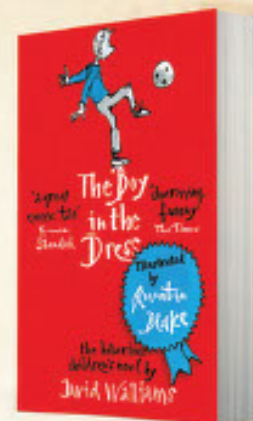


David Walliams

The Boy in the Dress

Crossword

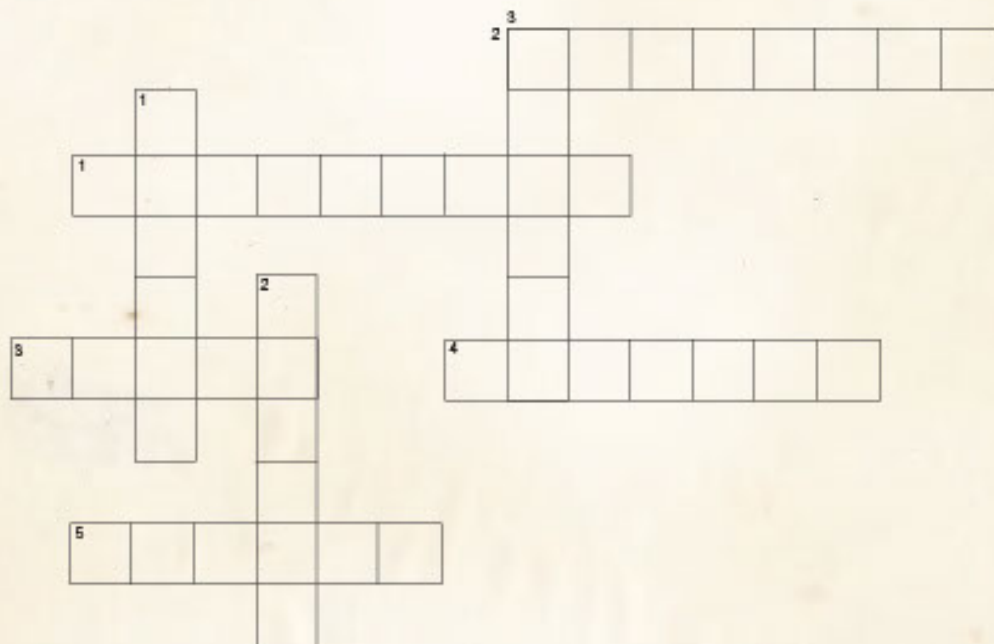


Across

1. What is the name of the Headmaster at Dennis's school?
2. What sport does Dennis play?
3. What is the name of the magazine Dennis secretly buys?
4. What position does Dennis play for the school team?
5. What is the name of the TV show that Dennis loves to watch?

Down

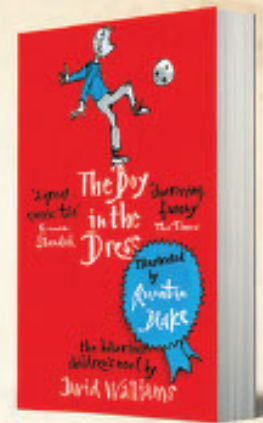
1. What colour is the first dress Dennis wears?
2. What name does Lisa give Dennis when he goes to school in a dress?
3. What type of pen pal does Lisa pretend Dennis is?



David Walliams

The Boy in the Dress

A yellow dress with flowers on it



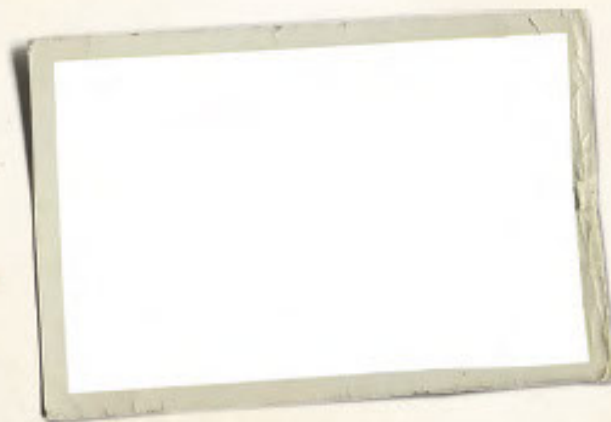
'As dusk fell, Dennis snuck out and retrieved the photo. It was charred and blackened around the edges and at first his heart sank, but when he turned it to the light he saw that the image was as bright and clear as ever. It showed a joyful scene: a younger John and Dennis with Mum at the beach, Mum wearing a lovely yellow dress with flowers on it. Dennis loved that dress; it was full of colour and life, and soft to the touch. When Mum put it on it meant that summer had arrived.

