

Note to Parents – *If you are unable to print off this reading pack, this will not hinder your child being able to do it. Any tables, Read Aloud/Think Alouds etc can be copied into their Learning from Home book and texts can be read from screens. 😊*

Using the Home Learning Materials

The materials

- Each reading booklet contains a key text and suggested activities that can be used to develop comprehension and understanding.
- The sequence should take no more than 1 hour to complete.
- Reading for pleasure, fluency and stamina should be developed through regular sustained reading using the books identified by the school.

How to use

- Read the instructions carefully before you start a task.
- Each sequence contains simple explanations and examples to help you.

How can parents, carers and siblings help?

- Read the extracts aloud with your child
- Check your child understands any new or unfamiliar vocabulary
- Adapt any of the resources and materials as you feel necessary to support your child's needs

Reading comprehension sequence

Teaching sequence:

- 1) Read and enjoy with expression
- 2) Text mark – think aloud
- 3) Vocabulary checker
- 4) Response to reading
- 5) Quick quiz

Text One

Leon and the Place Between

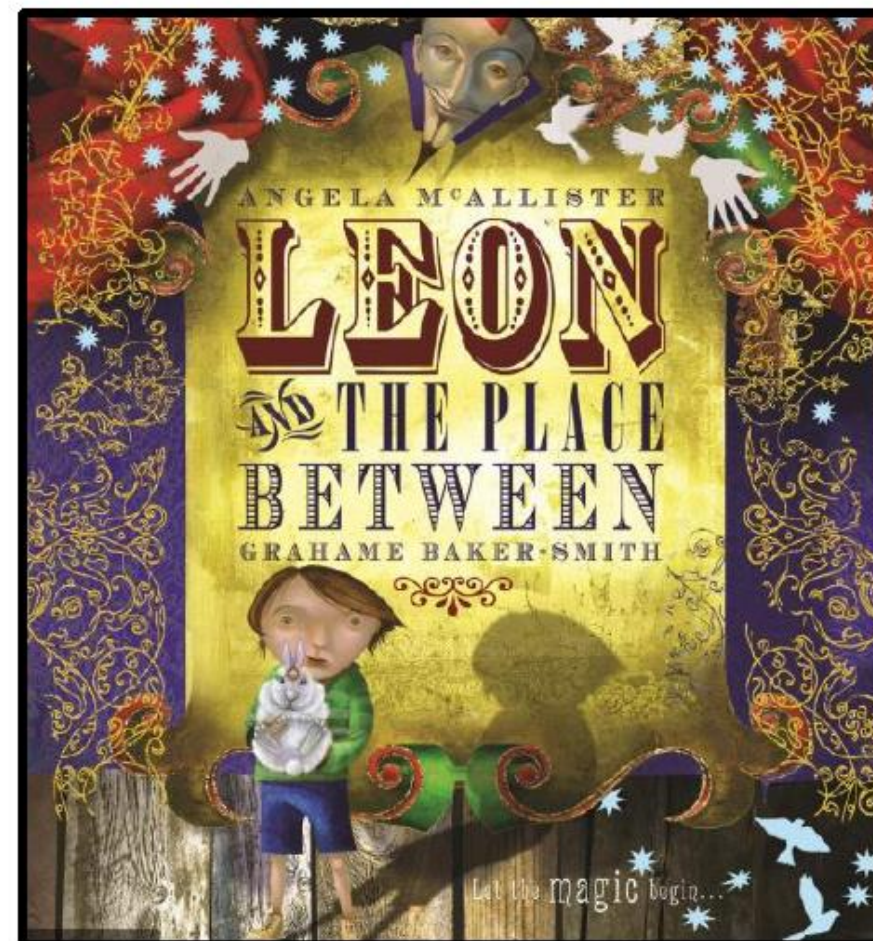
Reading comprehension sequence

This sequence is developed around an extract from 'Leon and the Place Between' by Angela McAllister.

