

Reading Domains

What are reading domains?

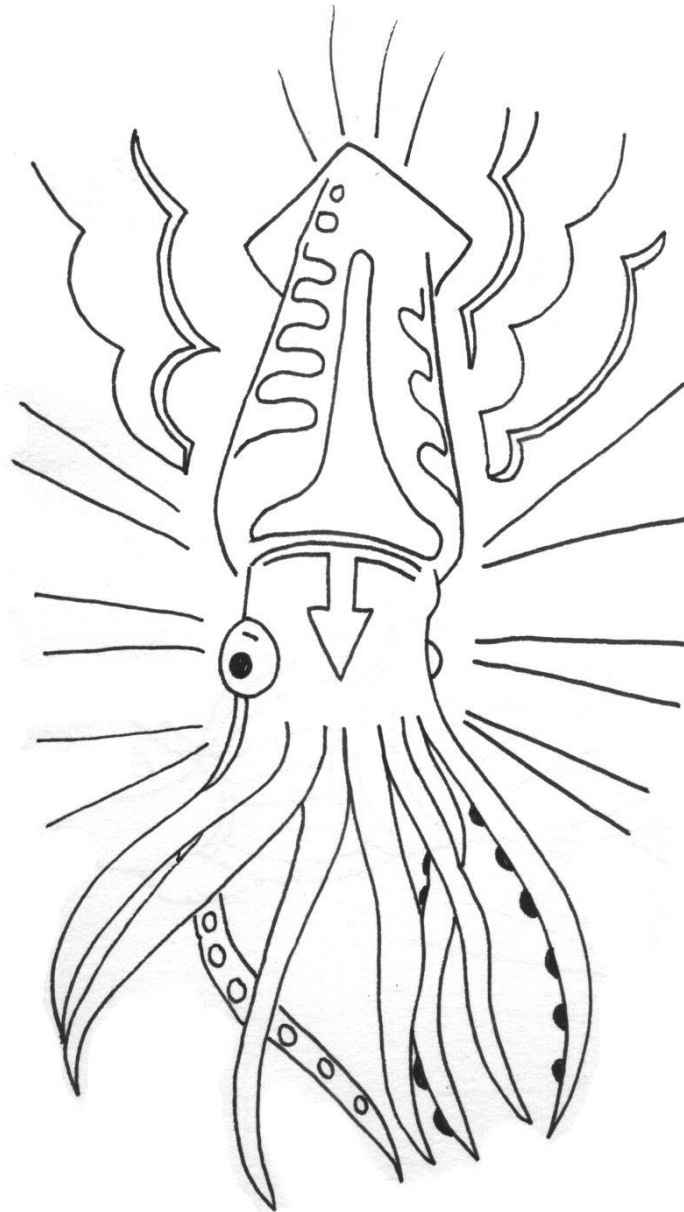
Reading domains set out the relevant elements from the National Curriculum (2014) programme of study that are assessed in the English reading test. Over time, the tests will sample from each area of the content domain. These domains underpin all reading skills.

Reading domains

There are seven reading domains in total — they are:

- Rex the Retriever
- Iggy Inference
- Percy the Predictor
- Copper the Commentator
- Sonny the Summariser
- Victor Vocabulary
- Ace the author

Rex the Retriever



Rex the Retriever

This means that he is there to help you to find **key pieces of information** within the text you are reading.

He helps you to do this by looking through the text for a specific answer.

With Rex Retriever questions, the answer you are looking for is always in the text somewhere... you just have to find and **retrieve** it!

Rex the Retriever

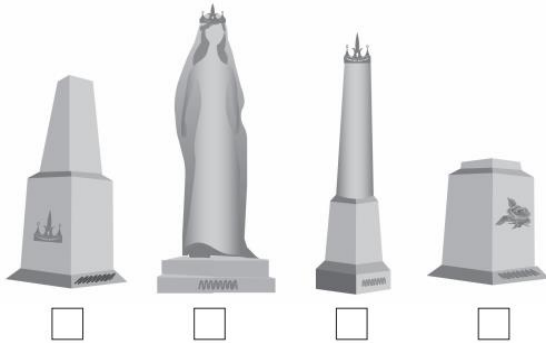
7 Write down **three** things that you are told about the oak tree on the island.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

3 marks

8 Which of these drawings best represents the monument?

Tick one.



