

## Mrs Collins' Helpful Hints and Resources

Answers to last week's comprehension are after the story...



The sun glistened, and its warmth shone through the elegant tangle of branches. Summer holidays had always been fun so I assumed that this year would be like any other. How wrong could I have been...

Skipping ahead of my parents, I was **eager** to explore this enchanted forest that opened up so beautifully in front of me.

"Don't go too far on your own!" warned my Mum from somewhere behind me. I didn't intend to. I always listened to my parents. I always did as I was told. I continued to skip through the trees, weaving in and out, **grasping** the leaves of plants and letting them brush through my fingers as I went.

I wasn't at all sure what made me stop or what made me suddenly aware that I was alone. I turned. I turned again and searched in every possible direction. The **pounding** in my chest seemed to fill my **torso**, **stifling** every **desperate** breath I tried to take. My parents had gone. Only a few moments ago, this magical forest had filled me with wonder but now, **looming** over me, the **distorted** shapes of the trees reached out and threatened to harm me. Two towering trunks leaned across the pathway that waited ahead of me and wrapped their branches around each other, as if 'high-fiving' in the victory of my capture.

As the sun burned **fiercely** above, burning the back of my neck, sweat dripped down and began to soak into my t-shirt. **Anxious** to find my parents I knew I had to move but my feet were rooted firmly to the forest floor. My insides **screeched** and **groaned** but no sound could be heard in the terrifying silence of the forest. In the middle of this summer holiday nightmare, **encased** by the twisted tree roots and endless foliage, I **trembled** in fear and despair.

Like a timid rabbit about to be caught by its hunter, I knew I had only one choice. Suddenly I found the courage and every inch of me realised the need for survival. With determination, slowly I released my feet from the powerful grip of the forest floor and **fled**.

I ran for what seemed like hours and had no idea where I was going. Tears streamed down my face; being separated from my parents was too painful to think about. How could I have been so foolish? Why hadn't I listened? What was it about this place? These thoughts raced in and out of my brain and my head **pulsated** as if it might explode.

From the edge of the forest, came a familiar sound. A sound so musical, like a sweet lullaby that the thumping inside my head stopped- cured by this sweet sound that hugged me. I **sprinted** towards the lullaby-like sound. Sobbing with relief and thankful

for this moment, I wrapped my arms tightly around the source of this wonderful, most magical music.

“Mum! Mum, I’m so sorry I ran off. I’ll never do it again!”

My Mum didn’t shout. She didn’t tell me off. We both knew it wouldn’t happen again. We turned and made our way, together, towards the car. The forest watched. This time it had let me go. The sun glistened, and its warmth shone through the elegant tangle of branches. Summer holidays had always be fun, assuming that this year would be like any other was my first mistake...

**Here are the answers to last week’s comprehension questions:**

- 1. According to the text, ‘The sun glistened’, find and copy a group of words which also show that the weather was nice?**

**The group of words that also shows that the weather was nice:** ‘its warmth shone through the elegant tangle of branches.’

- 2. “Skipping ahead of my parents, I was eager to explore this enchanted forest that opened up so beautifully in front of me.”**

**What impression do you get of the main character from this sentence?**

**Give two impressions, using evidence from the text to support your answer. Any two of the following ‘Impressions’ with the correct evidence**

<b>Impression</b>	<b>Evidence</b>
<b>Adventurous/ inquisitive/ curious</b>	<b>They want to ‘explore’...shows they want to find out more</b>
<b>Impressed/mesmerised by the forest</b>	<b>‘...this enchanted forest that opened up so beautifully in front of me’, shows they are impressed by the setting</b>
<b>Excited/keen</b>	<b>‘I was eager to explore’...shows they really wanted to explore. They couldn’t wait</b>
<b>Independent</b>	<b>‘Skipping ahead of my parents...’ shows they are happy to go alone</b>

- 3. In the paragraph starting, “ Don’t go too far on your own!” find and copy a group of words that show the main character usually did what their parents said.**

**The group of words that shows the main character usually did as they were told:** 'I didn't intend to. I always listened to my parents. I always did as I was told.' (Any of these is acceptable)

4. **In the paragraph starting** "I wasn't at all sure what made me stop..." what impression do you get of how the main character is feeling?

**Give 2 impressions and support with evidence from the text**

**As long as the evidence supports the impression, there may be a different combination of impression and evidence**

1. **I get the impression that they are scared... because the text says, the character's heart is 'pounding' so this shows they are frightened.**

**OR**

**...scared because the text says,** 'Two towering trunks leaned across the pathway that waited ahead of me and wrapped their branches around each other, as if 'high-fiving' in the victory of my capture', which would scare the character

**OR**

**...scared and lonely because the text says,** 'My parents had gone. Only a few moments ago, this magical forest had filled me with wonder but now, **looming** over me, the **distorted** shapes of the trees reached out and threatened to harm me.' **Which means the character is suddenly lost and on their own in a scary setting.**

2. **I get the impression that they are nervous or worried because in the text it says,** 'I turned. I turned again and searched in every possible direction.' This shows they keep looking around which you do when you are nervous.

5. "... my feet were **rooted** firmly to the forest floor."

What does the word **rooted** mean in this sentence?

**Tick ONE**

- |              |                                     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| <b>stuck</b> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| shaken       | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| slipping     | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| sliding      | <input type="checkbox"/>            |

6. **Why did the main character suddenly find the courage to free themselves from the forest and run?**

The main character suddenly found the courage to free themselves from the forest and run because they wanted to survive/ they wanted to live and escape.

7. In the paragraph beginning, "From the edge of the forest..." **find** and **copy one** word, which shows the main character knew the sound they heard.

The word that shows the main character knew the sound they heard, is 'familiar'.

8. What impression do you get of the main character at the end of the story

Give two impressions, using evidence from the text to support your answer.

Impression	Evidence
<b>Relieved</b>	'Sobbing with relief and thankful for this moment...'
<b>Sorry for running off</b>	"Mum! Mum, I'm so sorry I ran off. I'll never do it again!" emphasising 'so sorry'
<b>Happy</b>	'The sun glistened, and its warmth shone through the elegant tangle of branches.' This shows the mood is happy again because things are warm and nice.

Tuesday- Text Marking

Here is an example of Text Marking

Remember-

/ means there is a pause or a break. This is usually when punctuation or a conjunction have been used

— you underline a word if you 'press hard' on that word when you read it

→ you draw an arrow under a word if you 'stretch out' that word when you read it

The sun glistened,/and its warmth shone through the elegant tangle of branches./  
Summer holidays had always been fun/ so I assumed that this year would be like any  
other. /How wrong could I have been.../

Skipping ahead of my parents,/ I was eager to explore this enchanted forest that  
opened up so beautifully in front of me. /

**Tuesday- Highlighting/underlining words you don't understand and working out their meaning:**

**Reading Skills:**

- Find a root word- do you recognise the word? Is it a compound word?
- Put the unfamiliar word in a sentence- use synonyms to see if they mean the same
- Work out the meaning of the word in context- read around the word
- What job does the word do in the sentence? What word class is the word? - is it an adjective, which gives you more information about the noun?

**Friday:**

**Create a full page storyboard to show your alternative, ...and they lived happily ever after' story:**
