

Comprehension skills

- 1 Name the four characters we meet in the story.
- 2 Here are some key events from the story. Put them in the correct order.
 - Tuppy meets Sally the cat.
 - Tuppy fled back to his hutch.
 - Tuppy escaped from his hutch.
 - Jinks pretends a piece of string is Tuppy's tale.
 - The creatures teased Tuppy.
- 3 Why did Sally swish her tail about?
- 4 Give a reason why you think the hedgehog's name is Prickles.
- 5 What did Sally suggest Jinks could do with the piece of string?
- 6 Why was Tuppy alarmed by Sally's suggestion?
- 7 Which word best describes Sally's character?
a) nasty b) lovely c) adorable
Find a line from the story to back up your choice.
- 8 Which word best describes Jinks' character?
a) merry
b) sneaky
c) funny
Find a line from the story to back up your choice.

Critical thinking

- 9 Describe how Tuppy felt at the start of the story. What caused him to feel that way?
- 10 Describe how Tuppy felt at the end of the story. What caused him to feel that way?
- 11 'The other creatures teased Tuppy. In other words, they bullied him.' Do you agree, or disagree with this statement? Use examples from the story to back up your point of view.

Study skills

- 1 Give two details about what a cow's tail looks like.
- 2 Give two details about what a crocodile's tail looks like.
- 3 How does the tail help a beaver to swim?
- 4 How does the tail help a cat to balance?
- 5 How does the tail help a kangaroo to bounce?
- 6 Name two types of animals that have very fat tails.
- 7 A crocodile uses its tail to swim and for what else?
- 8 How do horses help each other with their tails?
- 9 Which animal has a tail called a scut?
- 10 Which animal has a tail called a brush?

Language development

- 1 The following are animals but the letters in their names have been mixed up. Can you tell what they are?

OGD, SAS, REHSO, ATC, SOMEU, MELCA, TOGA, PESEH

- 2 The guinea-pig squeals and the cat purrs.

What sounds do the following creatures make?

- a) The pig _____.
- b) The dog _____.
- c) The cock _____.
- d) The duck _____.
- e) The mouse _____.
- f) The owl _____.
- g) The wolf _____.
- h) The donkey _____.

- 3 Make a list of animals which have horns.

- 4 Here are eight words: prickly, spotted, tall, burrowing, gentle, blind, striped, tiny.

Which of the following animals does each word describe: mole, leopard, lamb, zebra, hedgehog, mouse, giraffe, bat?

- 5 Collective nouns are the words for groups. A group of dogs is called a pack.

Here are ten more collective nouns for groups of animals. Match the animals to the correct collective noun. Use a dictionary to help you.

- a) clowder
- b) flock
- c) flight
- d) colony
- e) charm
- f) drove
- g) den
- h) bale
- i) lounge

cats, snakes, ducks, cattle, lizards, hummingbirds, crocodiles, butterflies, turtles, bats

- 6 Here are footprints of a human being, a hen, an elephant, a cow, a duck, a horse. Can you place them?



Comprehension skills

- 1 Lucky is described as a 'very timid man'. What does this mean?
 - a) Lucky was shy
 - b) Lucky was brave
 - c) Lucky was a hero
- 2 What weapon does Lucky use when he is pretending to battle with giants?
- 3 Lucky was worried about the bag of flour. What did he do with it while he was sleeping and why?
- 4 Why did the giants assume that Lucky was a mighty warrior?
- 5 How did the flour help Lucky perform an illusion for the giants?
- 6 What did the giants promise to Lucky?
- 7 Give three details about the appearance of the rhinoceros.
- 8 Why is the rhinoceros described as a 'savage monster'?
- 9 What caused Lucky to fall from the tree?
- 10 How did Lucky manage not to fall off the rhinoceros?
- 11 What did Lucky claim he was trying to do with the rhinoceros?
- 12 By the end of the story, the giants believe Lucky is a hero. Explain why.

