Task for *Ubby’s Underdogs*

**Teachers’ notes: formatting questions**

**Panels and gutters**

(Ask students to look at pages 2/3)

- Several things interrupt the gutters such as speech balloons and the Missing Notice so although gutters are used to separate frames, there is also interaction between them.
- Frames and gutters vary a great deal. On the opposing page, instead of a width-long panel, there is a very cluttered panel with frames/gutters of separate sizes. It contains: two face insets, two text boxes, a thought balloon and a great deal of action. All this gives a sense of busyness with a lot going on.

**Word Balloons, text boxes and sound effects**

- How do we know who is speaking when the balloon has no relationship to a head? Sometimes this is obvious as in the Donappleton page where Paul Donappleton is continuing a dialogue with Yupman Poe, welcoming him to his new work place.
- On the first page, readers have to make an educated guess (knowing from the Cast of Characters that Gunada has stolen Gabe’s teeth) or turn the page to find out who is talking. In this way, the word balloon acts as a tantiliser.
- Text boxes are inserted in oblong text, usually at the top or bottom of a frame, and they provide the ongoing narrative drive, e.g. ‘Ubby is distracted by two strangers walking along the jetty.’
- Sound effects are written in brightly coloured writing, not enclosed in any boundaries e.g. AARGHHHH.