

## CREATIVE WRITING



### Activity: Agony Aunt Letter

Have the class has to write a letter presenting a problem of any type and asking Mariella for advice. They will deposit it in a box in the classs provided for that. The other half of the class has to pick up a letter and answer it, giving appropriate advice and depositing it in the same box. Once all the letters have been answered we will read them in class and comment on the advice given.

(In the following page there is an example of **an Agony Aunt column** in a newspaper.)



### Agony Aunt letter 1: example

Facts and opinions can be found in many types of writing. Here's a letter from a reader of "Dear Agnes" - an Agony Aunt column in a newspaper. Note how both the writer and the reader have used fact and opinion in their letters.

Dear Agnes,

I am a lover of pets, but I think my neighbours have gone too far. They have a pet snake named Lucille who keeps escaping and ends up in my garden. My neighbours are always very apologetic about Lucille's travels and so far, I haven't had the heart to confront them about it. The problem is that I am very friendly with them and we often get together for barbecues and garden parties. I don't want to ruin this friendship, but feel that a large snake making regular visits to my garden is pushing the limits. Help!

Confused in Croydon

Dear Confused,

Friends shouldn't put friends in difficult positions. Lucille's visits to your garden are obviously causing you a lot of stress and should be dealt with sooner rather than later. This is also a health and safety issue, which your neighbours should be more than aware of as owners of a large snake. I suggest you broach the subject with them next time you get together. Lucille is also at risk from any number of potential dangers in your garden, a point you could bring up with your neighbours.

Agnes

