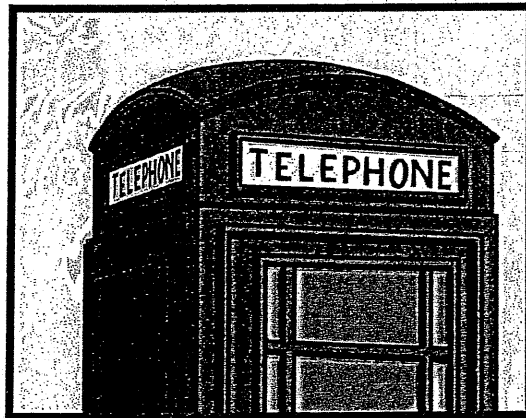


Reading Booklet

Year 6 Reading Assessment - Non-Fiction



The Telephone Box

The Telephone Box

The famous British red telephone box has been around now for nearly a century. It is a well-known symbol for tourists to Great Britain, similar to black London taxis or red double-decker buses.

Before the invention of the mobile phone, and even before it became common to have a telephone in the house, the public telephone box was a valuable facility for making calls to friends and family. Nowadays with most people owning mobile phones, there is far less demand for the public telephone box. Consequently, tens of thousands have been removed.

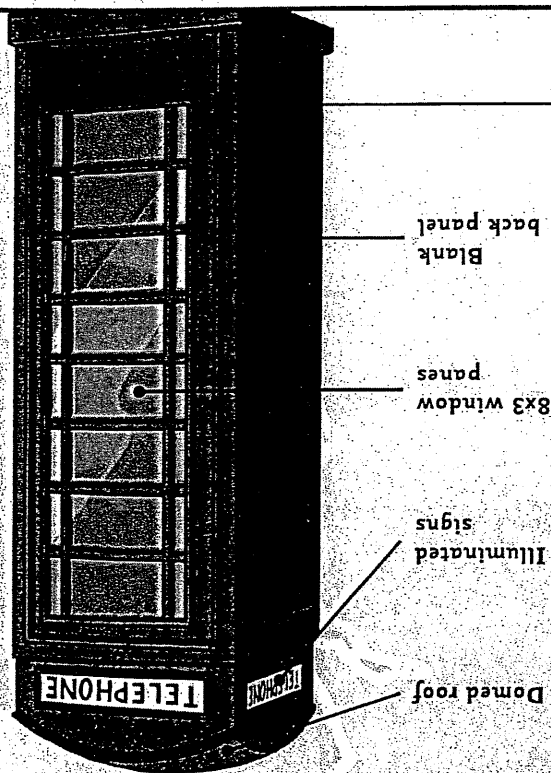
History

There have been a number of different designs for the public telephone box in Britain. Known as kiosks, the first standard version was introduced in 1921 and many slightly redesigned models have appeared since.

Versions K2 and K3 were designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, who also worked on famous landmarks such as Liverpool Cathedral, Waterloo Bridge and Battersea Power Station. Other models which followed directly after were also modelled on this design, though credited to the Engineering Department of the General Post Office.

The K6 design (Kiosk Number 6) is the most recognised version of the red telephone box. It has a concrete base and cast-iron sections bolted together with a domed roof. At the back is a 'blank' panel, whilst on other sides are an array of 3x8 window panes. Above each side is an illuminated 'Telephone' sign. It was first introduced in 1936 and continued production until 1968 with around 60,000 kiosks installed around the country. This made it the first version to be extensively used outside London. Although now in decline, thousands still remain in place.

The Kiosk No.6 (K6) design featured 8 x 3 window panes with a domed roof, illuminated signs at the top and a 'blank' back panel.



A Modern Redesign

Thankfully, in 2009, an 'adapt-a-kiosk' scheme was introduced where rarely used telephone boxes could be adopted for other uses. This idea has happily helped to preserve the famous phone boxes – even if some of them have begun to look a little different now! More than one has been converted into a tiny library; a London phone box has become a coffee shop; another in North Yorkshire became an art gallery whilst some have even been used to install life-saving defibrillator equipment to treat heart failures.