It had been warm outside after she had left, but it hadn't really been summer in their house again.

In the picture Dennis and his brother were in swimming trunks holding ice-cream cones, vanilla ice-cream smeared around their smiling mouths. Dennis kept the photo in his pocket and looked at it secretly every day.'

The photo Dennis carries around in his pocket provides him with a happy memory of his mum.

Can you draw a picture of his photograph?

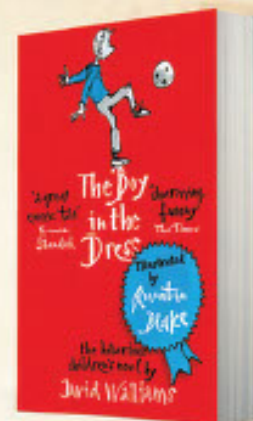


Now describe a memory you have of your own family.
Give it to a friend and see if they can draw your memory.

David Walliams

The Boy in the Dress

Crossword answers

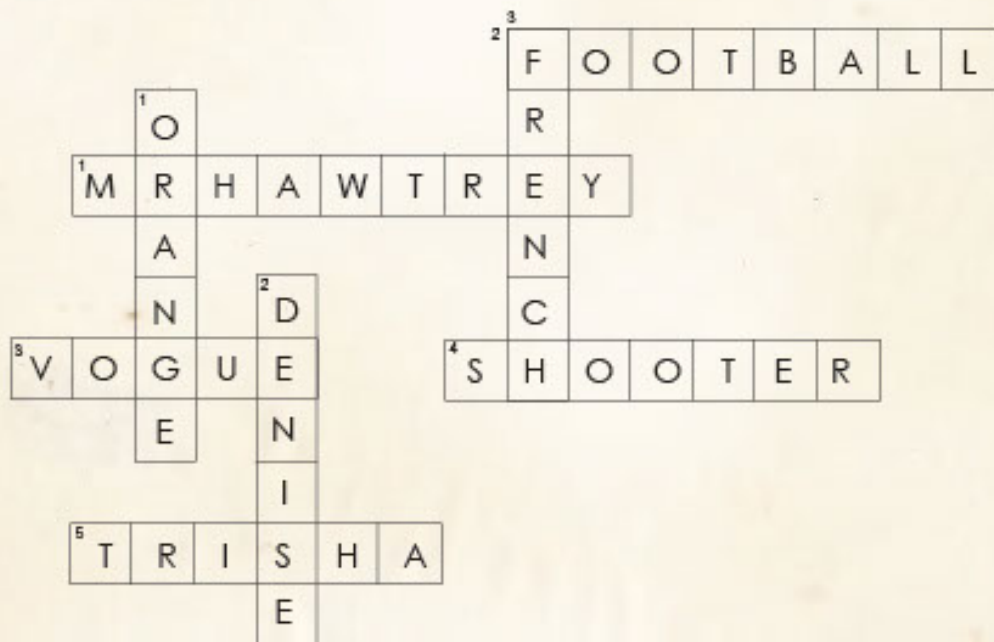


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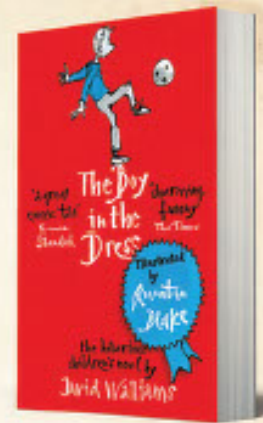
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David Walliams

The Boy in the Dress

"I must say you had me fooled..."



"What the...?" said John, as he and Dennis entered Raj's shop to find Raj resplendent in a bright green sari.

And wig.

And full make-up.

"Morning, boys!" said Raj in a ridiculously high-pitched voice.

"Morning, Raj," said Dennis.

"Oh no, I'm not Raj," said Raj. "Raj is not here today but he has left me in charge of the shop. I'm his Aunt Indira!"

"Raj, we know it's you," said John...

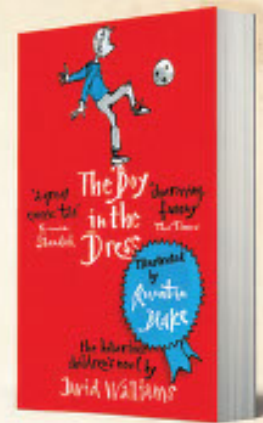
"Oh dear... I was hoping I'd get my own back by fooling you, Dennis, after you played that trick on me!"

