

Year 5 Reading Skills Sessions



Vocabulary

What does 'vocabulary' mean?

Vocabulary is the skill of giving/explaining the meaning of words in context.

'In context' means, words and what they mean within a text.

This means the story or text so far, the sentences around them and what you already know about the plot to figure out what the word must mean.

Some of the kinds of vocabulary questions you may encounter are:

Vocabulary Victor might ask...

What does this word tell us about the character/setting/atmosphere?

Look at that sentence/passage and circle a word/phrase that means the same as _____.

Which words/phrase in this text give us the impression that the main character is _____?

Which words/phrase in this text give us the impression that the setting is _____?

Which words/phrase in this text give us the impression that the atmosphere is _____?

The author uses words like _____ to describe _____. What impression does this give us of the character/setting/atmosphere?

The author describes the main character as _____. Think of another word that could have been used instead.

Why did the author use the word _____ to describe _____?

How does the author make the reader feel _____ in this part of the text?

How has the author's choice of words created the feeling _____?

What do phrases such as _____ tell you about _____?

What might that mean?

What do you think the writer is saying, when they _____?

What does that imply/suggest/indicate about _____?



Closest in Meaning Questions



The 'Closest in Meaning' Question

1 A Siamese cat **crouched** on a tree branch, peering down at Gaby with brilliant blue eyes.

Which word is closest in meaning to *crouched*?

Tick **one**.

balanced

squatted

trembled

pounced

1 mark

This type of question will give you an example of a word from the text and ask you to tick a **synonym** for the word.

Alternative Wording Questions



Back

The 'Alternative Wording' Question

11

She resettled on the branch, considering her options.

What does *considering her options* mean in this sentence?

Tick **one**.

thinking about what to do

changing her mind

looking at it from the cat's point of view

wishing her mother was there

1 mark

This type of question will give you an example of a phrase from the text and ask you to tick another way that the author could have written it while still keeping the same meaning.

Define It Questions



The '**Define It**' Question

6

Gaby secured her feet and hands and climbed higher...

What does *secured her feet and hands* mean?

1 mark

This type of question will give you an example of a word or phrase from the text and ask you to explain what it means in your own words.

Find and Copy Questions



The 'Find and Copy' Question

17 Look at the paragraph beginning: *Twenty-seven-year-old Webb...*

Find and copy one word from this paragraph that is closest in meaning to 'motivated'.

1 mark

20 **Find and copy** a group of words that tells you that the drinks of ale, brandy and beef tea given to Matthew Webb would be considered unusual today.

1 mark

This type of question will ask you to find a word or phrase within the text which means or shows a particular thing and copy it onto the line.

Multiple Choice Questions



The 'Multiple Choice' Question

15 *Nearly twenty-two hours later, the exhausted man staggered onto French soil at Calais and became an instant hero.*

Find and **copy two** different words from the sentence above that show how tired Matthew Webb was.

1. _____

2. _____

1 mark

This type of question will ask you to find two or more words or phrases within the text which mean or show the same thing.

The 'Multiple' Questions



The 'Multiple' Question

31 ...the 'putt-putt' of her engine was lost in the big, quiet stillness of the afternoon.

Choose the best words to match the description above. Circle both of your choices.

The boat was

along on the

This type of question will ask you to choose from one of the answers provided, circling your choice clearly.

What could you do if you accidentally circle the wrong choice?

Vocabulary

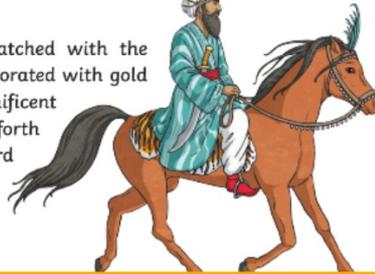
Improving Your Reading with Vocabulary Victor: The Caravan



Once upon a time, there marched through the wilderness a large caravan, laden with passengers and goods. Upon the vast plain, where nothing could be seen but sand and heaven, the clink and chimes of the bells adorning the camels' and horses' necks announced their approach through the thick cloud of dust which preceded them. When a rare gust of wind separated the clouds, glittering weapons and brilliant dresses dazzled the eye.

The leader of the caravan was mounted on a fine Arabian stallion, seated upon a blanket of tiger skin. Silver bells were suspended from the reins and a plume of heron feathers waved atop the horse's head.

The rider looked majestic and his clothing matched with the splendour of his horse: a white turban richly decorated with gold adorned his head and a curved sword with a magnificent handle hung by his side. His dark eyes gleamed forth from under his bushy brows and the long beard which hung down under his arched nose gave him a wild, daring expression.



Read the extract and answer the questions on the following slides.

Vocabulary

1)

1. *there marched through the wilderness a large **caravan***
What does **caravan** mean in this phrase? Tick **one**.

- an army marching through the desert
- a group of animals carrying passengers and goods
- a motorised vehicle laden with baggage
- a large group of people travelling on foot

2)

2. *a white turban richly decorated with gold **adorned** his head*
Which of these words is closest in meaning to the word **adorned**? Circle **one** answer.

punished

repulsed

applauded

decorated

3)

3. Find and copy a phrase from the second paragraph which shows that the leader of the caravan was sat on top of a horse.

Vocabulary

4)

4. *...where nothing could be seen but sand and heaven.*
How else could the author have written this phrase?

5) *His dark eyes gleamed forth from under his bushy brows...*

What does '*gleamed forth*' mean?

Vocabulary

6) *The rider looked majestic and his clothing matched with the splendour of his horse.*

What does '*the rider looked majestic*' mean in this sentence?
Choose one option.

- The rider looked scruffy
- The rider looked handsome
- The rider looked smart
- The rider looked incredibly impressive

Vocabulary ANSWERS

1)

1. *there marched through the wilderness a large caravan*

What does **caravan** mean in this phrase? Tick **one**.

- an army marching through the desert
- a group of animals carrying passengers and goods ✓
- a motorised vehicle laden with baggage
- a large group of people travelling on foot

2)

2. *a white turban richly decorated with gold adorned his head*

Which of these words is closest in meaning to the word **adorned**? Circle **one** answer.

punished

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applauded

decorated

3)

3. Find and copy a phrase from the second paragraph which shows that the leader of the caravan was sat on top of a horse.

mounted on a fine Arabian stallion

Vocabulary ANSWERS

4)

4. ...where nothing could be seen but sand and heaven.
How else could the author have written this phrase?

e.g. where the sand seemed to meet the sky

e.g. the sand and sky filled every view

5) *His dark eyes gleamed forth from under his bushy brows...*

What does '*gleamed forth*' mean?

e.g. To send forwards his bright gaze.

e.g. His eyes sparkled underneath his brows.

e.g. He looked forwards brightly with a piercing stare.

Vocabulary ANSWERS

6) *The rider looked majestic and his clothing matched with the splendour of his horse.*

What does '*the rider looked majestic*' mean in this sentence?
Choose one option.

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