Critical thinking

- 13 The giants believed that Lucky was 'the bravest man in the world'. Do you think that Lucky was truly brave, or was he just lucky? Use examples from the story to back up your point of view.
- 12 Lucky makes friends with seven giants. The picture on page 8 gives you some ideas about what they looked like. Think of seven suggestions for possible names for the giants.

Study skills

- 1
 - a) Which is the highest mountain in the world?
 - b) Where is it?
 - c) Which are the longest rivers in the world?
 - d) Through which countries do they run?
- 2 Choose either the world's highest mountain or one of the world's longest rivers. Use reference books or the internet to find out some more facts about it. Organise what you find in the form of a fact file. Remember to stay safe online you should have an adult around to help you.
- 3
 - a) Name the largest ocean in the world.
 - b) What is the deepest part of the Pacific Ocean called?
 - c) How deep is it?
- 4
 - a) Name the greatest wall in the world.
 - b) How long is it?
 - c) Why was it built?
- 5
 - a) Name the greatest cave in the world.
 - b) In which country is it?
 - c) How long is it?
 - d) What is strange about the fish which live in its waters?
- 6
 - a) Which is the largest palace in the world?
 - b) Where is it?
- 7
 - a) Name the largest ship in the world.
 - b) How long was it?
- 8
 - a) Which is the tallest tree in the world?
 - b) How high does it grow?
 - c) How thick is its trunk?

Language development

- 1 The story could be called 'Lucky and the Seven Giants'. What number is missing in each of the following?
 - a) Cinderella and her _____ ugly sisters.
 - b) Goldilocks and the _____ bears.
 - c) Old King Cole and his fiddlers _____.
 - d) Snow White and the _____ dwarfs.
 - e) Ali Baba and the _____ thieves.
- 2 Here are some sentences from the story. Write them out and put the correct punctuation mark at the end of each sentence.
 - a) He killed three flies
 - b) Soon after, he was in the land of dreams
 - c) What do you wish
 - d) When I stamp my foot, the earth shakes
 - e) Have you no sense
 - f) When the giants had departed Lucky trembled with fear
- 3 Put these creatures in order of size (smallest first).
 - a) rhinoceros, fox, mouse, elephant, rabbit
 - b) hen, canary, ostrich, swan, parrot
 - c) goldfish, shark, herring, tadpole, cod
- 4 Rhinoceros is a hard word to spell. Find five more animals with names that have more than six letters. With a partner, challenge each other to a spelling contest using the animals on your list.
- 5 Put the following words in their right places in the sentence:
brave, timid, nervous, courageous, frightened, bold
Although Lucky was _____, _____, and _____, the giants thought he was _____, _____, and _____.
- 6 A young dog is called a puppy. Use a dictionary or the internet to find out which animals these are the young of. Some of them are used for more than one animal, if you find more than one you can write as many as you discover. Remember, to stay safe on the internet you should have an adult around to help you.
 - a) kitten
 - b) calf
 - c) pup
 - d) kid
 - e) cub
 - f) fry
- 7 In your village, town, or city, which is the:
 - a) biggest shop
 - b) highest building
 - c) longest road
 - d) biggest bridge
 - e) oldest house?

Comprehension skills

- 1 How many characters are in this story and who are they?
- 2 Which word best describes Eshu?
 - a) brave
 - b) honest
 - c) mischievous
- 3 The two friends are farmers. What type of jobs do you think they might do at work?
- 4 What does 'bickering' mean? Find a synonym for this word.

Critical thinking

- 5 How do you think the two friends felt when they realised that they had been tricked?
- 6 What advice did the old lady give to the friends? Do you think it was wise advice?

Using any weapon against another person is a very bad thing to do. You should never carry weapons and if you believe that somebody has a weapon you should talk to somebody you trust.

