

# **Informative writing**



‘Stop, thief!’

I doubled my speed, hoping nobody heard him. Wind whistled past my ear. I darted into a side alley. I stopped, breathing hard. I had escaped, or so I thought. I’d barely had the thought when a police officer appeared. All this for a handkerchief worth one shilling!

## Step 2: Sizzling Starts

'Stop, thief!'

Start with  
dialogue

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Start with  
action

### Step 3: Tightening Tension

Scared and alone, I boarded the ship bound for Australia along with hundreds of other convicts. Chained together we huddle in the darkness. Trapped. Time passes slowly. I have lost count of the days that we have been at sea. Every so often we are allowed on deck for exercise – a brief escape from the stench and the horrors below deck.

### Step 3: Tightening Tension

Write like a witness

Scared and alone, I boarded the ship bound for Australia along with hundreds of other convicts. Chained together we huddle in the darkness.

Trapped. Time passes slowly. I have lost count of the days that we have been at sea. Every so often we are taken on deck for exercise – a brief escape from the sun and the horrors below deck.

Short, sharp sentences

## Step 4: Dynamic Dialogue

Some convicts went to extreme measures to escape the conditions on board these floating gaols. One such convict threw himself overboard and met with an untimely end. According to the journal of Sgt Robinson:

‘The man was eventually dragged into a small boat by sailors and locked back to his cell – only to later be killed for his crime and fed to the sharks, sharks that were then poached and eaten by the same staff and crew.’

## Step 4: Dynamic Dialogue

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Use real words  
from real people

'The man was eventually dragged into a small boat by sailors and locked back to his cell – only to later be killed for his crime and fed to the sharks, sharks that were then poached and eaten by the same staff and crew.'

## Step 5: Show, Don't Tell

There was a full moon that July evening in East Smithfield, and the blanket of low cloud did not afford John Hudson much protection. Consequence had not entered his young mind as he entered William Holdsworth's house. His actions that night would seal his fate as the youngest convict on board the First Fleet.



## Step 5: Show, Don't Tell

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## Step 7: Endings with Impact

The carriage was bumping along well enough and I was thinking about what in the world transportation meant ... probably just some fancy word for hanging, when we jolted to a halt at the docks.

‘Okay you lot, out of the carriage and into the boat,’ growled the guard. Wait, what? I thought I was going to be hanged?

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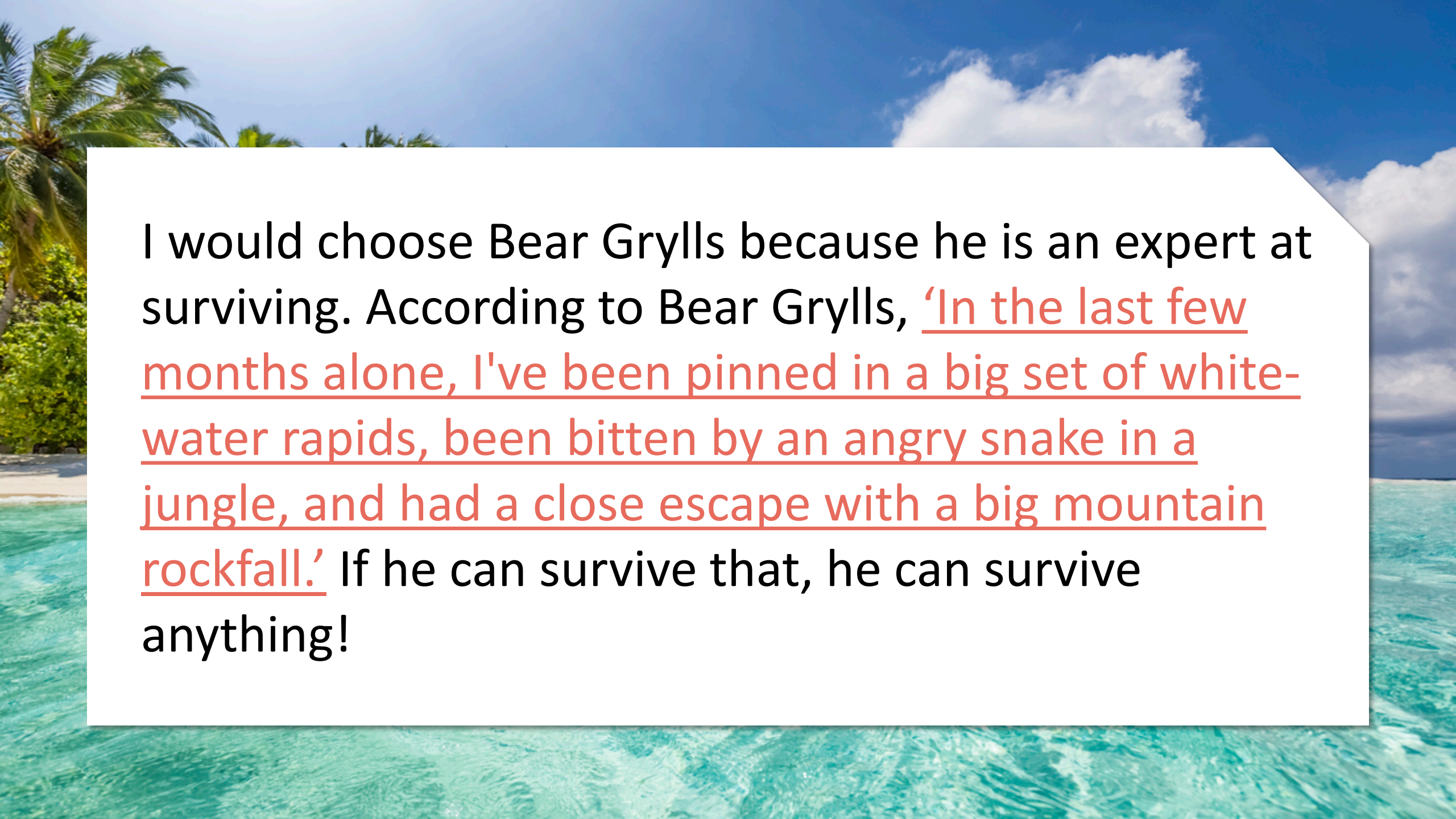
Dialogue

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growled the guard. Wait, what? I thought I was going  
to be hanged?