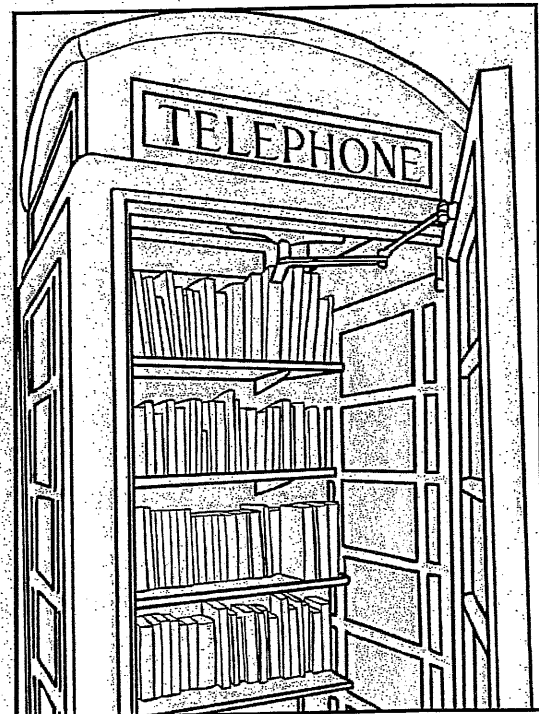
NOVEL IDEA FOR VILLAGE PHONE BOX!

A rarely used village telephone box has been given a new lease of life after being bought by local people and turned into a miniature library.

Campaigners in the rural village of Smallsden were able to purchase the iconic red telephone box for just £1, after it had stood unused for several years.

Local resident Eileen Greenhouse from the Smallsden Book Club said that they had been missing out on a library for years and this was the perfect solution.

'We have a village post office and newsagent, but we really wanted somewhere that we could borrow and exchange books. The phone box is right in the middle of the village green but it was starting to look a bit shabby and neglected. Now it has not only been spruced up, it has a genuine use for local people to enjoy again.'



Surprisingly, the telephone box is not the first in the country to be turned into a library. Others in Derbyshire and Somerset, amongst other places, have set the trend. Now, the folks of Smallsden can choose from up to 200 books housed inside the tiny space – all of them donated by residents. Although the phone box is locked at night, it is open six days a week, relying on visitors to borrow or exchange books for their own unwanted novels.

Parish Councillor Albert Johnson said the new library was not just a valuable resource but was swiftly becoming a local landmark, bringing people into the area.

'We've had visitors coming from neighbouring towns and cities just to look at our old phone box! Hopefully, the new tourists will also pop into the village pub for a drink or a bite to eat and take a souvenir from the newsagents' gift selection whilst they're here!'

The telephone box is now thought to be the smallest library in the country.

English

KS2

2016

Year 6 Reading Assessment

The Telephone Box Answer Booklet

First Name						
Middle Name						
Last Name						
Date of Birth	Day		Month		Year	
School Name						
DfE Number						

Year 6 Reading Assessment Non-Fiction

Questions 1 to 12 are about 'The Telephone Box'

1. Which **two** other tourist symbols of Great Britain is the red telephone box compared to?

2. Why is the public telephone box not as useful to people anymore?

3. Name **one** of the famous landmarks worked on by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott.

4. Order the events, showing some of the major events in the history of the telephone box.
The first one has been done for you.

Production of K6 design ended

Famous K6 design first introduced

Some phone boxes turned into libraries and other uses

First standard kiosk introduced

Adopt a Kiosk scheme introduced

1

5. According to the section 'A Modern Redesign', which of these have become a new use for a disused telephone box? Tick **two**.

