

Luke Mortenson is a writer, sometimes musician, and poetry editor for the ever so modest magazine *Other:_____*. Luke's poetry has appeared in journals in Ontario as well as publications with *By the skin of me teeth* press. He currently resides in Vernon B.C. under his untidy landlord with his partner Stephanie and two mutts.



History of Slavery

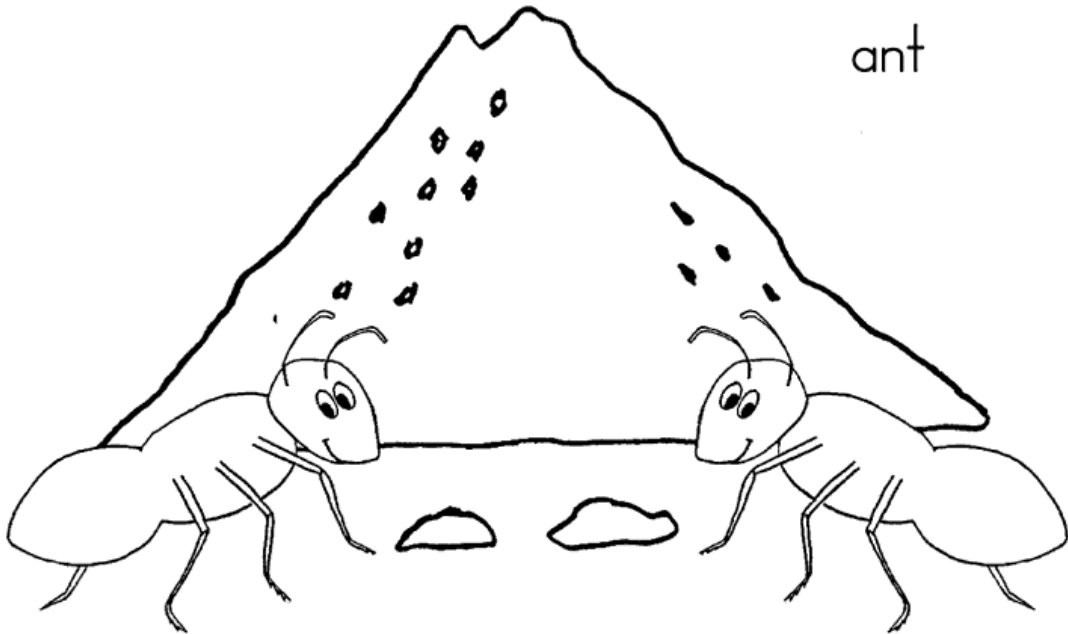
(found poem)

Black English	Name	Standard English Meaning
He workin'.	Simple progressive	He is working [currently].
He be workin'.	Habitual/continuative aspect	He works frequently or habitually. Better illustrated with "He be workin' Tuesdays."
He stay workin'.	Intensified continuative	He is always working.
He been workin'.	Perfect progressive	He has been working.
He been had dat job.	Remote phase	He has had that job for a long time and still has it.
He done worked.	Emphasized perfective	He has worked. Syntactically, "He worked" is valid, but "done" is used to emphasize the completed nature of the action. ^[31]
He finna go to work.	Immediate future	He is about to go to work. <i>Finna</i> is a contraction of "fixing to"; though is also believed to show residual influence of late 16th century archaism "would fain (to)", that persisted until later in some rural dialects spoken in the Carolinas (near the Gullah region). "Fittin' to" is commonly thought to be another form of the original "fixin' (fixing) to", and it is also heard as <i>fitna</i> , <i>fidna</i> , <i>fixna</i> , <i>fin'to</i> , and <i>finsta</i> .

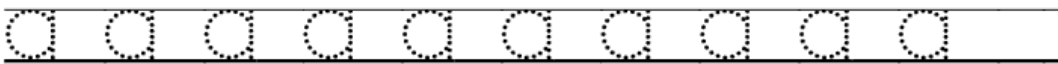
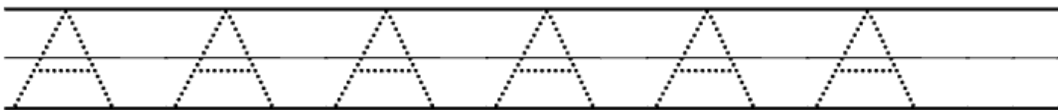
Homework

Aa

ant



"Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways,
and be wise." Proverbs 6:6



Excerpt from Creature;

I never saw a more interesting creature: must have been a noble creature in his better days, how can I see so noble a creature destroyed by misery without feeling the most poignant grief? we are unfashioned creatures, the most noble of human creatures, the innocent and helpless creature a creature and I shunned my fellow creatures I saw the dull yellow eye of the creature that the creature Justine was the most grateful little creature in the world: Study had before secluded me from the intercourse of my fellow-creatures, I became the same happy creature could arrest a creature but when I see a fellow creature during all that period she appeared to me the most amiable and benevolent of human creatures. Was a creature she was no longer that happy creature and if she could have committed the crime for which she suffered, assuredly she would have been the most depraved of human creatures. I could not consent to the death of any human being, but certainly I should have thought such a creature, thy creature, I am thy creature, Remember that I am thy creature;

Dissection of rat

Hit snare tears skin to rim;

Rip of lined paper;

Broken lock of breached briefcase;

Winded punch of bugle call;

Scimitarian whistle;

Forcible breach of fire engine hull;

Glacial cut of drowning ship;

Ruptured hide of Hindenburg.