Teaching sequence:

- 1) Text marking and Prediction
- 2) Developing reading with expression
- 3) Summarising
- 4) Quick quiz

If a copy of the text is unavailable, follow this link to [lovereadings4kids.co.uk](https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk) where you can download a free extract:
<https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/extract/5399/Leon-and-the-Place-Between-by-Angela-Mcallister.html>



1. Vocabulary and Prediction

Explore this picture from the opening to the book and discuss the following questions.

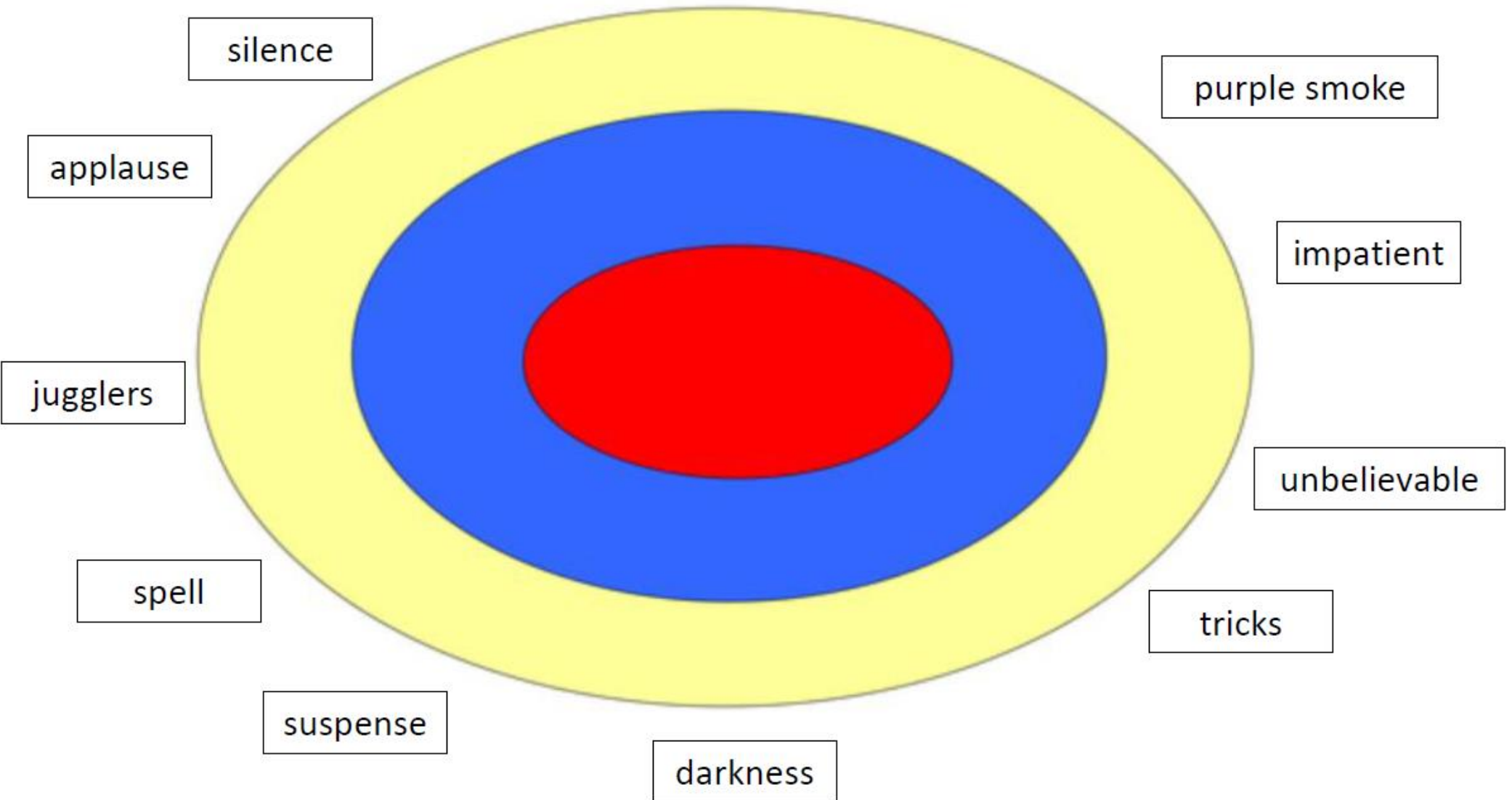
Have you ever been to a circus or magic show?