Post Office box

☐

Art Gallery

☐

Coffee Shop

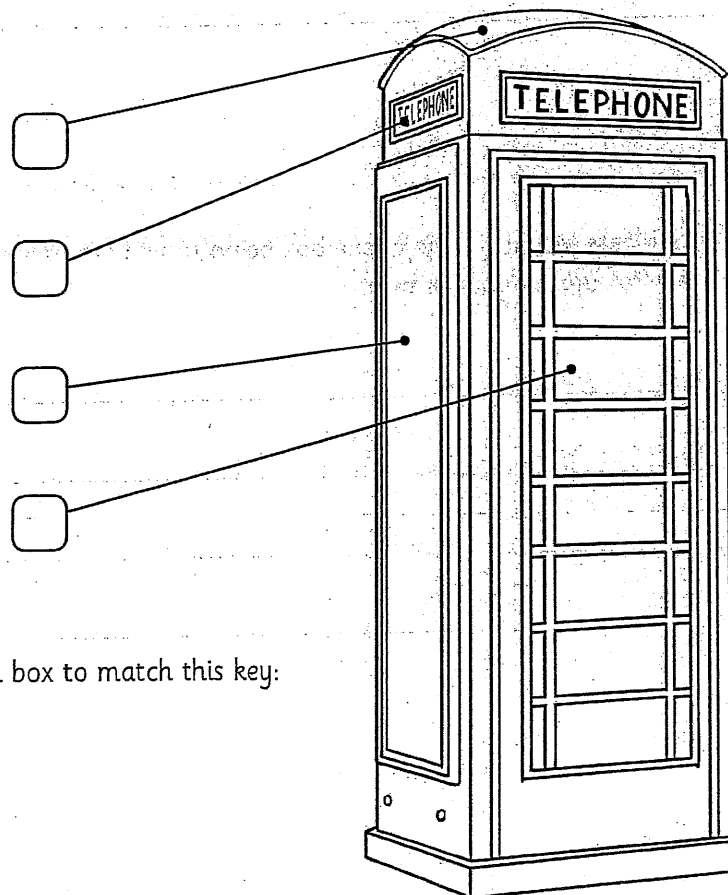
☐

Power Station

☐

6. How does the author seem pleased and make it seem like a positive idea that the phone boxes are being given new uses?

7. Look at the diagram.



Write the correct letter in each box to match this key:

- A Illuminated signs
- B Domed roof
- C 8x3 window panes
- D Blank back panel

total for
this page

total for
this page

2 marks

1 mark

2 marks

4

Look at the newspaper article:

8. The headline is: 'Novel idea for Village Phone Box'. Write down **two** meanings of the word 'novel'.

1.
2.

9. Find and copy **two** words from the article which mean 'very small'.

10. How do you think local residents feel about the phone box being turned into a library? Give evidence from the text to support your answer.

11. Tick **True** or **False** in the following table about the Smallsden village telephone box that was turned into a library.

	True	False
The telephone box cost campaigners only one pound to buy.		
The telephone box has up to two hundred books.		
The telephone box is open seven days per week.		

1 mark

12. a) Where else does the Parish Councillor hope that tourists to the area will visit?

2 marks

- b) Why do you think he is happy that they are coming to the area?

End of questions about *'The Telephone Box'*

END OF TEST

total for
this page

If By Rudyard Kipling

If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don't deal in lies,
Or being hated, don't give way to hating,
And yet don't look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream - and not make dreams your
master;
If you can think - and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two imposters just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: 'Hold on!'

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings - nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it,
And - which is more - you'll be a Man, my son!

1. Who is the poet talking to through the poem?



2. Can you list **two** messages the poet is giving through the poem?



3. How does the poem make you feel, and why?



4. '...If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue...'

In this line, the word 'virtue' is closest in meaning to... (circle one.)

popularity

voice

honesty

temper



Answers:

1. Who is the poet talking to through the poem?

Accept any reference to a parent talking to their child.

2. Can you list two messages the poet is giving through the poem?

Accept reference to two relevant messages in the poem, for example:

- believe in yourself;

- be patient;

- always be honest and kind;

- it's what is inside that counts;

- you don't always know best – listen to and learn from others;

- life is short – make the most of every minute;

- take responsibility – life is what you make it;

- never give up – learn from your mistakes.

3. How does the poem make you feel, and why?

Pupil's own response with a supporting reason linked to the poem, e.g.

'The poem makes me feel inspired to do my best at school because the

poem tells me to never give up even if I find things difficult.

4. '...If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue...' (circle one).
In this line, the word 'virtue' is closest in meaning to... (circle one).

popularity

voice

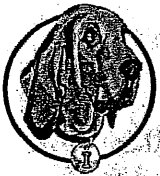
honesty

temper

Little Boy Blue by Eugene Field

The little toy dog is covered with dust,
 But sturdy and stanch he stands;
 And the little toy soldier is red with rust,
 And his musket moulds in his hands.
 Time was when the little toy dog was new
 And the soldier was passing fair,
 And that was the time when our Little Boy Blue
 Kissed them and put them there.
 "Now, don't you go till I come," he said,
 "And don't you make any noise!"
 So toddling off to his trundle-bed
 He dreamed of the pretty toys.
 And as he was dreaming, an angel song
 Awakened our Little Boy Blue,—
 Oh, the years are many, the years are long,
 But the little toy friends are true.

Ay, faithful to Little Boy Blue they stand,
 Each in the same old place,
 Awaiting the touch of a little hand,
 The smile of a little face.
 And they wonder, as waiting these long years
 through,
 In the dust of that little chair,
 What has become of our Little Boy Blue
 Since he kissed them and put them there.



1. What do you think the toy soldier is made from?



2. Can you list **two** ways the poet has shown that the toys are very precious to Little Boy Blue?

1. _____
2. _____



3. **Tick** true or false in the following table:

	True	False
The little toy dog holds a musket.		
The toys are sitting on a little chair.		
Little Boy Blue slept in a trundle-bed.		