Study skills

- 1 How could the people of early times tell the time of day by looking at the sun?
- 2 Who counted time by the moon?
- 3 Describe how time could be told by the shadow stick.
- 4
 - a) Describe a sundial.
 - b) Where are sundials generally to be seen?
- 5 Describe:
 - a) the burning rope way of telling the time
 - b) the burning candle way of telling the time.
- 6
 - a) How was time told by the sandglass?
 - b) For what purpose do we still use this method ?
- 7 Describe the earliest kind of water-clock.
- 8
 - a) Describe a pendulum clock.
 - b) What is a cogwheel?
- 9 If a spring clock or watch has two dials, how many hands are needed?
- 10 How is an electric clock kept going?
- 11 What type of clock or watch do you have?
- 12 How accurate is the atomic clock?

Language development

- 1 Eshu's hat was red, white and black. How many other colours do you know? List as many as you can and give the name of an item which is that colour, for example: green, apples.
- 2 A clock tells us the time. What do the following tell us: watch, barometer, meter, thermometer, compass?
- 3 There are sixty minutes in one hour. How many minutes are there:
 - a) in half an hour
 - b) in quarter of an hour
 - c) in three-quarters of an hour?
- 4
 - a) Name as many different kinds of clock as you can.
 - b) Which kind of clock makes a noise to waken you?
 - c) Which kind of clock makes sounds every hour?
- 5 Draw seven little clocks just like the one below and number them 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7. Put the hands on each clock to show:

On clock 1 – when you get up in the morning.

On clock 2 – when you have breakfast.

On clock 3 – when you go to school.

On clock 4 – when you have dinner.

On clock 5 – when you go home from school.

On clock 6 – when you have supper.

On clock 7 – when you go to bed.
- 6
 - a) Give the short ways of writing the days of the week. The first one has been done for you.

Monday – Mon.

Tuesday – _____

Wednesday – _____

Thursday – _____

Friday – _____

Saturday – _____

Sunday – _____
 - b) Give the short ways of writing the following months of the year. The first one has been done for you.

January – Jan.

February – _____

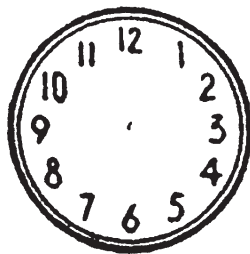
August – _____

September – _____

October – _____

November – _____

December – _____
 - c) Write out the number of days in each month.
- 7 Write out the dates of the year for:
 - a) New Year's Day
 - b) Christmas Day
 - c) April Fools' Day
 - d) Independence Day
 - e) your own birthday.
- 8 What is special about a leap year? Which month has 29 days?



Comprehension skills

- 1 What did the squirrels do in spring?
- 2 What did the squirrels do in autumn?
- 3 What did the squirrels do in winter?
- 4 Write one or two sentences to compare winter, autumn and spring.
- 5 What happens to the leaves of trees during autumn?
- 6 What are the two human characters called?
- 7 What do squirrels like to eat?
- 8 Use details from the story to help you to write a description of what a squirrel looks like.
- 9 Why were the squirrels working so hard to collect the nuts?
- 10 What almost caused Mrs Bushy Tail to cry?

Critical thinking

- 11 Elsie says that the nuts belong to the squirrels, but David says they can't do because squirrels are not people. What do you think? Can other creatures 'own' things like humans can?
- 12 When David understood what Elsie was explaining, he dropped the nut and 'looked a bit ashamed'. Why do you think David felt ashamed?

Study skills

- 1 Which countries have cold winters?
- 2 What does the hedgehog do in winter?
- 3 How does the squirrel prepare for winter?
- 4 Why is the Arctic fox like the squirrel?
- 5 Which creature spends the winter hanging upside-down?
- 6 Where do frogs and toads go in the winter?
- 7 Why does the worm make a deep winter home?
- 8 How do snakes and lizards spend the winter?
- 9 Why do we say that trees, plants, and flowers sleep during winter?
- 10 Name the animal which sleeps for nine months.
- 11 Choose one of the animals pictured on page 30. Draw your own picture of it on a piece of paper and all around it write key words to describe it. You could use adjectives to describe its appearance or name the places it lives or the food it eats.