What do you think the children will find in the tent?

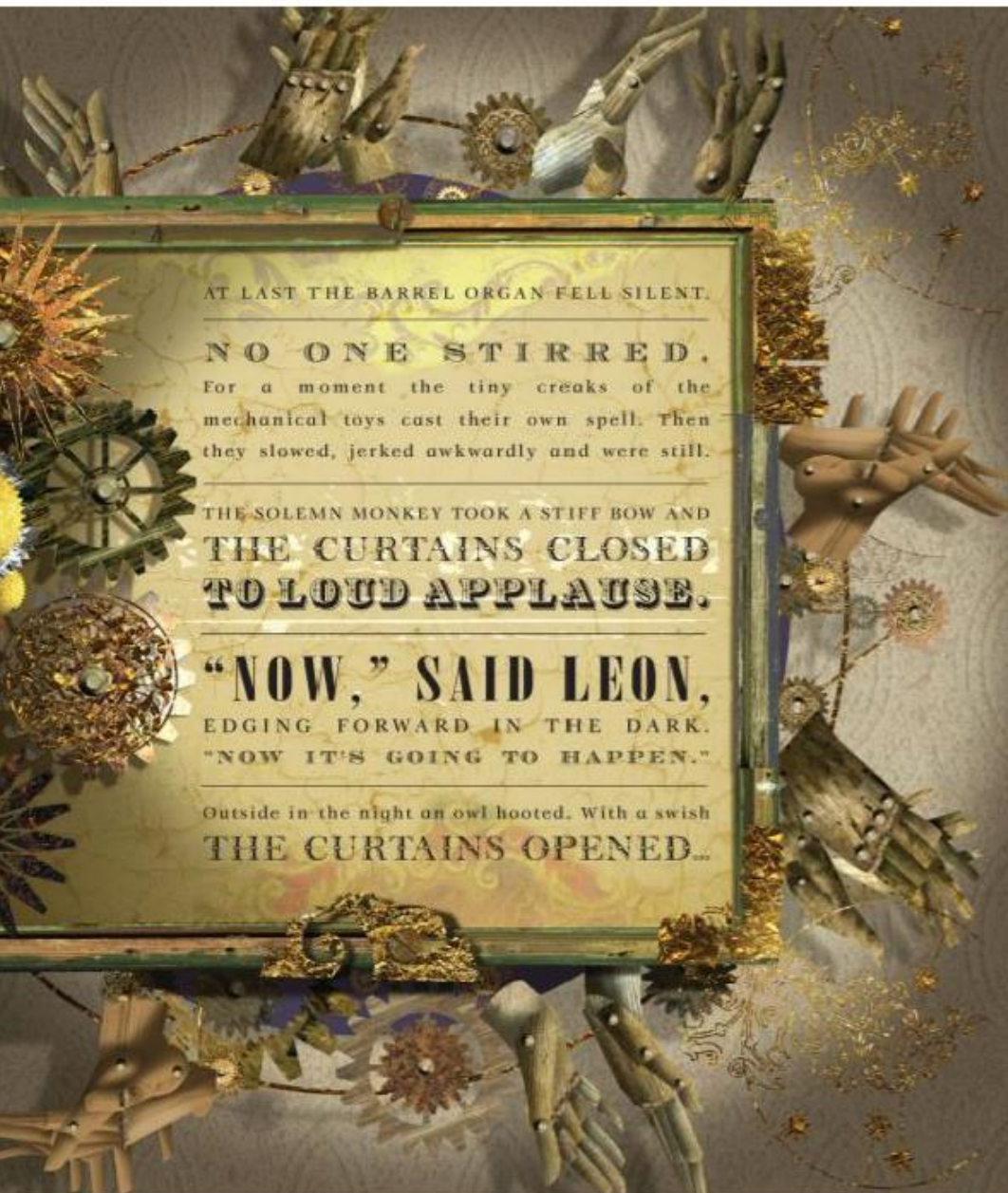


1. Vocabulary and Prediction

Based on the front cover, title and what you know about circuses, which words hit the target? Discuss which words you would put in the bullseye – these will be the ones that you think will be most relevant to the book.



