

Journey to the River Sea

Thursday 4th February - Chapter 5 Answers

Answer the following questions about Chapter 5 in your Reading Record.

1. In the opening of chapter 5, Maia empathises with a fictional fairy-tale character. Which one is it and why does she empathise?

Maia empathises with Cinderella because the twins are behaving like the evil stepsisters, ordering Maia about to help them prepare for their trip to the theatre, while Maia has not been invited to attend.

2. Use a dictionary to look up the meaning of these words: tethered (p71), rapt (p71), crestfallen (p73), piebald (p74), quell (p75) Write sentences to explain their definitions.

Tethered: to tie up an animal so that it cannot move far. (He tethered his horse to the wooden post before entering the saloon.)

Rapt: so interested and absorbed in something that you do not notice anything else. (She stared in rapt wonder as they floated into the cave opening where jewel-like colours shimmered along the walls.)

Crestfallen: disappointed or dejected. (I was crestfallen when I discovered that my grandparents were not going to be visiting for another two weeks.)

Piebald: with patches of black and white. (He watched as the piebald pony bolted out of the gate and into the woods, its black and white coat blending in with the shadows of the trees as he disappeared from sight.)

Quell: to stop yourself from feeling fear, anger, etc. (I had to quell my fear as I approached the darkened doorway – there was no other way out.)

3. What does the verb 'plunged' (p71), suggest about how Maia entered the forest?

'Plunged' means to move with force or to take bold action, so Maia may have entered the forest with determination and speed – this is something she has been longing to do, but she is also afraid of being there on her own.

4. What effect does the following sentence have on the reader? "Once, something ran through the trees ahead of her, a grey, snuffling creature..." How does the author create this effect?

The reader would be intrigued about what the creature is because the author doesn't say what it is, but uses a dark colour and a 'snuffling' sound to create tension. He also uses ellipsis (...) to suggest that this is not a creature that she has ever seen before.