Language development

- 1 The squirrel has a covering of fur.
What kind of covering do the following animals have?
 - a) sheep
 - b) starling
 - c) rabbit
 - d) fish
 - e) dog
 - f) hedgehog
 - c) sty
 - d) hive
 - e) byre
 - f) coop
 - g) burrow?
- 2 Place the following animals in order of size (smallest first).
deer
elephant
field-mouse
dog
cow
squirrel
horse
- 3 The squirrel lives in a hole in a tree. Its home is called a drey.
Which kind of creature would you expect to find in a:
 - a) stable
 - b) nest
- 4 Adverbs describe verbs. The squirrel scampered quickly up the tree.
G Here are some more adverbs. Choose the best word from the list to fit in each sentence.
suddenly, quietly, happily, beautifully, slowly
 - a) The man leapt _____ from his seat.
 - b) The time ticked by _____.
 - c) Jack worked _____ so he didn't disturb his neighbours.
 - d) Carla sang _____ in the choir.
 - e) The children played _____ together.
- 5 Write three sentences of your own that contain an adverb.



Comprehension skills

- 1 Where was Sir Garfield Sobers born?
- 2 What were the names of his parents?
- 3 What unusual feature did he have when he was born?
- 4 Who was Garnet Ashby?
- 5 What did he recognise about Sobers?
- 6 Name three adjectives to describe the young Sobers as a cricketer.
- 7 What dream did Sobers fulfil when he was 17?
- 8 What was the record that Sobers set that went unbeaten for 36 years? Do you know who beat that record?
- 9 How did his country honour Sobers?
- 10 What was sold at auction in Australia and how much did it sell for?

Critical thinking

- 11 List four qualities that will make one a good player of any sport.
- 12 Do you enjoy sports? Would you like to play sports professionally in future? Write a paragraph, you can include a picture if you wish.



Comprehension skills

- 1 Where was Mary Seacole born?
- 2 What did she want to become when she was growing up? Why?
- 3 What do you think “tirelessly” means? Find a synonym for this word.
- 4 List three adjectives to describe the kind of nurse that she was.
- 5 Give an example of her courage and of her determination.
- 6 What is a convalescent home?
- 7 Why did they call her “doctress”?
- 8 Who is Florence Nightingale?
- 9 Why do you think that Mary Seacole was called Jamaica’s Florence Nightingale?

Image interpretation

- 1
 - a) What does a nurse do?
 - b) Describe a nurse’s uniform.
- 2
 - a) How do police officers help our communities?
 - b) How can you contact the police in an emergency?
- 3
 - a) What do postal workers do?
 - b) Write a letter to a member of your family describing what you have done today. Put the letter in an envelope and address it correctly then post it through the mail. Don’t forget to buy a stamp! An adult should accompany you, do not go out alone.
- 4
 - a) Why does the fireman wear a helmet?
 - b) Why does he wear thick-soled boots?

Language development

- 1 What do I do?
 - a) fisherman
 - b) gardener
 - c) butcher
 - d) singer
- 2 The computer technician fixes computers in offices. Name two people who work:
 - a) in the open air
 - b) in factories
 - c) in shops
 - d) on ships
 - e) in schools.
- 3 Give two names of birds which are used as first names or surnames for people.
- 4 Give two names of animals which are used as names for people.
- 5 Make signs with your face and hands to show that you are each of the following.
 - a) tired
 - b) thirsty
 - c) angry
 - d) sleepy
 - e) frightened
 - f) happy
 - g) sad
 - h) proud
- 6 What job would you like to do in the future? Draw a picture of yourself at work.

Comprehension skills

- 1 What is the relationship between Caro and Peter?
- 2 Other than a written message, what else could you send by instant messaging?
- 3 Where can the person you are messaging be located?
- 4 Name some examples of symbols that can be used in instant messaging.

Critical thinking

- 5 Young people should be very careful when talking to others via instant messaging or on websites. What safety tips do you think you should remember? Design a poster giving some rules for staying safe online.
- 6 Cousins are relatives. What other words for family relations do you know? List as many as you can. Give some examples from your own family, for example, Kayleigh is my cousin.