1 mark

10 What was revealed at the end of the story?

Tick one.

- Oliver was keeping a secret.
- The monument was damaged.
- The two families were still enemies.
- Maria's family did not win the throne.

1 mark

Circle the correct option to complete each sentence below.

12 (a) The text begins with Martine going out to ride her giraffe...

in the early morning.

at midday.

in the late afternoon.

at night.

1 mark

(b) Martine rode her giraffe...

slowly.

speedily.

safely.

fearfully.

1 mark

(c) Everything was fine on that day until...

her grandmother saw her.

they came across lions on the hunt.

they disturbed a warthog family.

they met a herd of hippos.

1 mark

(d) At the end of the text, Martine...

went back home unharmed.

carried on riding for hours.

ran home to get help.

cried all the way home.

1 mark

18

Using information from the text, put a tick in the correct box to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
Matthew Webb's first attempt to swim the English Channel was not successful.		
The first successful swim of the English Channel was in 1872.		
J.B. Thompson and Matthew Webb swam the English Channel in 1875.		
Matthew Webb took twenty hours to swim the English Channel.		

2 marks

13

Gaby uses the Spanish word *gato* for cat.

Who else in the story speaks Spanish?

1 mark

'Tick it' questions and Circle it' questions

10 What was revealed at the end of the story?

Tick one.

Oliver was keeping a secret.

The monument was damaged.

The two families were still enemies.

Maria's family did not win the throne.

1 mark

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her grandmother saw her.

they came across lions on the hunt.

they disturbed a warthog family.

they met a herd of hippos.

1 mark

(d) At the end of the text, Martine...

went back home unharmed.

carried on riding for hours.

ran home to get help.

cried all the way home.

1 mark

'The 5 W' questions

5 Why had Gaby climbed the tree the previous summer?

1 mark

13 Gaby uses the Spanish word *gato* for cat.

Who else in the story speaks Spanish?

1 mark

16 What event made Matthew Webb want to swim the English Channel?

1 mark

Who...?

What...?

Where...?

When...?

Why...?

True or false questions

- 18 Using information from the text, put a tick in the correct box to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
Matthew Webb's first attempt to swim the English Channel was not successful.		
The first successful swim of the English Channel was in 1872.		
J.B. Thompson and Matthew Webb swam the English Channel in 1875.		
Matthew Webb took twenty hours to swim the English Channel.		

2 marks

- 39 Tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
Michael was in an unfamiliar area of sea when he saw the whale.		
The boat was still motoring forwards when the whale appeared.		
The whale felt warm and soft when Michael touched it.		
Michael could not name the colour of the whale's eye.		

1 mark

Rex the retriever question ideas....

- Where does the story take place?
- When did the story take place?
- What did s/he/it look like? □
- Who was s/he/it?
- Where did s/he/it live?
- Who are the characters in the book?
- Where in the book would you find...?
- What do you think is happening here?
- What happened in the story?
- What might this mean?
- Through whose eyes is the story told?
- Which part of the story best describes the setting?
- What words and /or phrases do this?
- What part of the story do you like best?
- What evidence do you have to justify your opinion?

Iggy Inference



Iggy Inference

This means that he is there to help you to **pick up ideas from the text** that are **not always written** in the text itself.

He helps you to do this by getting you to read the text as if you are a detective. **You're not looking for what is there – you're looking for what is meant by it.** For example, if the text says 'Jenni's face was red – she wrinkled her brow and began to shout', what could you infer about how Jenni feels?

Iggy inference

2 Look at the first paragraph, beginning: *A Siamese cat...*

Gaby pulled the cardigan tighter around her.

Why does Gaby do this?

Tick **one**.

She is thinking of wrapping the cat in her cardigan.

She is worried about damaging the cardigan.

She is feeling cold.

She is worried the cardigan will be difficult to climb in.

- Fact or opinion questions
- Tick it questions
- 5Ws and H questions
- Multiple answers

21 In what ways might Martine's character appeal to many readers?

Explain fully, referring to the text in your answer.