4. Looking through the content of the whole poem, why have the toys waited years in the same old place?

Little Boy Blue Answers

1. What do you think the toy soldier is made from?
The toy soldier is made from metal as it says that he is 'red with rust'.
2. Can you list two ways the poet has shown that the toys are very precious to Little Boy Blue?
Accept any two of the following:
 - he kissed them before he went to bed;
 - he dreamed of the pretty toys;
 - he talked to them as though they were real;
 - he had a smile on his little face when he played with them.
3. Tick true or false in the following table:

The little toy dog holds a musket.	True	True
The toys are sitting on a little chair.	True	True
Little Boy Blue slept in a trundle-bed.	True	True
4. Looking through the content of the whole poem, why have the toys waited years in the same old place?
Little Boy Blue never returned to the toys because 'an angel song' took him in the night and he has never played with them again. The toys waited on the chair and wondered what had become of him.

The Listeners

'Is there anybody there?' said the Traveller,
Knocking on the moonlit door;
And his horse in the silence champed the grasses
Of the forest's ferny floor:
And a bird flew up out of the turret,
Above the Traveller's head:
And he smote upon the door again a second time;
'Is there anybody there?' he said.
But no one descended to the Traveller;
No head from the leaf-fringed sill
Leaned over and looked into his grey eyes,
Where he stood perplexed and still.

by Walter De La Mare



1. Which **two** things are true about the Traveller? Tick **two**.

He knocked on the door twice.

☐

He leaned over from the sill.

☐

He has grey eyes.

☐

He descended from the turret.

☐

2. What do you think the word 'champed' means?



3. Find and copy an example of alliteration from the verse.



4. ...he stood perplexed and still.

Explain what this description suggests about the Traveller.

The Listeners Answers

1. Which **two** things are true about the Traveller? Tick **two**.

He knocked on the door twice.



He has grey eyes.



He leaned over from the sill.



He descended from the turret.



2. What do you think the word 'champed' means?

'Champed' means the horse was chewing noisily.

3. Find and copy an example of alliteration from the verse.

forest's ferny floor

4. ... he stood perplexed and still.

Explain what this description suggests about the Traveller.

Award marks for responses that explain the Traveller's confusion, e.g.

• he stood still because he didn't know what else to do

because no one was coming to the door.

• he was confused that no one was answering.

The April Joke

Oh, it was a merry, gladsome day,
 When the April Fool met the Queen of May;
 She had roguish eyes and golden hair,
 And they were a mischief-making pair.
 They planned the funniest kind of a joke
 On the poor, long-suffering mortal folk;
 And a few mysterious words he said,
 His fool's cap close to her flower-crowned head.
 Then he laughed till he made his cap-bells ring,
 At the thought of the topsy-turvy Spring.
 "'Tis a fair exchange," he said, with a wink—
 "It is!" she said, and what do you think?
 The flowers that should bloom in the month of May
 Every one of them came on an April day!
 And they looked for April showers in vain,
 But all through May it did nothing but rain!



1. **Tick** true or false in the following table:

	True	False
The April Fool had roguish eyes.		
It rained all through April.		
No flowers bloomed in May.		



2. Do you think that the April Fool and the Queen of May had played tricks on the '*mortal folk*' before?



3. **Find** and **copy** the phrase that tells you that the pair of mischief-makers were sitting close together and secretly whispering about their plans.



4. What does the poet mean by a '*topsy-turvy Spring*'?

The April Joke Answers

1. Tick true or false in the following table:

True	False	The April Fool had roguish eyes.	
		It rained all through April.	
		No flowers bloomed in May.	

2. Do you think that the April Fool and the Queen of May had played tricks on the 'mortal folk' before?

Yes - because it describes the 'mortal folk' as poor and long-suffering, as though they have had to deal with their tricks for a long time.

3. Find and copy the phrase that tells you that the pair of mischief-makers were sitting close together and secretly whispering about their plans.

His fool's cap close to her flower-crowned head.

4. What does the poet mean by a 'topsy-turvy Spring'?

'Topsy-turvy' means turned on its head/flipped around. The mischief-makers had managed to make the flowers bloom in April and it rained all through May, which is the complete opposite of how it should have been.

THE HOBBITON HERALD

www.hobbiton-herald.com THE SHIRE'S FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER 6 pennies

BAGGINS IS BACK!

SURPRISE RETURN OF HOBBIT THOUGHT DEAD

By Andwise 'Andy' Roper

The quiet village of Hobbiton-on-the-Water was yesterday in uproar due to the unexpected re-appearance of Mr Bilbo Baggins, who left the Shire months ago, accompanied by the wizard Gandalf. Where has he been all this time?