Study skills

- 1 How were messages sent long ago?
- 2 Where were beacons lit to pass on the messages of danger?
- 3 What later took the place of messengers on foot?
- 4 Which animal was sometimes used to carry messages in wartime?
- 5 How did the army and navy send messages during a) daytime, b) night-time?
- 6 What name is given to the alphabet of dots and dashes?
- 7 Use the internet or reference books to find the full alphabet in Morse code. Remember to stay safe online.
 - a) Use a pencil to write out your name in Morse code.
 - b) Choose three items in your classroom, write them out in Morse code, and then pass them to a partner and see if your partner can decode the words.
- 8 Which means of communication do you prefer and why?

Language development

- 1 With a friend, create your own special code for sending a message. Now, using that code, send this message:
Please lend me your pen.
- 2 Write out these phrases using text messages and secret codes:
Thank you; Excuse me please; I'm sorry.
- 3 Here some words to do with technology. Unscramble the letters to find the words.
 - a) somue b) drakeyob c) necres d) swordpas e) bestewi
- 4 Write one sentence to describe what each word from Question 3 is.
- 5 Today, there are many different kinds of computers, some are big, and others are small, some are portable. Name as many different kinds of computers as you can.

Comprehension skills

- 1 What happened to cause the people of Atri to have little to eat?
- 2 What happened to the mothers and fathers when they had little to eat?
- 3 Why did the governor feel pity?
- 4 Give examples of reasons why people would ring the bell.
- 5 How did the governor help the people who rang the bell?
- 6 Why did the bell stop ringing?
- 7 How did Benito help the merchant with his work?
- 8 Why could Benito no longer help the merchant?
- 9 What made Benito start to tug on the rope?

- 10 How did the governor feel when he saw Benito for the first time?

Critical thinking

- 11 The town folk ignored Benito because he was 'a useless old animal' and the bell keeper says that Benito is 'just an old starved horse'. The governor, however, calls Benito 'Old Faithful' and gives him food and shelter. How would you have treated Benito? Do you feel that animals deserve love and care like humans do? Write two paragraphs to explain your point of view.
- 12 Italy is a country in Europe. There are 44 countries in Europe. How many can you name? Use an atlas to help you.

Study skills

- 1
 - a) What food should you give to a pony?
 - b) How should you offer it a piece of carrot?
 - c) How should you clean a pony?
- 2
 - a) When should you train a dog in good habits?
 - b) Never interfere with a dog when it is _____ or _____.
 - c) What should a dog have around its neck?
- 3
 - a) What food should you give to a cat?
 - b) Where should a cat always be kept at night?
 - c) How does a cat clean itself?
- 4
 - a) What is the name given to a tame rabbit's home?
 - b) What food should you give to a rabbit?
 - c) How should you lift a rabbit?
- 5
 - a) Why is the parrot the most amusing pet of all?
 - b) Where can you get its food?
 - c) What should you do at night-time?
- 6
 - a) What food should you give to a canary?
 - b) What should be changed every day?
 - c) On what does it like to sharpen and clean its beak?
- 7
 - a) What is a budgerigar often called?
 - b) What can this little bird be taught to do?
 - c) It is very fond of playing with little _____.
- 8
 - a) Where should a goldfish be kept?
 - b) What food should you give to a goldfish?
 - c) See that there is no danger from _____.
- 9
 - a) Where are minnows found?
 - b) How do you catch them?
 - c) What food should you give to minnows?

