

Detective Work with Kit the Fox: An Inference Quiz

Learning objective: To develop the ability to infer meaning from a text by identifying clues, analysing character emotions, and drawing logical conclusions.

Read the short story below carefully. Use your detective skills to answer the questions. Remember, inference means using the clues in the text plus what you already know to find the answer!

Kit the fox adjusted his spectacles, his fur standing on end as he stared at the digital readout. The laboratory was silent, save for the rhythmic clicking of his keyboard. He tapped his paw impatiently, glancing at the empty bowl of sunflower seeds that usually sat on his desk. Outside, the sky had turned a bruised shade of purple, and the trees were bowing low in the wind. Kit hurriedly unplugged his circuits, gathered his notes into his satchel, and checked that the heavy iron bolt on the window was securely fastened before the first heavy droplets began to drum against the glass.

Word bank: Inference · Evidence · Deduction · Implied · Context · Clue

1. 1. What is the weather like outside? A) Sunny B) A thunderstorm is approaching C) Light snow D) It is a calm, clear day. (Answer: B*) (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Kit was feeling very relaxed while he was working at his computer. (1 mark)

3. 3. What evidence in the text suggests that Kit expects the weather to be dangerous? (1 word) (1 mark)

4. 4. Why might Kit have checked the iron bolt on the window? A) He wanted to look outside B) He likes heavy metal C) He wanted to ensure he stayed safe from the storm D) He was trying to fix the frame. (Answer: C*) (1 mark)

5. 5. What is Kit's profession or main hobby based on the text? (1 word) (1 mark)

6. 6. True or False: The text explicitly states that Kit is hungry. (1 mark)

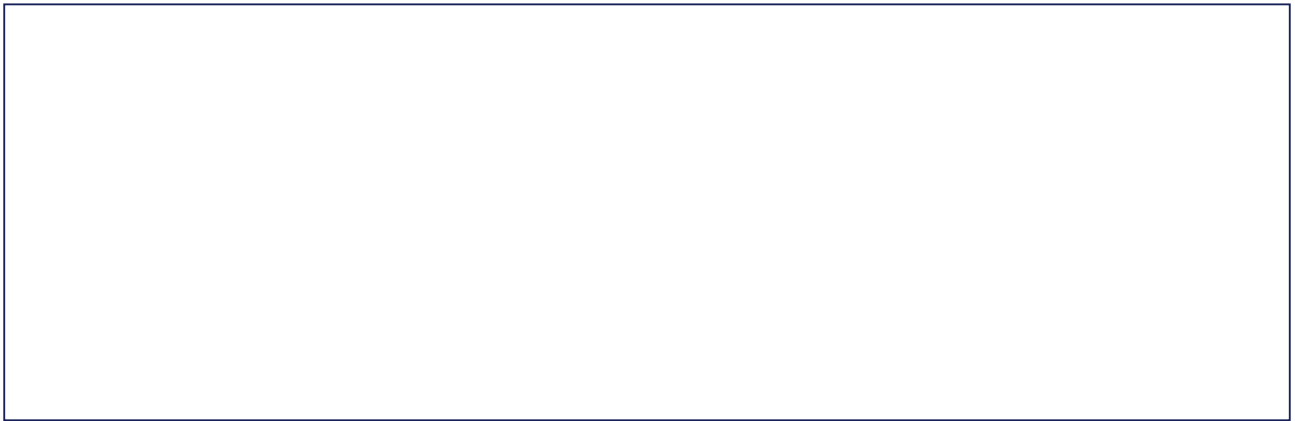
7. 7. How can we infer that Kit is a busy character? A) He has a bowl of seeds B) He has a desk C) He has a digital readout D) He is multitasking between his research and the approaching weather. (Answer: D*) (1 mark)

8. 8. What does the 'bruised shade of purple' suggest about the sky? (1 word) (1 mark)

9. 9. Explain why Kit unplugged his circuits before the storm started. (2 marks)

10. 10. Compare and contrast: How would the story be different if Kit had stayed to finish his work instead of securing the room? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Kit's laboratory desk. Include three specific items that suggest he is a clever inventor who loves technology.



Extension challenge: Justify your answer: If the bowl of sunflower seeds had been full, how would your inference about Kit's state of mind change? Write a paragraph explaining your reasoning using evidence from the text.