Bilbo Baggins



1. '...in uproar'. What does this tell you about how the people of the village were feeling?



2. **Copy** an example of a rhetorical question from the text. Why has the author used this?



3. **Tick** true or false in the following table:

	True	False
The article was written by Bilbo Baggins.		
Bilbo Baggins left the Shire with a wizard.		
The people of Hobbiton-on-the-Water always knew that the Hobbit would return one day.		



4. Find and copy two synonyms for 'unanticipated' that are used in the extract.

Baggins Is Back Answers

1. '...in uproar'. What does this tell you about how the people of the village were feeling?
If the people are 'in uproar', it means there is a huge sense of angry confusion surrounding the whole incident.

2. Copy an example of a rhetorical question from the text. Why has the author used this?
'Where has he been all the time?'
The author has used the rhetorical question so that people read on further into the article to see if the question is answered.

3. Tick true or false in the following table:

	True	False
The article was written by Bilbo Baggins.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bilbo Baggins left the Shire with a wizard.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The people of Hobbiton-on-the-Water always knew that the Hobbit would return one day.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

4. Find and copy two synonyms for 'unanticipated' that are used in the extract.

- surprise
- unexpected

Tornado Alley

Tornado Alley in the United States is a region where warm, moist air flows north from the Gulf of Mexico and crashes into cold air pushing south from Canada. When they meet, violent thunderstorms occur and these are known as super cells. As warm, moist air flows into the storm it is pushed up and then twisted by upper level winds. As this rotating column of air gathers force, a tornado is born that can last between 20 seconds and an hour.

What should you do if you are caught in a tornado?

- Get underground!
- If you can't get underground, find a room without windows.
- Stay out of mobile homes.
- Do not hide in your bathroom.
- Go to the nearest sturdy building if you are driving.
- Take action before you see the tornado.
- If outdoors, find a building or basement.

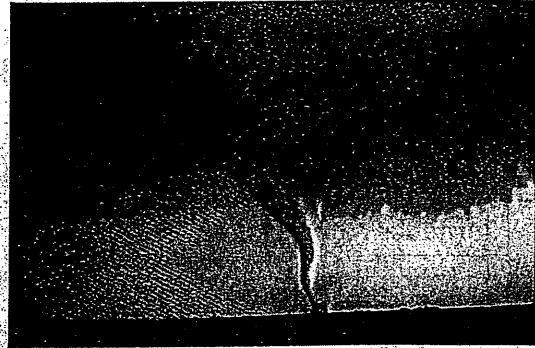


Photo courtesy of NOAA Photo Library (@flickr.com) - granted under creative commons licence - attribution

If you cannot quickly walk to a shelter, get into your vehicle and fasten your seatbelt. Drive to the nearest shelter. If debris affects your ability to drive, pull over and park. Stay in the car and keep your seatbelt on. Keep your head down below the windows and cover yourself with a blanket.



1. *'If debris affects your ability to drive...'*

Which word or phrase most closely matches the meaning of the word 'debris'?

vision ☐ dust fragments ☐ vibration ☐ the storm's strength ☐



2. **Tick** true or false in the following table:

	True	False
Warm, moist air flows from Canada towards Tornado Alley.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tornadoes can last up to one hour.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You should never drive during a tornado.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Super cells are a type of violent thunderstorm.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



3. Why does the text advise you to find a room without windows during a tornado?



4. What is the main message of the second and third paragraphs. **Tick one.**

People should evacuate to a different town when a tornado is approaching. ☐

Tornadoes are rotating columns of air. ☐

People can take several precautions to keep themselves safe during a tornado. ☐

Tornadoes are extremely dangerous natural hazards. ☐

Tornado Alley Answers

1. 'If debris affects your ability to drive...' Which word or phrase most closely matches the meaning of the word 'debris'?

☐ vision
 ☒ dust fragments
 ☐ vibration
 ☐ the storm's strength

2. Tick true or false in the following table:

Warm, moist air flows from Canada towards Tornado Alley.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	True
Tornadoes can last up to one hour	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	True
You should never drive during a tornado.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	True
Super cells are a type of violent thunderstorm.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	True

3. Why does the text advise you to find a room without windows during a tornado?
The text advises you to find a room without windows as they may smash during the storm and could cause a person harm.

4. What is the main message of the second and third paragraphs. Tick one.

☐ People should evacuate to a different town when a tornado is approaching.
☐ Tornadoes are rotating columns of air.
☒ People can take several precautions to keep themselves safe during a tornado.
☐ Tornadoes are extremely dangerous natural hazards.