2. Developing reading with expression



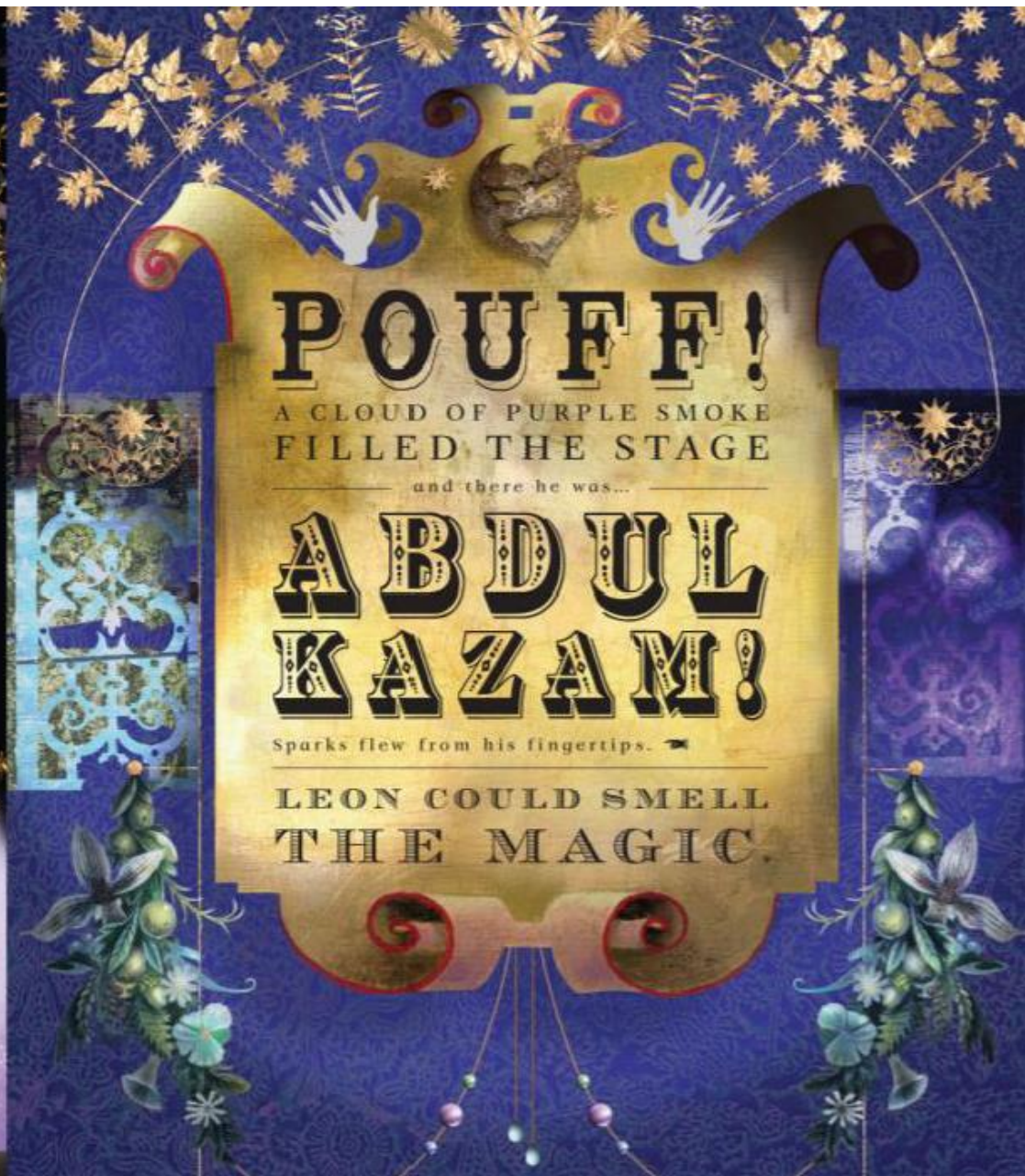
Read and enjoy together the next two pages.