Revisions (heroic couplet)

Chaucer sits on a plaid chesterfield in a Super 8ⁱⁱ

hunched over a coffee table, a camelⁱⁱⁱ fills the ash tray.

The Wu-tang^{iv} plays soft on the boom-box^v, his favourite mix tape^{vi},

O.D.B.^{vii} showed up in the tales^{viii} five hundred years late.

ⁱ **Geoffrey Chaucer** (c. 1343 – 25 October 1400) was an English author, poet, philosopher, bureaucrat, courtier and diplomat. Although he wrote many works, he is best remembered for his unfinished frame narrative *The Canterbury Tales*. Sometimes called the father of English literature, Chaucer is credited by some scholars as the first author to demonstrate the artistic legitimacy of the vernacular English language, rather than French or Latin.

ⁱⁱ **Super 8 Motels Inc.** is the world's largest budget hotel chain, with motels in the United States and Canada, and a few outside of North America (China). The company is a subsidiary of Wyndham Worldwide, formerly a part of Cendant.^[1]

ⁱⁱⁱ **Camel** is a brand of cigarettes that was introduced by American company R.J. Reynolds Tobacco in the summer of 1913. Most current Camel cigarettes contain a blend of Turkish and Virginia tobacco. Early in 2008 the blend was changed as was the package design.

^{iv} The **Wu-Tang Clan** is a New York City-based hip hop group. Wu-Tang Clan consists of nine American rappers: **RZA**, **GZA Raekwon**, **U-God**, **Ghostface Killah**, **Inspectah Deck**, **Method Man**, **Masta Killa**, and the late **Ol' Dirty Bastard**. Among its members are multi-platinum selling solo artists, multi-platinum record producers, Grammy winners, TV and film stars, screenwriters, product spokespersons, business owners and, most recently, major motion picture composers.^[1]

^v A **boombox**, also known as **ghetto blaster**, **jambox**, or **radio-cassette**, is a name given to portable stereo systems capable of playing radio stations and recorded music (usually cassettes and/or, since the early 1990s, CDs), at relatively high volume. Designed for portability, most boomboxes can be powered by batteries, as well as by line current.

^{vi} **mixtape** or **mixed tape** is a compilation of songs recorded in a specific order, traditionally onto a compact audio cassette. A mixtape, which usually reflects the musical tastes of its compiler, can range from a casually selected list of favorite songs, to a conceptual mix of songs linked by a theme or mood, to a highly personal statement tailored to the tape's intended recipient. Essayist **Geoffrey O'Brien** has called the personal mixtape "the most widely practiced American art form",^[1] and many mixtape enthusiasts believe that by carefully selecting and ordering the tracks in a mix, an artistic statement can be created that is greater than the sum of its individual songs, much as an album of pop music in the post-Beatles era can be considered as something more than a collection of singles

^{vii} **Russell Tyrone Jones** (November 15, 1968 – November 13, 2004) was an American rapper who went by the stage name **Ol' Dirty Bastard** (often shortened to **ODB**). He was one of the founding members of the hip hop group Wu-Tang Clan. Ol' Dirty Bastard simultaneously brought a measure of humor and a touch of the absurd to the Wu-Tang Clan. Often noted for his unusual microphone technique (critic Steve Huey writes of Jones' "outrageously profane, free-associative rhymes" delivered "in a distinctive half-rapped, half-sung style"^[1]), Jones' stage name came from a 1980 kung fu film entitled *Ol' Dirty & The Bastard*, the relevance of which was articulated by Method Man's assertion that there was "no father" to Jones' style.^[2]

^{viii} **The Canterbury Tales** is a collection of stories written by Geoffrey Chaucer in the 14th century (two of them in prose, the rest in verse). The tales, some of which are originals and others not, are contained inside a frame tale and told by a collection of pilgrims on a pilgrimage from London Borough of Southwark to visit the shrine of Saint Thomas Becket at Canterbury Cathedral.^[1] *The Canterbury Tales* are written in Middle English. The tales are considered to be his magnum opus, influenced by the structure of *The Decameron*, which Chaucer is said to have read on an earlier visit to Italy, but Chaucer peopled his tales with 'sundry folk' rather than Boccaccio's fleeing nobles.