**What is the best trick you have ever played on someone?
Or that someone has played on you?**

David Walliams

The Boy in the Dress

Match of the Day



'Then, suddenly Lisa stepped out of the changing room and held the door open.

First Gareth ran out wearing a gold lamé ball gown...

Then Darvesh followed in a yellow polka dot frock...

Then the defenders were right behind in matching red cocktail dresses...

The rest of the team followed in a variety of outfits from Lisa's wardrobe...

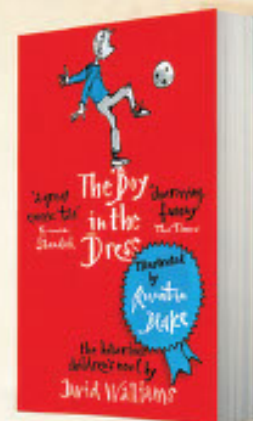
And finally Dennis came out of the dressing room – in a pink bridesmaid's dress.'

Design a new glamorous football kit for Dennis's school team.

David Walliams

The Boy in the Dress

"Orange is really not your colour."



"You poor boy, expelled just for not wearing the correct school uniform. Darvesh never told me, what exactly were you wearing?"

"Well," Dennis paused, before continuing in a serious tone. "I went to school wearing an orange sequined dress."

There was silence for a moment.

"Oh, Dennis," she said. "What a terrible thing to do!"
Dennis paled.

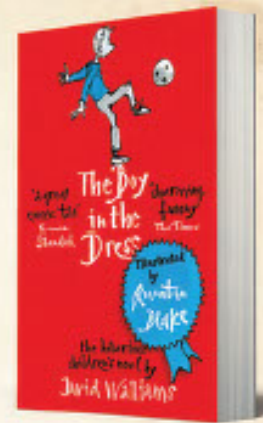
"I mean, orange is really not your colour Dennis," she continued. "With your light hair you would probably look better in a pastel colour like pink or baby blue."

Can you design a new dress for Dennis?

David Walliams

The Boy in the Dress

Patka



"Do you feel different Darvesh?" asked Dennis.

"In what way?"

"Well just, you know, you're the only boy in school who has to wear one of those things on your head."

"...At first I did, yes. I felt a bit embarrassed 'cos I knew I looked different to everyone."

"Yeah."

"And then I suppose as people got to know me they realised I wasn't really that different. I just wear this funny thing on my head!" He laughed.

Imagine you work for a magazine as an agony aunt.

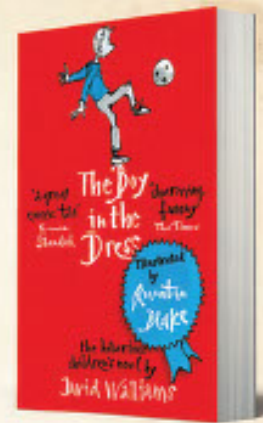
Dennis writes to you with a problem – he likes to wear dresses but is worried about what other children might think of him. What advice would you give him? Write your reply to Dennis.

Now make up your own problem. Write a letter from the person with the problem and then write the agony aunt's reply.

David Walliams

The Boy in the Dress

"Rules don't apply here..."



"It's not fair," said Dennis. "Girls have got all the best stuff!"

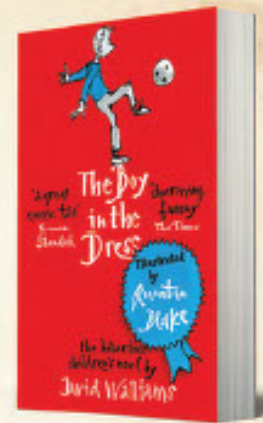
"Rules don't apply here," laughed Lisa. "Dennis, you can be whoever you want to be!"

If you could be anyone you wanted to be – who would you be and why?

David Walliams

The Boy in the Dress

The magical world of glamour and Vogue



"Can I look in the mirror yet?" he asked...

Dennis gazed at himself. For a moment he was shocked by what he saw. Then the shock turned to wonder, and he laughed. He felt so happy he wanted to dance. Sometimes you feel things so deeply that words aren't enough. He started to move around in front of the mirror...'

What makes you happy?

What do you do to show other people you are happy – do you dance, jump up and down, laugh out loud, or something even more spectacular?