



The Explorer text

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Re-read the text from last week.

Fred kept poling. The branch was giving him new, shilling-sized blisters on the pads of his hands, but he didn't slow down. There was a twist, he found, that he could give the pole that made them speed faster. It blew Max's snot in a high ribbon up his face. The sun was hot and sharp out here. The air tasted brand new. 'Faster!' shouted Max. He rocked backwards and forwards on his haunches. They hadn't gone far before there was another fork; one looked choked with weeds, so Fred chose the other. 'Left!' called Lila. 'Left,' Con echoed and nodded. The left bend took them into a narrower river, winding slowly among close-set trees. Fred pulled up his pole and they drifted, staring down into the water. A shoal of fish swam helter-skelter under the raft. Max leant dangerously over the edge, dangling his fingers in the water. Suddenly Con jumped. The hairs on her arms rose up in a blonde wave. 'What's that?' 'What's what?' 'Something down there. Silver. Down there! A piranha!' Con's voice came out thin and high. 'Max, get your hands out of the water!'

Last week you found different types of grammar within the text.
This week we are going to be looking a bit more detail at description and emotions.

In this section of text, there is some great description. In particular, the description about the **river** and the **weather**. This description helps you visualise what the river and weather is like and allows you to put yourself into Fred’s position and experience what he is experiencing.

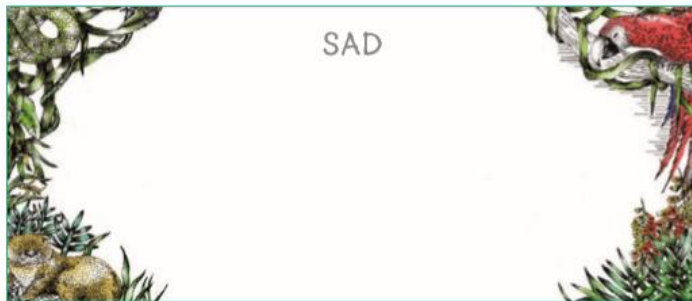
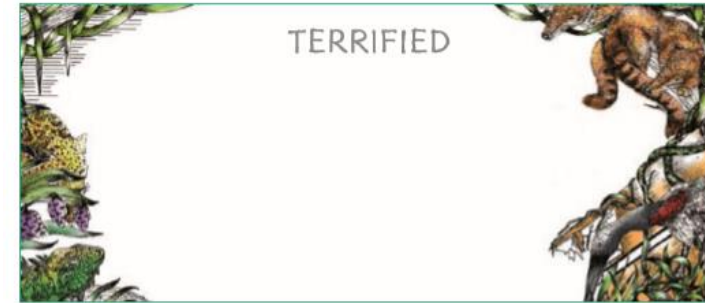
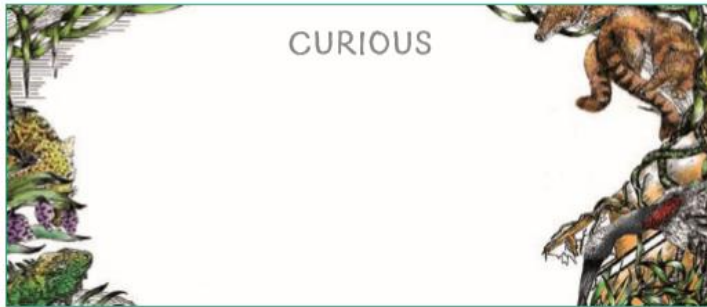
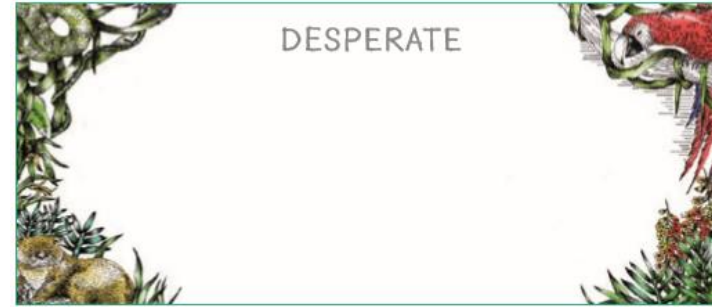
TASK 1 -Look back over the text and see if you can identify some descriptive phrases that describe these two things. It might be description about the temperature, the shape, the plants/trees around it, the speed. If there is any link at all, write it below. Then think about what that that description means, use your lggy inference skills to think what is the reader trying to tell us.

The river	The weather
‘There was a twist’ – this means that the river was bending and winding	

Did you manage to identify some of these phrases? Look at what each description means and see if it was similar to what you thought the reader was trying to tell us.

The river	The weather (wind, sun)
<p>‘There was a twist’ – this means that the river was bending and winding</p>	<p>‘It blew Max’s snot in a high ribbon up his face’ – The word ‘it’ means the wind and it shows us that the wind was strong.</p>
<p>‘There was another fork’ – this means there was another bend in the river</p>	<p>‘The air tasted brand new’ – The air was fresh and was like nothing he’s ever experienced before.</p>
<p>‘The left bend took them into a narrower river, winding slowly among close-set trees’ – the boat was floating in and out of the densely populated forest (there were lots of trees)</p>	<p>‘The sun was hot and sharp out here’ – The sun was high in the sky and it was a hot day and the sun was very strong.</p>
<p>‘A shoal of fish swam helter-skelter under the raft’ – The fish were swimming round in circles and weaving in and out in a cork-screw pattern.</p>	<p>‘He rocked backwards and forwards on his haunches’ - The boat was going so fast that the wind was pushing the boys around.</p>

Throughout the story so far Fred has felt lots of different emotions with all the things that have happened to him. Below are some emotions that he might have felt throughout his adventure so far. Could you find out what these emotions mean and then think of 1 other emotion that you think he would have felt?



Definitions of emotions:

Overwhelmed – Thing got too much and he felt like he felt like he couldn't cope

Curious – Eager to know or learn something about a particular thing.

Sad- feeling or showing sorrow/unhappiness

Desperate – The feeling or sense that a situation is so bad that it's impossible to deal with

Terrified – Having a strong fear of something/someone or an event

Task 2 – Now I want you to think about why he felt these different emotions. For each emotion write an explanation of why he felt this way during a certain part of his adventure. Think back to the beginning of the story up to now on the river. Link it back to the story and use evidence from the text to use your reasoning and explaining skills.

E.g. I think Fred felt terrified when he was in the plane flying over the Amazon River because he was concentrating so much on what the pilot was doing. He was terrified that the plane might crash.