

Daily Reading: History Hackers: Roman Rescue 1

This **video** focuses on the skills of predicting and understanding word meaning. Children watch the video relating to Chapter 1. They may choose to answer the questions on their activity sheet, or you may prefer to talk about them together. If they want to write down their answers, they can pause the video to give them time to write. Answers or example answers are included below. There are also some questions they may wish to answer after the video. It will be useful for them to have the eBook in front of them (included in this pack) to find the answers to these questions.

Watch Video



Chapter 1

During the Video



1. Look at the front cover. How might you describe the characters and what they are feeling?
The Roman has a serious and stern look on his face so he might be trying to scare the other characters. The girl and boy look very worried and it looks like they are trying to get away from the Roman soldier.
2. Look at the front cover. What do you predict might happen in the story?
Example answer: The pocket watch might be a clue that the children have travelled back to Roman times but because the watch is broken, maybe they are stuck there.
3. What does the word 'heaved' in line 6 tell us about Tilda's actions? (p.4)
The word 'heaved' tells us that Tilda used all her strength to try and turn the handle of the door.
4. Charlie is feeling pleased with himself that he knew the door handle was broken. What word did the author use to show this is how Charlie is feeling? (p.4)
The word that tells us that Charlie is pleased with himself that he knew the door handle was broken is 'triumphantly'.
5. What do you predict Tilda is planning on doing with Charlie's trainer? (p.4)
I think Tilda might use the trainer to hit the door to stop her hurting her hands any more.

After the Video



6. Find the example of personification used on this page (clue: it's in the first sentence). What does this word tell us about what is happening here? (p.4)
The personification used is the word 'bit'. This tells us that when Tilda tried to turn the handle, it hurt her hand, just like a bite would hurt.
7. What were you expecting the characters to find in the attic?
Example answer: I was expecting the characters to find lots of antiques and precious items like old books and other old artefacts.
8. When the family moved into the house, all the rooms except the attic needed to be decluttered. Why do you think the attic was empty?
Example answer: The attic might have been emptied by Professor Howe. Maybe he took all the valuable items and ran away with them.

9. What do you think Tilda and Charlie will do now?

Example answer: Tilda and Charlie might look closely in the attic for clues as to what has happened there.

Deeper Reading



10. Based on everything you know from this chapter and the front cover, can you predict what might happen in the rest of this story?

Example answer: I predict that Tilda and Charlie might find a pocket watch hidden in the attic and be transported back to the Roman times. They might meet lots of different Romans and find out all about life as a Roman. The pocket watch might then get broken, so they have to find another way of getting home.

11. We are told about the old resident of the house, Professor Howe, in this chapter. Do you think he will be an important character in the story or do you think he was just included to tell us about the antique shop? Give reasons for your answer.

Example answer: I think Professor Howe might be an important character because he would have been the last person in the attic and so maybe he is part of the clue as to why it is empty. I think this because the author of the story chose to tell us about him.

Related Activity



Each day, an activity related to the session will be provided.

Related Activity for Chapter 2: Predictions Activity Sheet

This activity asks children to make a prediction about what might be in the attic along with their ideas about what might happen in the rest of the story. For an extra challenge, children are asked to write some questions they may have based on what has been read and answer the questions using their predictions. There are no right or wrong answers for these tasks but children should be able to explain why they have made these predictions and relate it to what they have read in the text. You do not need to print the activity – children could write their answers on paper.

Answers



Part A

Example answers might include:

I think Tilda and Charlie find a pocket watch hidden in a cupboard in the attic. On the back of the watch are the words 'Take me back in time'. When these words are read out loud by the children, they are suddenly taken back in time to the Roman period. They find themselves in a Roman market, dressed as Roman children. They make friends with a Roman boy who tells them all about the mean Emperor who tries to catch children and keep them as slaves. Roman soldiers are looking for any children and they find Tilda and Charlie and take them to the Emperor. Tilda and Charlie try to use the watch to get back to their normal lives, but they realise the watch is now broken. They need their friend to help save them from becoming slaves.

Part B

Example answer:

The room is filled with cages and pens, just like in a zoo. Each cage is home to a friendly, miniature animal. There is a miniature elephant, a very friendly lion the size of a hamster, a chimpanzee who just wants to be cuddled and a whale that lives in a washing-up bowl.

Challenge Task

Questions might include:

Who is Professor Howe and why did he leave all of a sudden?

Why is the attic empty when the rest of the house was full of antiques?

How are Tilda and Charlie transported back in time to the Romans?

Do they escape the Romans and get back to their normal lives?