3 marks

34 When Michael touched the whale it felt smooth.

(a) According to the text on page 9, why might he have expected it to feel smooth?

1 mark

(b) According to the text on page 10, why might he **not** have expected it to feel smooth?

1 mark

10 Look at page 5.

What are **three** ways the cat shows it does not enjoy Gaby trying to rescue it?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

2 marks

24 *Curious and unafraid, the animals of Mauritius offered themselves up for slaughter...* (page 10)

Why were the dodos *curious and unafraid*?

1 mark

23 Look at the section headed: **Frequently asked questions.**

Put a tick in the correct box to show whether each of the following statements is a **fact** or an **opinion**.

	Fact	Opinion
The temperature of the water in the Channel can range from 12°C to 18°C.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water with a temperature of 18°C is too cold to swim in.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The direct distance across the Channel is approximately 21 miles.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Faster swimmers do not swim as many miles across the Channel.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2 marks

Iggy inference

- Extended questions
- Giving both sides

2 Look at the first paragraph, beginning: *A Siamese cat...*

Gaby pulled the cardigan tighter around her.

Why does Gaby do this?

Tick one.

She is thinking of wrapping the cat in her cardigan.

She is worried about damaging the cardigan.

She is feeling cold.

She is worried the cardigan will be difficult to climb in.

38 *Like a sleeper waking from a dream, he looked around, dazed.*

This tells us that at the end of the story Michael felt that...

Tick one.

he wanted the experience to continue.

he had experienced something similar before.

the experience was unreal.

the experience was worrying.

35 Look at the paragraph beginning: *Carefully, Michael leaned...*

Where was the whale?

Tick one.

in front of the boat

at the side of the boat

under the boat

five metres from the boat

15 (a) What evidence is there of Martine being stubborn in the way she behaved with her grandmother?

Give two points.

1. _____

2. _____

2 marks

(b) What evidence is there of Martine being determined when she met the warthogs?

1 mark

24 *Curious and unafraid, the animals of Mauritius offered themselves up for slaughter...* (page 10)

Why were the dodos *curious and unafraid*?

1 mark

13 Look at the first paragraph, beginning: *Dawn was casting...*

How do you know that Martine wanted to keep this ride a secret?

1 mark

4 When Gaby pulls herself up on the branch on page 4, the cat meows.

What does Gaby think that the cat is trying to say when it meows?

1 mark

10 Look at page 5.

What are **three** ways the cat shows it does not enjoy Gaby trying to rescue it?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

2 marks

Iggy inference

23 Look at the section headed: *Frequently asked questions*.

Put a tick in the correct box to show whether each of the following statements is a **fact** or an **opinion**.

	Fact	Opinion
The temperature of the water in the Channel can range from 12°C to 18°C.		
Water with a temperature of 18°C is too cold to swim in.		
The direct distance across the Channel is approximately 21 miles.		
Faster swimmers do not swim as many miles across the Channel.		

2 marks

34 When Michael touched the whale it felt smooth.

(a) According to the text on page 9, why might he have expected it to feel smooth?

1 mark

(b) According to the text on page 10, why might he **not** have expected it to feel smooth?

1 mark

36 Look at the paragraph beginning: *Carefully, Michael leaned...*

What does this paragraph tell you about Michael's character?

Explain **two** features of his character, using evidence from the text to support your answer.

3 marks

33 Look at page 9.

How is the whale made to seem mysterious?

Explain **two** ways, giving evidence from the text to support your answer.

3 marks

21 In what ways might Martine's character appeal to many readers?

Explain fully, referring to the text in your answer.

3 marks

Iggy inference question ideas....

- What makes you think that?
- Which words give you that impression?
- How do you feel about...?
- Can you explain why...?
- I wonder what the writer intended?
- I wonder why the writer decided to...?
- What do these words mean and why do you think the author chose them?

Cooper the commentator



Cooper the commentator

This means that she is there to help you to do two things:

Explain how certain parts of a text build or change an overall message or meaning.

Say how characters or events within the story are similar to or different from each other or how a single character changes over the course of a story.