Discuss why the author has used different fonts, sizes and formats.

Focus on how the format of the text supports how we will read the story.

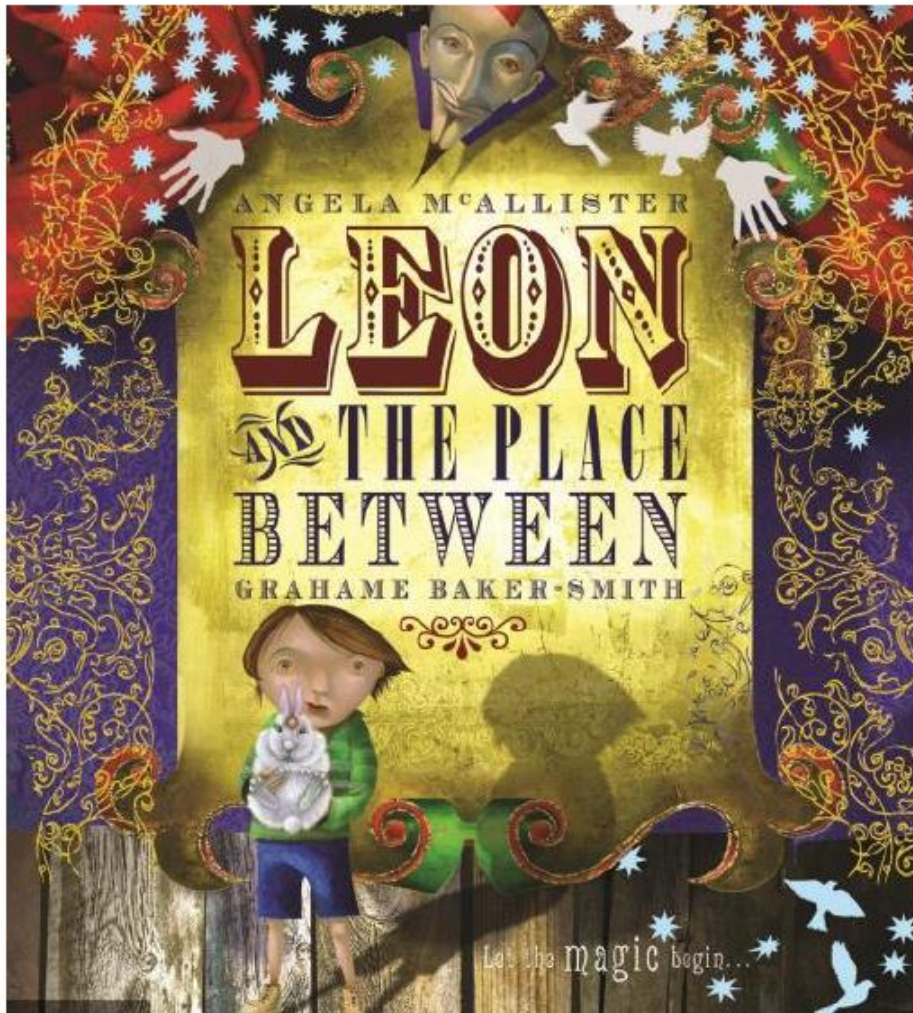
Practice and perform the story using:

- *Expression*
- *Pace*
- *Volume*



3. Summarising

Use your predictions, knowledge of magic and circuses and the extracts you have read to summarise what the story is about. Think about the key information you know to help you with this summary.



Who is the main character?

What can we tell about the main character from the front cover and extract?

Where is the story set?

Which other characters are in the story?

What might these characters be like?

Quick quiz

Use the extracts to discuss and answer these questions.

1. What does '*edging forward in the dark*' tell you about how Leon is feeling?
2. What word could you use instead of '*solemn*' to describe the monkey?
3. What types of toys are in the tent?
4. How do these toys move?

Text Two

Diary from the Beagle



Stage 6 Comprehension Pack

This free pack is aimed at those children working at the expected reading level for a child in Y6 in England. P7 in Scotland and Ireland. (Ages 10-11) The texts have a Lexile level range between 890L and 980L.

What do the letters mean?