Make the  
reader think

# **Persuasive writing**





I would choose Bear Grylls because he is an expert at surviving. According to Bear Grylls, ‘In the last few months alone, I've been pinned in a big set of white-water rapids, been bitten by an angry snake in a jungle, and had a close escape with a big mountain rockfall.’ If he can survive that, he can survive anything!

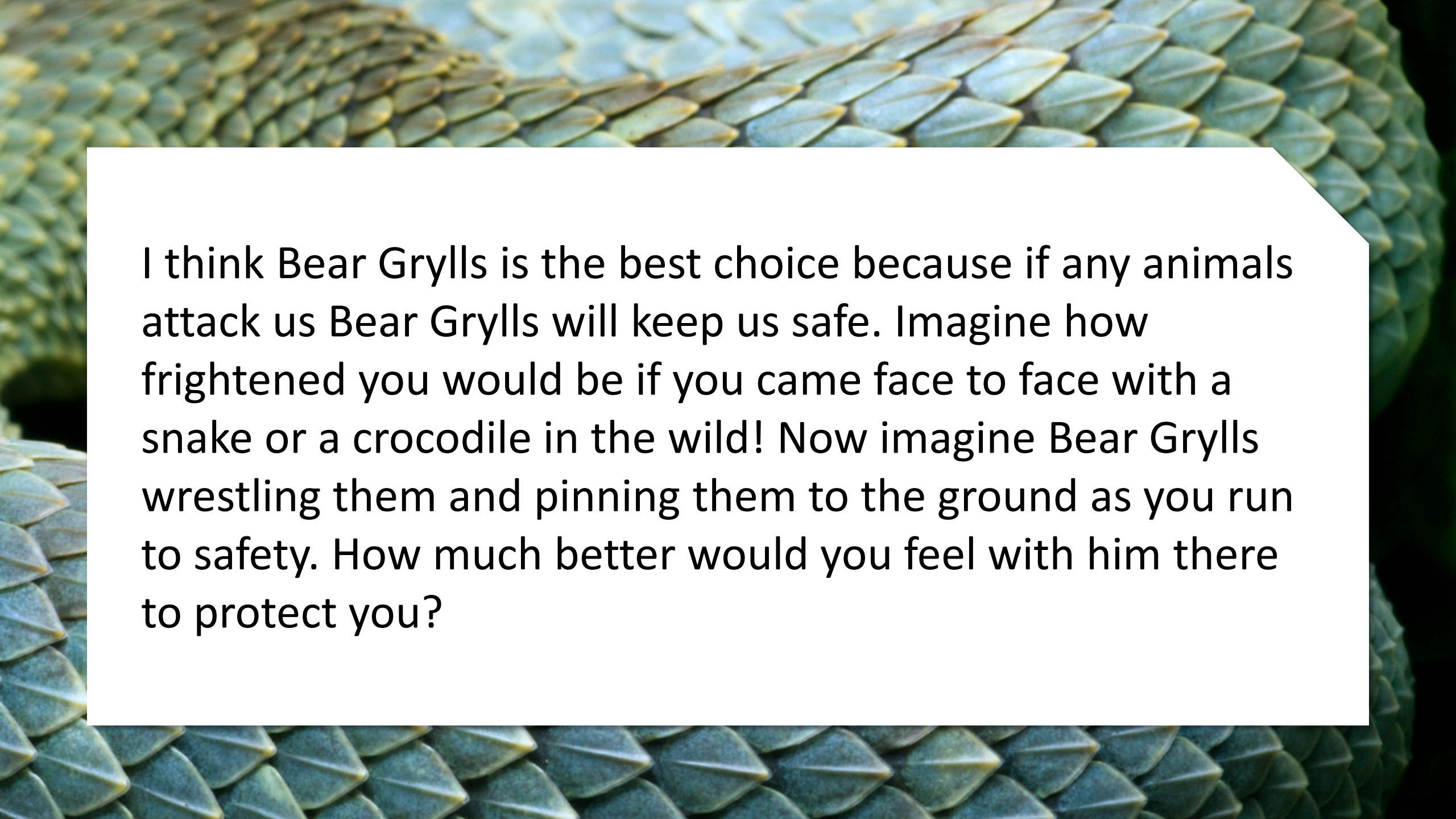


## **BEFORE**

Bear Grylls will build a very good shelter so when it is night we can have a good sleep.

## **AFTER**

Bear Grylls would keep us both safe on the island by helping me build a very good shelter. I can almost hear his mantra, 'food and shelter are the key to surviving in the wild'.



I think Bear Grylls is the best choice because if any animals attack us Bear Grylls will keep us safe. Imagine how frightened you would be if you came face to face with a snake or a crocodile in the wild! Now imagine Bear Grylls wrestling them and pinning them to the ground as you run to safety. How much better would you feel with him there to protect you?



## **BEFORE**

Bear Grylls will build a very good shelter so when it is night we can have a good sleep.

## **AFTER**

Bear Grylls would keep us both safe on the island by helping me build a very good shelter. Building a shelter will mean we get a good night's sleep and it will also keep me busy. Think how much fun it would be to fall asleep beneath the stars in a shelter you've built with your own hands.