Five Palms Hotel

Are you overdue some family fun in the sun? If the answer is yes, choose the exclusive Five Palms Hotel for your all-inclusive family holiday.

The award-winning Five Palms Hotel is one of the most modern hotels in the area with something to suit all ages. We are proud to offer three outdoor swimming pools, one indoor pool, a fully equipped gym, aquarium, tennis court, luxury spa and a fabulous outdoor theatre with family shows taking place every night. The hotel offers a range of adult activities including aqua aerobics, salsa dancing and tai chi.

The Five Palms Hotel has 3 large, air-conditioned restaurants serving food to suit even the fussiest of eaters!

Kids will enjoy the huge, indoor play gym or spending time at one of our fantastic clubs: High Fivers (ages 4-7) and Five Alivers (ages 8-12), both of which run from 9am until 5pm every day, giving adults time to switch off! High Fivers activities include stories, arts and crafts, team games and drama whilst Five Alivers offers a wide range of sports, music, dancing, obstacle courses and more!

Overlooking the beach, sea views and balconies come as a standard with every beautifully appointed room, as does air-conditioning, satellite TV and an en-suite bathroom.

Our hotel is only 15 minutes away from Palms Airport and a short walk from Five Palms Old Town where you can barter with the local shop keepers whilst taking in the local history and stunning architecture.



1. Copy an example of a rhetorical question that is used in the text. Why has the author used this?



2. Tick true or false in the following table.



	True	False
Five Palms is an old hotel.		
The kids clubs run from 9am to 12pm.		
Satellite TV is included in all rooms.		

3. Who do you think the Five Palms Hotel would be most suitable for? Why?



4. 'Our hotel is in a prime location...' What does the word 'prime' mean?



Answers:

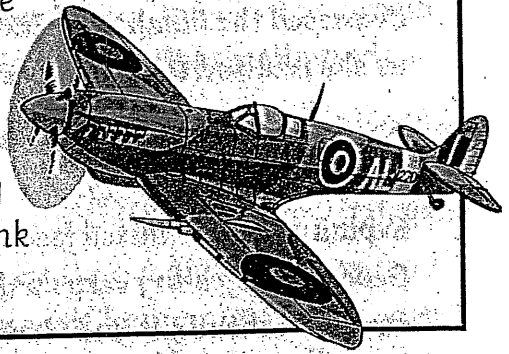
1. Copy an example of a rhetorical question that is used in the text. Why has the author used this?
Accept either example:
Are you ready for some family fun in the sun?
...why would you want to go anywhere else?
2. Tick true or false in the following table.
The author has used the rhetorical question to get people to read further into the article to find the answer/to persuade people that this is the best place to stay on holiday.

True	False
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Five Palms is an old hotel.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The kids clubs run from 9am to 12pm.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Satellite TV is included in all rooms.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3. Who do you think the Five Palms Hotel would be most suitable for? Why?
Accept reference to families with children with appropriate justification from the text.
4. Our hotel is in a prime location.. What does the word 'prime' mean?
Accept any appropriate definition, for example:
best, excellent, top-quality, most important, first-rate, superior.

The Second World War Diary of George Bramwell, aged 14

I'm feeling really confused tonight. We listened to another broadcast yesterday by Charles Gardner who was describing a dog fight near Dover. I thought it sounded brilliant; we could hear the bombing going on in the background as Gardner described what was happening and I couldn't help but cheer along with him as he reported what he could see '...and there he goes. Smash!' A lot of people have been complaining about it though. Elsie said Emmie was crying and shouting, 'It's not a football match!' at the wireless. I know people are losing their lives but it is hard not to get caught up in all the excitement too. Sometimes it feels like this war is all just a big game but I suppose if we were the players it wouldn't be so entertaining. I feel very guilty now for enjoying listening to the broadcast. I don't think I'll be able to sleep tonight.



1. What does the phrase 'dog fight' mean?



2. **Compare** how the two characters, George (the narrator) and Emmie, react differently to the broadcast?



3. *'Sometimes it feels like this war is just a big game but I suppose if we were the players it wouldn't be so entertaining.'*

Explain George's mixed feelings when he wrote this sentence in his diary.



