

HOME LEARNING

Year 11 English – Home Learning Pack 7

Task One – Reading

The passage below is an extract from 'Wolf Brother' by Michelle Paver, the first book in the 'Chronicles of Ancient Darkness' series.

Torak crashed through alder thickets and sank to his knees in bogs. Birch trees whispered of his passing. Silently he begged them not to tell the bear.

The wound in his arm burned, and with each breath his bruised ribs ached savagely, but he didn't dare stop. The Forest was full of eyes. He pictured the bear coming after him. He ran on.

He startled a young boar grubbing up pignuts, and grunted a quick apology to ward off an attack. The boar gave an ill-tempered snort and let him pass.

A wolverine snarled at him to stay away, and he snarled back as fiercely as he could, because wolverines only listen to threats. The wolverine decided he meant it, and shot up a tree.

To the east, the sky was wolf grey. Thunder growled. In the stormy light, the trees were a brilliant green. Rain in the mountains, thought Torak numbly. Watch out for flash floods.

He forced himself to think of that – to push away the horror. It didn't work. He ran on.

At last he had to stop for breath. He collapsed against an oak tree. As he raised his head to stare at the shifting green leaves, the tree murmured secrets to itself, shutting him out.

For the first time in his life he was truly alone. He didn't feel part of the Forest any more. He felt as if his world-soul had snapped its link to all other living things: tree and bird, hunter and prey, river and rock. Nothing in the whole world knew how he felt. Nothing wanted to know.

Spoken Language

Can you find the following? Identify and share with a trusted adult:

- Find three adverbs (words ending in 'ly') and discuss why they've been used.
- Find two examples of personification (giving inanimate objects human features) and discuss the effect.
- Find the metaphor (comparison using 'is' or 'was') in paragraph 2 and discuss the writer's purpose – what was he trying to achieve?

- Find the use of repetition in the final paragraph – what word is repeated? Why do you think this is?

Write complete sentences to answer the questions below.

1 From what book is this passage taken?

2 What is Torak running away from?

3 How is Torak injured?

4 Three different types of trees are mentioned in the passage. What are they?

5 What problem could rain in the mountains cause?

6 Which animals did Torak meet and how did he avoid them attacking him?

1 Who is the author of the passage?

2 What does the word 'chronicles' mean?

3 What did Torak think could be dangerous about the birch trees?

4 Why didn't Torak dare stop?

5 What is a wolverine?

6 In what way do you think 'the Forest was full of eyes'? How do you think Torak felt about the Forest?

Write complete sentences to answer the questions below.

1 Which danger frightened Torak the most?

2 Why do you think the writer described the sky as 'wolf grey' and stated that the thunder 'growled'?

3 What do you think that Torak felt about trees?

4 There are eight paragraphs in the passage. Most of them mention at least one danger facing Torak. List all the dangers that are mentioned.

5 Describe the range of feelings that Torak experienced.

Task Three – Writing

accelerate, beat, blast, charge, chase, collide, crash, cut, dart, dash, dive, dodge, duck, erupt, escape, evade, explode, fall, flash, flatten, flee, flinch, flick, flip, fly, force, gallop, hover, hurl, hurtle, invade, jolt, jump, kick, lead, leap, lunge, lurch, move, nail, nick, nip, panic, parry, pass, peel, penetrate, pile, pin, pinch, plow, pounce, plunge, propel, pull, pump, pursue, push, race, raid, raise, rally, ram, reel, regain, repel, retreat, rip, rise, risk, roar, roll, rush, run, scamper, scoot, scrape, scream, scuttle, seize, set, shake, shear, shock, shout, sidestep, skim, skip, skirt, slam, slide, spin, splatter, split, spread, sprint, stumble, sway, swerve, swim, swing, take, tear, thrash, transfer, trap, tread, trip, topple, try, tumble, turn, twist, vacate, vanish, vault, whip, wiggle, yank, yell, yelp, zap, zip.

The above words are all verbs (doing words) and are effective when describing a chase scene.

Write the words of your own chase scene. You can choose 1st or 3rd person perspective and present or past tense.

You should consider:

- Where does the chase take place? E.g. a forest, a busy train, a graveyard etc.
- Who is chasing who? Is it a man chased by another man? A woman chased by an animal? Or an animal chased by a hunter? Or even something supernatural?
- Why is the chase happening? Is it a friendly chase? Or perhaps a dangerous, threatening chase?
- What might happen at the end? Does someone get caught or do they escape? Could you end on a cliff-hanger?