

Reading Comprehension: Unlocking Meaning

Learning objective: To develop retrieval, inference, and analytical skills by engaging with a variety of textual concepts and linguistic devices.

Read the questions carefully. Use evidence from your knowledge of how stories and non-fiction texts are structured to provide detailed answers. Remember to use full sentences and clear P.E.E. (Point, Evidence, Explanation) structures where required.

In the hidden library of the Great Oak, Pip the caterpillar spent his afternoons sorting synonyms. He noticed that authors often used powerful verbs to bring a scene to life, just as Nova the owl used precise data to describe the constellations. When Kit the fox designed a digital map, he ensured every coordinate was accurate, just as a writer ensures their plot remains consistent. Whether reading a biography about an explorer or a poem about a bustling rainforest, the secret to comprehension is looking beneath the surface of the words to find the author's intent.

Word bank: inference · retrieval · metaphor · personification · cohesion · vocabulary · perspective

1. Based on the passage, why does Pip the caterpillar choose to sort synonyms? Explain how this activity helps him as a reader. (2 marks)

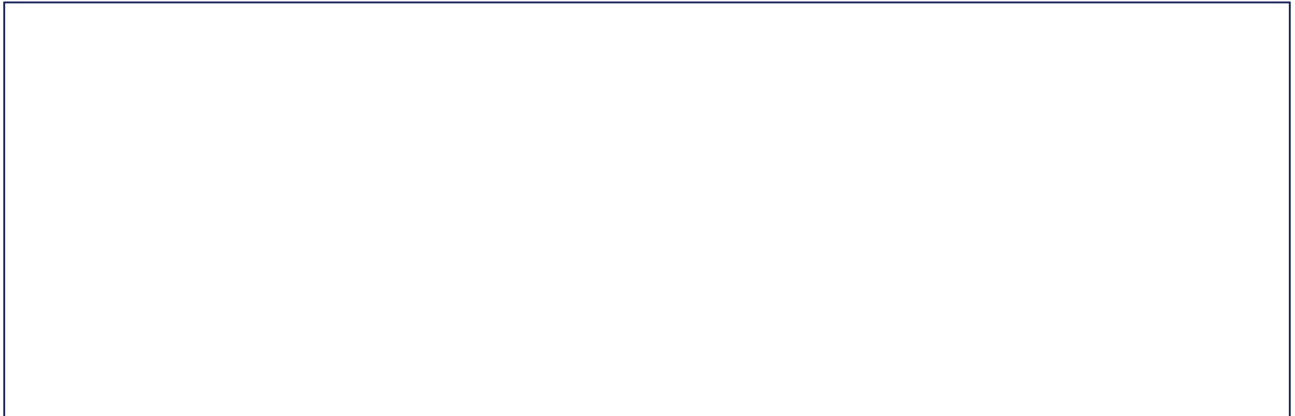
2. Find and copy one example of a comparison used in the text. Why has the author chosen to compare a fox's map-making to an author's writing? (2 marks)

3. The text mentions 'looking beneath the surface'. In your own words, explain what this phrase means in the context of reading comprehension. (2 marks)

4. How does the author create a sense of community among the characters mentioned in the passage? (2 marks)

5. If Max the monkey were to read a book about the cost of building a treehouse, and the materials cost £45.50, how would he use his maths skills to understand the narrative? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene inside the 'Great Oak' library. Show Pip the caterpillar reading a giant book, with Nova the owl observing the stars through a skylight and Kit the fox sketching a map on a tablet.



Extension challenge: Write a short paragraph (50-75 words) describing an imaginary character who loves to read. Use at least one metaphor and one piece of personification to describe their favourite book.