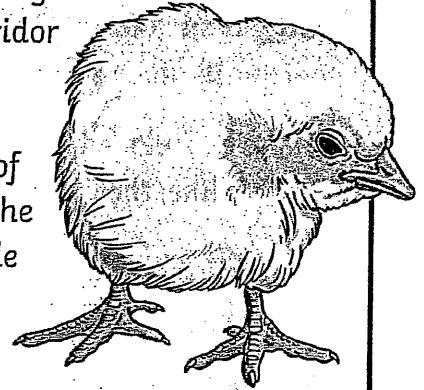
4. **Find and copy** the word that was used in the 1940s for 'radio'.

The Diary of George Bramwell Answers

1. What does the phrase 'dog fight' mean?
'Dog fights' were the nickname given to close range fighter jet battles during the war.
2. Compare how the two characters, George (the narrator) and Emmie react differently to the broadcast?
George thought that the broadcast sounded 'brilliant' and cheered along as the reporter discussed the bombings. Emmie reacted in the complete opposite way and began to cry as she realised that the bombing meant the loss of life.
3. 'Sometimes it feels like this war is just a big game but I suppose if we were the players it wouldn't be so entertaining.'
Explain George's mixed feelings when he wrote this sentence in his diary.
George was feeling very confused as he felt guilty for getting excited at the broadcast earlier in the night and cheering along to it as though it were a football match. He had now realised that if he were a fighter pilot (a player) then he would probably not find these sorts of battles so appealing.
4. Find and copy the word that was used in the 1940s for 'radio'.
wireless

Things That Go Chirp in the Night

The evening had turned jet black and the rain hammered at Billy's face. Billy yanked his hood down over his forehead and dashed towards the entrance of the school. The lights were off but the door was slightly ajar so he snuck in. He knew no one would believe him if he said he'd accidentally taken the chick so he thought it best to stay under the radar of Mr Ryan (the school building supervisor). As he tiptoed down the old, familiar corridors, he felt a shiver run down his spine as in the darkness everything looked very different. His eyes had to work hard to adjust to the darkness and the abandoned PE kits that were strewn on the floor looked like crouching animals waiting to leap at him. Billy's heart beat faster. Whilst the terror of the corridor was almost enough to make Billy want to run home, he knew he had to get to the EYFS classroom and put the helpless chick back in its rightful place. Out of the corner of his eye, he saw a shaft of light beaming from their door and was extremely thankful that the teacher must have forgotten to turn her light off. He dashed inside the classroom and breathed a sigh of relief.



1. Find and copy three ways that the author shows that Billy is feeling fearful.



2. Why is Billy sneaking back into school?



3. '...the abandoned PE kits that were strewn on the floor...'

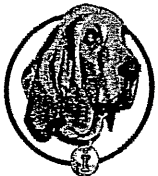
In this line, the word 'strewn' is closest in meaning to... (Tick one.)

escaped ☐

buried ☐

hidden ☐

scattered ☐



4. 'Whilst the terror of the corridor was almost enough to make Billy want to run home, he knew he had to get to the EYFS classroom...'

What makes Billy keep going even though he is feeling frightened?

Things That Go Chirp in the Night Answers

1. Find and copy three ways that the author shows that Billy is feeling fearful. Accept any three from: he felt a shiver down his spine; his eyes played tricks on him by thinking the PE kits looked like animals ready to pounce; his heart beat faster; he almost felt like running home; he breathed a sigh of relief when he reached the classroom.

2. Why is Billy sneaking back into school?

Billy is sneaking back into school to put a chick back into the EVFS classroom.

without anyone knowing that he had it.

3. "...the abandoned PE kits that were strewn on the floor..."

In this line, the word 'strewn' is closest in meaning to... (Tick one.)

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> scattered | <input type="checkbox"/> hidden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> buried | <input type="checkbox"/> escaped |

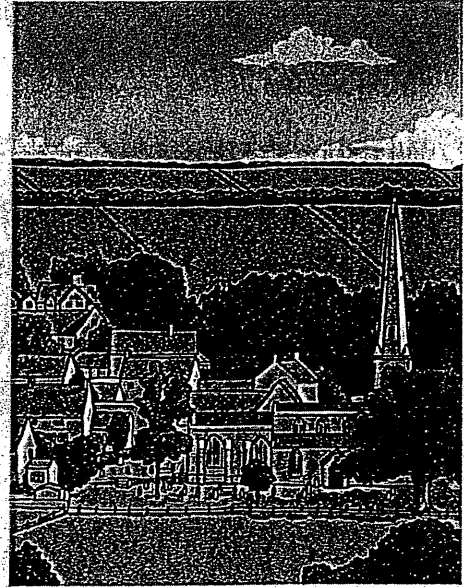
4. 'Whilst the terror of the corridor was almost enough to make Billy want to run home, he knew he had to get to the EVFS classroom...' What makes Billy keep going even though he is feeling frightened? Billy keeps going because he knows that he'll be in trouble if he doesn't put the chick back. The text makes you sense that he is feeling guilty.