Cooper the commentator

28 Draw lines to match each section to its main content.

One has been done for you.

Section	Content
<i>The first Channel swimmer</i>	summarises key information about swimming the Channel
<i>Frequently asked questions</i>	shows contrasting viewpoints about swimming the Channel
<i>Safe to swim?</i>	gives information about the origins of swimming the Channel
<i>Celebrity swimmer</i>	highlights the continuing attractions of swimming the Channel

1 mark

22 Draw lines to match each part of the story with the correct quotation from the text.

setting	<i>For a while Martine had defied her</i>
past events	<i>In the instant before her body parted company</i>
action	<i>Dawn was casting spun-gold threads</i>
lesson	<i>That would teach her to show off</i>

1 mark

35 The mood of the characters changes throughout the extract.

- (a) **Find and copy** the group of words on page 9 where Lord John's mood changes.

1 mark

- (b) How does Lord John's mood change?

1 mark

Cooper the commentator

28 Draw lines to match each section to its main content.

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Section	Content
<i>The first Channel swimmer</i>	summarises key information about swimming the Channel
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35 The mood of the characters changes throughout the extract.

(a) Find and copy the group of words on page 9 where Lord John's mood changes.

_____ 1 mark

(b) How does Lord John's mood change?

_____ 1 mark

- Main message questions
- Match the quote
- Quote and discuss

Cooper the commentator question ideas...

- Explain why a character did something.
- Explain a character's different/changing feelings throughout a story. How do you know?
- What are the clues that a character is liked/disliked/envied/feared/loved/hated etc...?
- What is similar/different about two characters?
- Why is 'x' (character/setting/event) important in the story?
- What is the story (theme) underneath the story? Does this story have a moral or a message?
- Why do you think the author chose to use a... question/bullet/subheading/table etc to present the information?
- How does the title/layout encourage you to read on/find information?
- Where does it tell you that...?
- Why has the writer written/organised the text in this way?
- In what ways do the illustrations support the instructions?
- How could these instructions/information/illustrations be improved?
- Who do you think this information is for?
- Describe different characters' reactions to the same event in a story.
- How is it similar to ...?
- How is it different to ...?
- Is it as good as ...?
- Which is better and why?
- Compare and contrast different character/settings/themes in the text
- What do you think about the way information is organised in different parts of the text? Is there a reason for why this has been done?

Percy the Predictor



Percy the Predictor

This means that she is there to help you to try to make a **logical and reasonable guess about what could happen next.**

She helps you to do this by getting you to look at what has already happened, what the characters may have hinted is coming up or what has been implied by the author's use of language. If someone brought a cake lit with candles into a birthday party, what would **logically** happen next?

Percy the Predictor question ideas...

- Can you think of another story, which has a similar theme; e.g. good over evil; weak over strong; wise over foolish? Do you think this story will go the same way?
- Do you know of another story which deals with the same issues; e.g. social; moral; cultural? Could this happen in this story?
- Which other author handles time in this way; e.g. flashbacks; dreams?
- Which stories have openings like this? Do you think this story will develop in the same way?
- Why did the author choose this setting? Will that influence how the story develops?
- How is character X like someone you know? Do you think they will react in the same way?

Sonny the Summariser



Sonny the Summariser

This means that she is there to help you to sum up what you've read.

She helps you to do this by reading the text, picking out the key points that are really important and giving a quick run down of the text's main ideas.

Sonny the Summariser

- 'Number it' questions
- New title
- Sum up the message
- True or false

33 Below are some summaries of different paragraphs from this text.

Number them 1 – 6 to show the order in which they appear in the text.

The first one has been done for you.

An important lesson is learnt.

Reasons for the extinction of the dodo.

Summary of the plight of the dodos. 1

New information is discovered about the dodo.

An explanation for the unreliable evidence.

Humans arrived on Mauritius.

1 mark

27 Which of the following would be the most suitable summary of the whole text?

Tick one.

The Life of David Walliams

A Sporting Challenge

Sailing the Channel

Training for Survival

1 mark

34 Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
Lord John saw the dinosaur tracks first.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professor Summerlee has faked the evidence.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professor Challenger worries that people won't believe them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
They are all frightened of the iguanodons.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 mark

24 What is the main message of the poem?

Tick one.

