

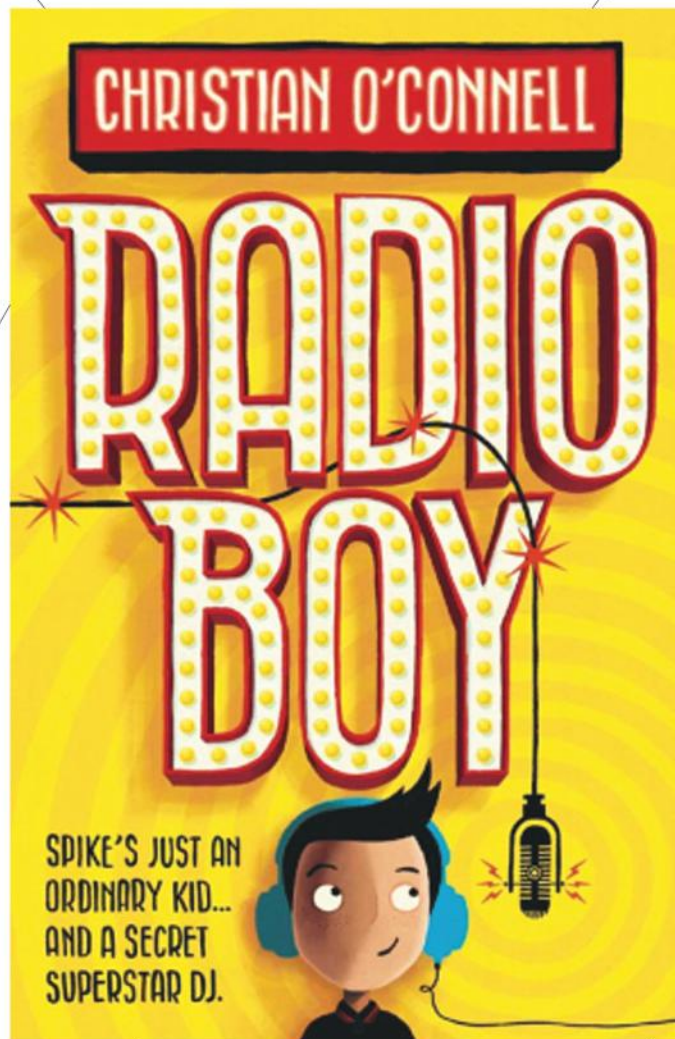
Sentence Starters

'Radio Boy'

'I sprinted up the steps out of the hospital basement, fleeing the scene of the dreadful crime. The crime of Barry Dingle killing my radio career.'
(page 19)

'My bottom lip has started to wobble, and my eyes flooded with tears. The tears of a dream who'd just has his heart RIPPED out, put into a blender and then force-fed back to him.'
(page 9)

'My mum told me that the smoke detectors around our house were in fact cameras that went directly to the North Pole and Father Christmas so he could see if you were misbehaving.'
(page 196)



'I'm in,' I said. 'I need to do this.' Part of me smiled as I said those words. Like I had awoken a deep desire sleeping within me.'
(page 114)

'This was a devastatingly serious situation so I used no emojis. There isn't an emoji for 'I've been sacked by a bald-headed monster and set three stink bombs off, causing a studio evacuation.'
(page 22)

'I walked past the dozing security guard. Quite why there was a security guard at the hospital always puzzled me. Was someone trying to steal the patients? What would they do with them? Sell them on eBay?'
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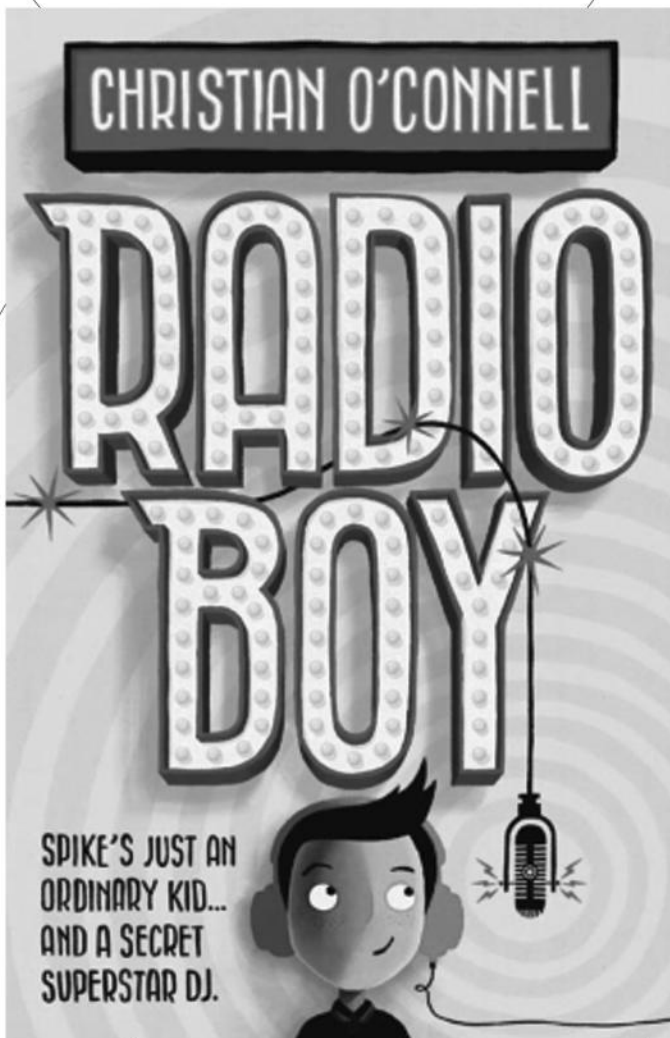


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Christian O'Connell Inspired Writing Challenges

1) Write a story about a character being given the chance to do their dream job. This is particularly interesting when it's a child character in an adult's job / world.

2) Start a story using the opening of *Radio Boy*... 'You're fired!' Following on from challenge 1, write about what happens after your character gets their dream job - what happens when they lose it?

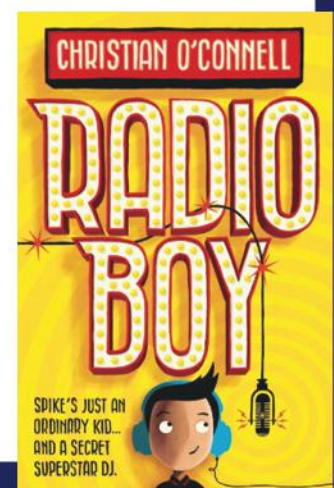
3) Write a 'Recipe for Success'. The protagonist of *Radio Boy*, 'Spike', writes his own recipe for success where he includes a step-by-step guide on how to secure your dream job, including 'hiring friends - because you don't have to pay them!' and 'making flyers to leave around school'.

4) Using the below extract from *Radio Boy*, continue the story and write about what Spike's radio station (shed) looks like on the inside.

'I took the secret key Dad had given me from round my neck and unlocked the hidden gate. At first it wouldn't shift, after years of never being used. Then, finally, it flew open. We fought our way through the angry brambles in my garden jungle to the shed door.' *Radio Boy*, page 150.

5) Incorporate one of the Sentence Starters from Christian O'Connell's author page to help continue your story.

Remember: you can upload two pieces of work per author video via the Author Page, 'Your Work' page, or your profile. At the end of the term, we'll randomly select three pieces to be sent to the author and they'll send some personalised feedback!



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