The Riddle House

The villagers of Little Hangleton still called it 'the Riddle House,' even though it had been many years since the Riddle family had lived there. It stood on a hill overlooking the village, some of its windows boarded, tiles missing from its roof and ivy spreading unchecked over its face.

Once a fine-looking manor and easily the largest and grandest building for miles around, the Riddle House was now damp, derelict and unoccupied.

The Little Hangletons all agree that the house was 'creepy.' Half a century ago, something strange and horrible had happened there.



1. Find and **copy** the word that tells you that the house is not lived in.



2. Why was the house known as 'The Riddle House'? -



3. What three things are we told about the appearance of the house today?



4. Explain what you think might have happened to make the Riddle family abandon their beautiful home.



Answers:

1. Find and copy the word that tells you that the house is not lived in

unoccupied

2. Why was the house known as 'The Riddle House'?

The people in the village of Little Hangleton called it 'The Riddle House' because the Riddle family lived there at one time.

3. What three things are we told about the appearance of the house today?

Accept reference to the house having:

- boarded up windows

- missing roof tiles

- large amounts of ivy covering it

- it stands on a hill

4. Explain what you think might have happened to make the Riddle family abandon their beautiful home.

Accept reference to:

- something unfortunate happening to the family.

- an accident or accusation involving the family.

- an event relating to the villagers that drove the family away.

- a strange or peculiar sighting within the house.

Nian: The Monster of Lunar New Year

Once upon a time, long, long ago there lived a monster in China called the Nian. He lived under the sea in a cave and slept most of the year. He only awoke for one day each year, the last day before the lunar New Year began. Then the warmer weather woke him and he arose from the sea, hungry and ferocious.

Nian was a man-eater and he would come to the villages of China each year on the same night to devour people and wreck the houses. Many had tried to battle with the mighty Nian, many had tried and all had failed.

The villagers of one particular place were so terrified that every year they fled to the hills to try to escape the wrath of Nian.

One year, on the eve of the lunar New Year an old traveller came to the village. He was bent and weary from his travels and he desperately wanted food and lodging.

He went to the door of a house to beg for the food but the woman inside just turned him away. She had no time for beggars, she was packing food and preparing for the move up to the mountain.

The old man tried to ask a young girl on the street for

help next but she was too busy as well. She had to find her brothers and sisters and start the long walk up the mountain to escape the monster.

The only person who paid the old man any notice at all was an old woman. She was sweeping outside her house when she saw the weary traveller and realised that he needed food. She walked inside and returned to the man with a bowl of noodles.

While the old traveller ate he sat and watched the villagers running about.

He asked what all the fuss was about and the woman explained that the Nian was coming that night and the villagers were going to hide in the hills to ensure that their village was overlooked by the monster.

The woman looked worried and the old man asked her why. The old woman didn't think she'd be able to make the trip to the hills that year – her bones were old and she was weary.

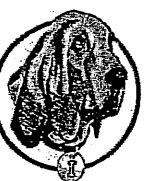
The old man smiled to himself. He knew how to repay the old woman's kindness.



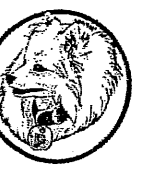
1. **Find and copy** the word that tells you that the old traveller is feeling weak and exhausted.



2. Why are the first two people that the old traveller speaks to unwilling to help him?



3. Why do you think that the old woman decided to help the old traveller?



4. 'The old man smiled to himself. He knew how to repay the old woman's kindness.' What do you think the old man is thinking of doing?

Nian: The Monster of Lunar New Year Answers

1. Find and copy the word that tells you that the old traveller is feeling weak and exhausted.
weary

2. Why are the first two people that the old traveller speaks to unwilling to help him?

The first woman had no time for beggars as she was packing food and preparing to move up the mountain. The young girl on the street was also too busy – she needed to find her brothers and sisters so they could all escape the monster.

3. Why do you think that the old woman decided to help the old traveller?

Accept reference to:

- she noticed how weak he looked and felt concerned that he needed food or he would become ill.

- she was a similar age to him and felt compassion for his situation.

4. 'The old man smiled to himself. He knew how to repay the old woman's kindness.'

What do you think the old man is thinking of doing?

Accept predictions that refer back to what has been read so far:

- he will help the old woman on her journey up the mountain.

- he will find a way of stopping Nian so that the villagers

- no longer have to fear the monster.