People can learn a lot from holding small creatures.

People should think about how their actions affect others.

People are much bigger than frogs and snails.

People should overcome their fear of nature.

1 mark

34 Using information from the text, tick one box in each row to show whether each statement is true or false.

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Training for Survival

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People should think about how their actions affect others.

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1 mark

Sonny the Summariser question ideas...

- What's the main point of the purpose?
- Can you sum up what happens in these three/four/five paragraphs?
- You've got x words to sum up these paragraphs?
- Sort the information in the paragraphs.
- Make a table/chart to show the information in these paragraphs?
- Which is the most important point in these paragraphs? How many times is it mentioned?

Victor Vocabulary



Victor Vocabulary

This means that he is there to help you to work out the **meaning** of words you don't know.

He helps you to do this by looking at the words or phrases you're unsure of in **context**. This means using the story so far, the sentences around them and what you already know about the plot to figure out what the word must mean.

Victor Vocabulary

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

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

What does *secured her feet and hands* mean?

1 mark

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

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

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

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 **chugging** **smoking** **racing** **roaring**

1 mark

along on the **cold sea.** **bubbling ripples.** **smooth waters.** **rocking tide.**

1 mark

Victor Vocabulary

- Multiple choice questions
- Closest in meaning
- Alternative wording
- Define it

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 chugging smoking racing roaring 1 mark

along on the cold sea. bubbling ripples. smooth waters. rocking tide. 1 mark

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Tick one.

balanced

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trembled

pounced

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

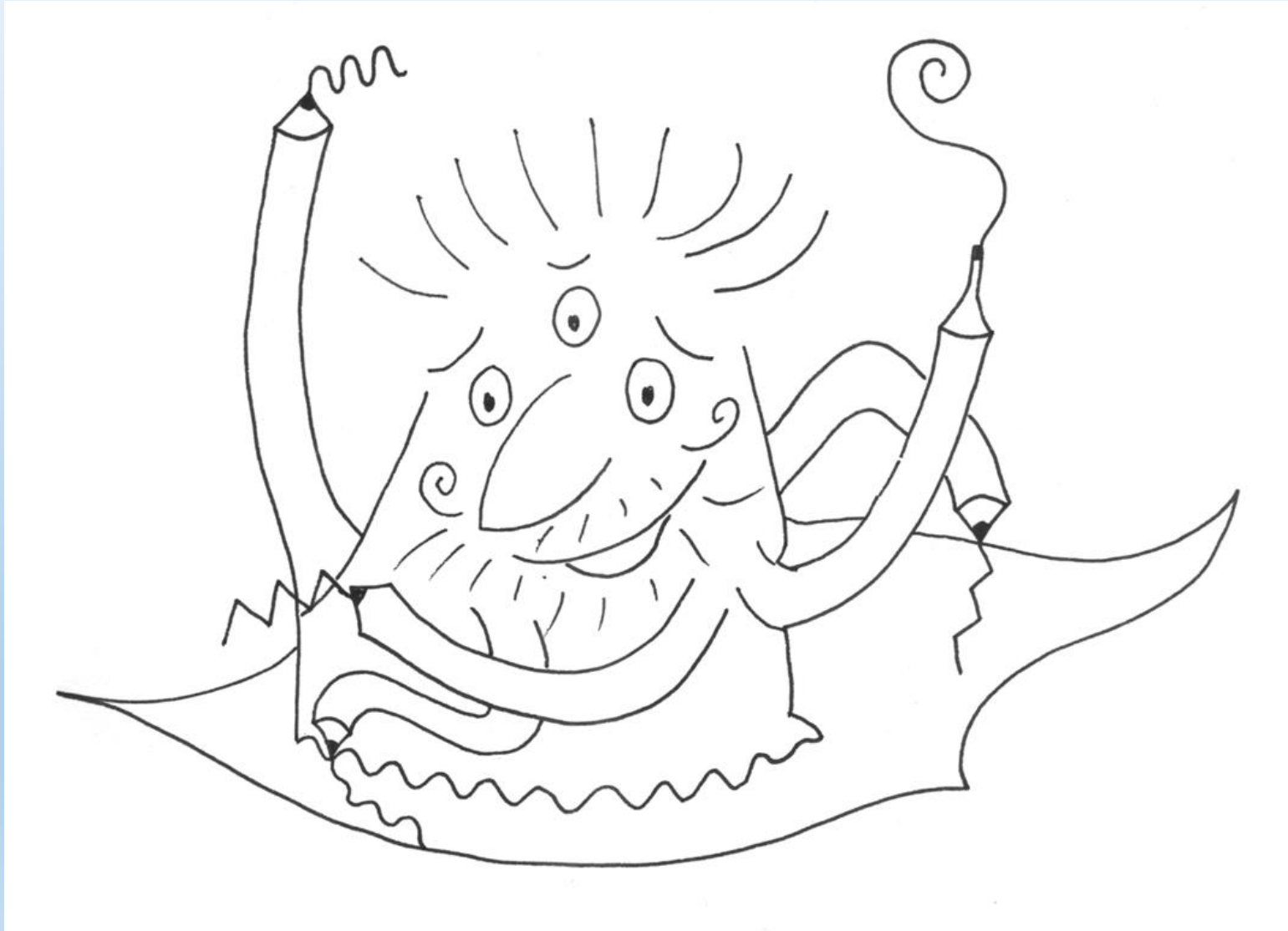
What does *secured her feet and hands* mean?

