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But now that the moment had arrived, I had the jitters. This made it very hard to get my costume on.

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I pulled on my green leggings, only to realise one leg was inside-out and twisted around and very uncomfortable.

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Questions

1. Who is Ash?
   - a girl
   - a teacher
   - a boy

2. Which character is Ash playing?
   - Robin Hood
   - Sherriff of Nottingham
   - Friar Tuck

3. Match these nouns with the adjective that describes them.

   - grubby
   - cap
   - green
   - hand
   - feathered
   - leggings

4. Label these events 1-4 in the order that they happened.
   - Ash realised that the classroom was empty.
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5. Find and copy one word that shows how Ash was feeling.

   ________________________________

6. Find and copy one word that means one person performing.

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“Ooh, nice tights, Ash,” said Janelle, sticking her head round the door.

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Almost as much as I normally do, that is.
Questions

1. Match these nouns with the adjectives that describe them.

- feathered ________
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2. Label these events 1-4 in the order they happened.

☐ Ash realised that the classroom was empty.
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3. Find and copy one word that shows how Ash was feeling.


4. Read the last line of the extract. Why is the word *normally* in italics?


5. Which of these words best describes how Ash feels?
   - bored
   - anxious
   - happy
   - nervous

Explain your choice.


6. Why was Ash short-tempered with Hassan? Explain your answer.


7. Read through the paragraph that begins: “They’re leggings,” I said... How do you think Ash was feeling? Which words or phrases give you this impression?

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8. Find four phrases that describe what Ash was worried would happen when he was on stage. Explain your answer.

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### Under the Lights

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*Example:* Because it is unusual behaviour for Ash.  
The word is in italics to get it noticed.

| 5. Which of these words best describes how Ash feels? | • draw inferences such as inferring characters’ feelings, thoughts and motives from their actions, and justify inferences with evidence. • check that the text makes sense to me, discuss my understanding and explain the meaning of words in context. |

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**Example:** Ash appears to be anxious as he is finding it hard to breathe and nervous as he finds even tying his shoe laces difficult.

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*Example:* Ash appears short-tempered when he says, “Hassan, can you stop blathering and actually help?” He explains that he was starting to not be able to breathe very well and was beginning to panic.
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Almost as much as I normally do, that is.

"Come on, Ash, we’re all waiting," said Janelle, as if I didn’t already know. Suddenly, I started to think: what if Mr Rivers decided to start the play without me? What if I forgot all of the words to my solo number? What if there was a power cut in the middle of the show?

I was halfway through imagining all of the parents getting out their phones to light the stage with their built-in torches when Janelle said, “Um, Ash? Did you know that your Velcro is broken?”

“Shut up, Janelle,” said Hassan urgently, but it was too late.

“My Velcro’s broken?” I whirled round to face a sheepish Hassan. “You broke my costume? On opening night?”

This was a disaster that I hadn’t even thought of. I felt prickles in my eyes and wobbles in my chin. But I wasn’t going to cry; I was too old for that.

“Look, we can fix it,” said Janelle. “I’ll get some glue from the art trolley. It’s no big deal, Ash.”

“It is -” I tried to tell her, but suddenly, I couldn’t breathe properly again.

What was wrong with me?
Questions

1. Match these nouns with the adjectives that describe them.

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   - green
   - grubby
   - hand
   - cap
   - leggings

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3. Find and copy one word that shows how Ash was feeling.

4. Read the last line of the extract. What does this tell you about Ash?

5. Which of these words best describes how Ash feels?
   - [ ] bored
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   Explain your choice.

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   ____________________________________________
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9. Hassan tells Ash that there has been a 'Velcro mishap'. What is a mishap? What does the prefix 'mis' mean? How many words do you know that begin with mis-?

   ____________________________________________
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10. Can you summarise the main points in this chapter?

    ____________________________________________
    ____________________________________________
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   Example: The line, ‘What was wrong with me?’ shows that Ash was worried and had no idea why he was feeling this way. | • identify how language, structure and presentation contribute to meaning. |
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| 6. Why was Ash short-tempered with Hassan? Explain your answer.  
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Under the Lights

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Example: Ash’s anxious state is shown by him yanking his cap up and explaining his leggings were ‘not tights’ in an abrupt way. He says he was beginning to get a ‘tingly feeling’ before the performance and also tells how his head was spinning.

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Example: A mishap is another description for an accident or mistake. The prefix mis- means wrong or incorrectly. Mis- words include: mislead, mishear, misunderstood, misbehave, misfire, mislay...

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<td>Ash is feeling stressed and anxious about going on stage, which is something that has never happened before.</td>
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<td>He imagines all kinds of bad things are going to happen when he goes on stage.</td>
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