter appear to be a normal everyday person when being watched by Link and Gail?
4. Describe **three** different ways in which Link and Gail could sneak into Shelter's flat.



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## Who am I?

**Try to work out who these facts could be in the novel:**

1. I could tell he was green, you know - new to the street. I met him. He gave me food and told me he had money. I was a kid.
2. Two words: Evening and Rent! It's very simple, if you can't pay...then get out! I think that's very negotiable, don't you?
3. What a waste of skin! Feeding off his mother like that! Out to the early hours of the morning every night! Giving me dark looks all the time, just cos his mother loves me! I can't help that can I? He deserves to be on the streets, as long as it stops costing our pockets!
4. It's worrying what Link said about Ginger going missing. I realise, that's what it's like on the streets. You can't trust anybody, and that's pretty much what I told him when I was with Ginger.

**Now create two of your own "Who am I?" paragraphs for another two characters from Stone Cold. Try to give your writing detailed facts from the novel.**

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## Into the Lion's Den

Page 90

Link and Gail have an \_\_\_\_\_ about going back to Mornington \_\_\_\_\_. Link storms off in a \_\_\_\_\_, and spends the rest of the day \_\_\_\_\_ on Shelter's flat.

After several \_\_\_\_\_ hours Shelter appears, \_\_\_\_\_ to look for his cat. Link is completely \_\_\_\_\_ by his "do-gooder" image, and accepts an \_\_\_\_\_ to go inside for something to \_\_\_\_\_.

Link \_\_\_\_\_ his mistake when he sees his \_\_\_\_\_ in the film. Shelter \_\_\_\_\_ everything, and forces Link to look at the evidence. Shelter prepares to \_\_\_\_\_ Link with a \_\_\_\_\_, when police sirens \_\_\_\_\_.

garrotte      eat      corpses      wet      spy  
pretending      realises      watch  
argument      invitation      reveals      kill  
temper      fooled

**After filling in the blanks with the words in the box, write a brief summary of this chapter, using each of the three paragraphs.**

## Happy Ending?

Page 98

Copy and fill in this table into your books, explaining what happens to each of the people at the end of the novel. Is there a happy ending?

Character	Outcome
Shelter	
Gail (Louise)	
Link	
Homeless People?	

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# Final Tasks

1. **Rewrite the last chapter of Stone Cold. Change the original! Will you have a happy ending? or a sad one? a mystery? Maybe a final plot twist?**

**Carefully make a plan of the events that will happen. Once you have planned your chapter you can begin to write.**

2. You are a director of children's television programmes. You will direct a three part series of the novel Stone Cold. Each episode is half an hour long.

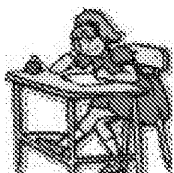
You must plan what exactly happens in each episode of the series. You must evenly plan out the events of the novel. For example you could cover the first three chapters in two episodes and have the last three chapters into one episode! Clearly describe the events of each episode in your work.

3. **Design the newspaper article that Louise Bain (Gemma) has written about the serial killer Shelter's arrest. What should the headline be? Your story needs to cover the seven reasons for killing, and Link's success in bringing the killer to light.**

**A good newspaper article must have: an interesting headline, a picture, quotes from people who are involved in the story and an excellent quality of writing.**

4. You are a book reviewer for a national newspaper. You will write a review of Stone Cold. In your review you must discuss the characters you liked and why, the use of horror created in the novel and your overall opinion of the novel.

A good book review should include: a star rating of the book, an attractive layout with a picture, and a well structured piece of writing into paragraphs. Would you advise your audience to read the book?



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