The questions in the comprehensions are not numbered but labelled with a letter from VIPERS. These letters correspond with key reading skills. Many schools use these codes in reading lessons so lots of children will be familiar with them.

If your child is not familiar with the letter codes, then do not worry – it is just highlighting the skill for them.

If you would like to read more about VIPERS then there is an explanation on our blog here:
www.literacyshedblog.com/vipers

Reading Vipers

Vocabulary
Infer
Predict
Explain
Retrieve
Sequence or Summarise



If you enjoy these comprehensions, then further comprehensions can be found in our membership area on www.literacyshedplus.com



Diary From The Beagle

Diary,

It finally feels like the adventure has begun. We set sail over a fortnight ago but, until now, I didn't dare assume we would get far. We were due to leave under the summer sun of September, but this blasted ship took longer than anticipated to complete. Gales and the like delayed us further and the captain was far too merry over Christmas. You can forgive me for thinking this voyage was cursed in some way.

Our first stop was at Madeira. We weren't allowed to disembark and were soon on our way again. In Tenerife, we had received word of a cholera outbreak back home in England and were quarantined offshore. What I would have given at that point to set foot on land that didn't rock with every movement. Alas, it wasn't to be.

Bereft of anything else to do, I turned my hand to creating a net to trail behind the ship. It was easy enough work, and we soon had it in the water. The wonder of the creature that we caught, even so far out to sea, is something that I shall remember forever. It created a feeling of wonder that so much beauty should be apparently created for such little purpose.

Much to my relief, today we finally set foot on land. We landed at Praia on the island of Santiago. How I yearned for the rolling hills of Her Majesty's own land, but instead we were faced with nothing but endless volcanic rock. I've never felt such discomfort underfoot.

Nevertheless, first impressions can be deceiving. I took myself away from the crew and ventured inland to the town. What glory lay before me - tropical vegetation towering above us all and the glorious colours and sounds of a thousand creatures.

FitzRoy set out to Quail Island to conduct his own experiments into the islands' locations. I joined him, of course, but I am far too entranced by the overwhelming novelty of the sights and sounds to be of much use.

On the beach, I noticed the oddest thing. Squashed between layers of black lava rock, there is a line of white, most probably created by crushed coral and shells. A similar phenomenon occurs on the island of St. Jago, only much further above sea level. At some point in time, these were probably aligned. I shall have to pass these findings on to my good friend Charles Lyell, who suggested that the Earth's crust rises and falls like the tide. He will be most interested.

With that, I must return to my duties. FitzRoy possesses one of the shortest tempers I know; he will not suffer me being late for supper.