_____ 1 mark

Victor Vocabulary question ideas...

- What does this... word/phrase/sentence... tell you about... character/setting/mood etc?
- Highlight a key phrase or line. By writing a line in this way what effect has the author created?
- In the story, 'x' is mentioned a lot. Why?
- The writer uses words like ... to describe ... What does this tell you about a character or setting?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used?
- The writer uses ...words/phrases...to describe ... How does this make you feel?
- How has the writer made you and/or character feel ...happy /sad/angry/frustrated/lonely/bitter etc?

Ace the author



Ace the author

This means that he is there to help you to spot examples of **ambitious vocabulary** and **figurative language** within the text.

When you find them, Ace helps you to think about **why** the author made those vocabulary choices and how they give a **certain meaning** to the text.

For example, an author could say that the water in a lake was still and reflective. However, for effect, they could describe the water as 'like a sheet of glass'.

Ace the Author

5 ...they crossed the glassy surface of the lake.

Give **two** impressions this gives you of the water.

1. _____

2. _____

2 marks

- Multiple impressions
- Picture it
- Find and copy

12 ...in a flash... (page 6)

What does this tell you about the burning of rocks in space?

1 mark

29 ...like a toy sitting on a glass table.

What does this description suggest about the boat?

1 mark

29 ...like a toy sitting on a glass table.

What does this description suggest about the boat?

1 mark

33 Look at the paragraph beginning: *I had the same feeling of mystery and danger around us.*

Find and copy four different words from the rest of the paragraph that suggest danger.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

2 marks

5 ...they crossed the glassy surface of the lake.

Give **two** impressions this gives you of the water.

1. _____

2. _____

2 marks

33 Look at the paragraph beginning: *I had the same feeling of mystery and danger around us.*

Find and copy four different words from the rest of the paragraph that suggest danger.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

2 marks

Ace the Author question ideas...

- What does the word 'x' tell you about 'y'?
- Find two or three ways that the writer tells you 'x'.
- What does this... word/phrase/sentence... tell you about... character/setting/mood etc?
- Highlight a key phrase or line. By writing a line in this way what effect has the author created?
- In the story, 'x' is mentioned a lot. Why?
- The writer uses words like ... to describe What does this tell you about a character or setting?
- What other words/phrases could the author have used?
- The writer uses ...words/phrases...to describe ... How does this make you feel?
- How has the writer made you and/or character feel ...happy /sad/angry/ frustrated/lonely/bitter etc?
- Has the writer been successful in their purpose or use of language?
- What do you think the writer meant by... 'x'?
- Which words do you think are most important? Why?
- Which words do you like the best? Why?
- The author makes an action/description 'like' something else. Why?
- The author states that 'x' is something it isn't. What is the effect of this? Why have they done this?