Charles Darwin

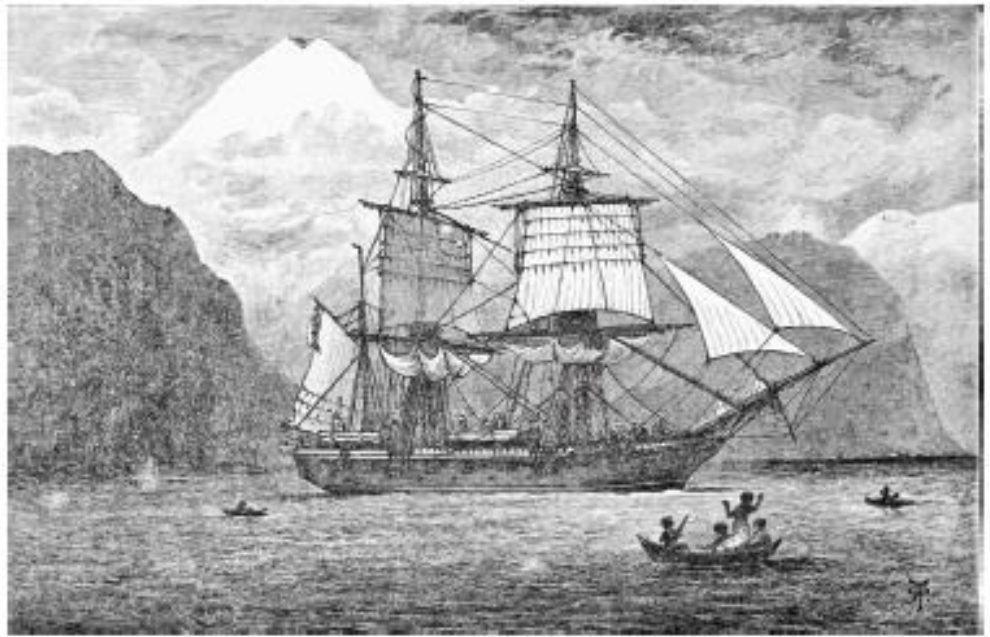


Illustration of the HMS Beagle from 1890

INFERENCE FOCUS

1. When they arrived at Tenerife, how was Darwin feeling? What tells you this?
2. How did Darwin feel when they landed in Praia. What tells you thing?
3. What impression of Praia do you get when Darwin ventures furth onto the island?
4. What do we know about Darwin's state of mind when he first went to Quail Island?

VIPERS QUESTIONS

V

What does the word "alas" mean?

S

What happened after they arrived in Tenerife?

V

Find and write a definition for the word "bereft".

E

How do you know that this text is from a different period in time?

S

Where was the first stop for the boat?

Text Three

Robyn Hood



Robyn Hood

Back home in Nottingham, the other girls had made fun of Robyn when she'd spent her nights practising with her yew bow. They'd laughed when she'd said that she wanted to rise up against Prince John. They'd sniggered when she'd said she wanted to lead her own army. They were all wrong.

Over the years, Robyn became an accomplished thief. Even though she could steal anything she wanted, she only stole what she really needed. Bread was her speciality. She soon became known for her dark green hood that she wore over her head and shoulders to conceal herself in a crowd. Eventually, the name Robyn Hood stuck.

She'd often head out hunting in the Prince's forest that surrounded the city. The royal deer were sacred and hunting them was punishable by death. This didn't stop Robyn though, and soon a band of other misfits started to tag along with her hunts. Inevitably she was caught. Instead of sentencing such a young girl to death, the Prince took pity on her and gave her a choice. She could marry the Prince, or live as an outlaw in the forest. The Prince was a hideous and unkind man, and so Robyn's decision was easy. The Prince never forgave the snub and swore revenge on the girl and any who followed her.

Robyn feared for her safety. Luckily, a giant girl named Joan stood by her side. As tall as a bear and just as strong, "Little" Joan was fiercely loyal. Thinking back to the girls who had laughed at her, Robyn now set out recruiting an army of rebels who would fight for her against the Prince. It took many years, but she eventually had a group large enough and loyal enough to start to hit the Prince hard. They started by holding up his waggons and stealing his gold. After taking their cut of the bounty, the rest was given back to the people of Sherwood.

Legend of the hooded maiden and bear-girl stalked through the knights of Nottingham. Not a day went by where their feats weren't exaggerated even further. With Robyn's talent with her bow and Joan's devastating quarterstaff, there wasn't a man in the county who would face them willingly.

Soon, word of the renegades reached the ear of Prince John. All of his attention now focused on reaping vengeance on his foe. His brother, King Richard, was fighting in the Crusades in the east along with most of the army, but he had enough soldiers to lead a siege on Robyn's woodland hideout.

Stars were scattered across the night sky like diamonds on a jeweller's canvas when his men set out. What Prince John didn't know was that one of Robyn's merry maidens was the sister of one of his guards. The night before, a message had been sent to Robyn, and she had fled. She didn't go far. Instead, her band of rebel girls doubled back in the forest until they formed a silent net around Prince John and his men. The first thing they knew about this trap was the sound of a heavy yew bow creaking under the strain of a drawn string.



PREDICTION

Write the next paragraph in the story. Make sure you use the language and style of the original.

VIPERS QUESTIONS

- V** As an accomplished thief, what does this say about her skills?
- R** List the ways that the other girls had responded to Robyn wanting to defeat Prince John.
- I** What do we know about Robyn's personality when she continued to hunt deer?
- E** Explain how the stories of Robyn and Joan spread.
- I** How did Prince John feel when he heard about Robyn? What tells you this?