Language development

- 1 If treated kindly, many creatures become friendly.
Name two animals, two birds, and two fishes which make good pets.
- 2 The bell pealed.
Put the name of a suitable object in each empty space.
 - a) The _____ creaked.
 - b) The _____ ticked.
 - c) The _____ tinkled.
 - d) The _____ rattled.
 - e) The _____ chimed.
- 3 The horse carried heavy loads.
Name three other animals which people have trained to pull or carry heavy loads.
- 4 The horse **limped** slowly along the road.
In each of the sentences below, replace the word **walked** by a better word from this list: prowled, marched, toddled, stamped, hobbled
 - a) The little child **walked** towards his mother.
 - b) The soldiers **walked** smartly down the street.
 - c) The burglar **walked** through the house.
 - d) The injured man **walked** painfully across the room.
 - e) He **walked** out in a terrible rage.
- 5 Find the missing word in each of the following. The first one has been done for you.
 - a) small, smaller, **smallest**.
 - b) beginning, middle, _____
 - c) breakfast, _____, supper
 - d) _____, afternoon, evening
 - e) sun, moon, _____
 - f) metres, centimetres, _____
- 6 The governor was **kind** but the merchant was **cruel**.
Rewrite the following sentences giving the opposites of the words in bold type.
 - a) The road was **long** and **narrow**.
 - b) The horse became **thin** and **weak**.
 - c) The weather was **warm** and **dry**.
 - d) The boy came **first** and **early**.
 - e) The well was **shallow** and **empty**.
- 7 In Italy, people speak Italian. What language do the people of these countries speak?
 - a) Spain
 - b) Germany
 - c) France
 - d) Portugal
 - e) Poland
- 8 ¡Hola! Means 'Hello!' in Spanish.
Choose four other languages and find out how to say 'Hello!' in them. Use reference books or the internet to help you. Stay safe when using the internet by having an adult around to help you.

Comprehension skills

- 1 Name three types of weather mentioned in the poem Rain.
- 2 Find a pair of rhyming words in the poem.
- 3 How does the poem describe the movement of the trees?
- 4 How is the sound of rain on the roof described?
- 5 What effect does rain have on wooden doors?
- 6 *She puts the laughter in the stream
And the gurgle in the river*
 - a) What is being described by these lines?
 - b) What words from these lines indicate that the river is pleased with the rain?
- 7 *She pours a drink for the thirsty earth*
 - a) Why might the earth be thirsty?
 - b) How does rain help the natural environment?
- 8 *In anger she will pound the ground
With the force of a cannonball*
Do you think these lines describe a light shower or a downpour? Explain why.

Critical thinking

- 9 What type of weather do you like best? Write a paragraph to describe your favourite weather and say why it is your favourite.
- 10 Rain can be helpful but sometimes it can be destructive or even cause flooding. What is a flood and what kind of damage might a flood cause?

Annie John

Language development

- 1 Use the following verbs to help you write about the narrator, Annie.
was
needed
lived
liked
had
spoke
saw
said
thought
went
- 2 You may begin like this:
Annie **was** on summer holidays. She **thought** only people that she did not know died.
- 2 Here are four adjectives used in the extract from Annie John. In each case, the noun is missing. Find the noun in the story which is described by each adjective.
 - a) a short _____
 - b) new _____
 - c) enormous _____
 - d) sticklike _____

Comprehension skills

- 1 What was special about the city of Vienna?
- 2 What made the baker curious?
- 3 What happened when the drum shook?
- 4 What was causing the drum to shake?
- 5 Why were the Turks digging a tunnel?
- 6 What tool did they use to dig the tunnel?
- 7 Why did the baker leave 'in great haste'?
- 8 Who came to the bake-house to check the baker's story?
- 9 After the war, who is the baker called to see?
- 10 Why do you think the emperor thought the baker's wish was strange?

Critical thinking

- 11 The Emperor calls the baker a 'good man'. What other words would you use to describe the baker?
- 12 Choose three of the words you have chosen to describe the baker. Write a sentence to explain why you have chosen each word, use examples from the story to back up your point of view.
- 13 Every country has a flag. What does the flag of Jamaica look like? Write two sentences to describe the flag and draw a picture of it.
- 14 Bakers make fresh food every day. What type of food do bakers produce? List some examples.

Image interpretation

- 1 Signals are often used to keep people safe, but not always. Which of the signals on page 64 are **not** used to signal possible danger?
- 2 Cars and trains move at speed and can be dangerous. Which of the signals help keep us safe from fast moving vehicles?
- 3 Some signals have sounds. Which of the signals make a sound? Describe the sounds that they make.
- 4 Some signals have lights. Which of the signals have lights? Are they any particular colours?
- 5 Why are lighthouses only found at the coast and not in towns or cities?
- 6 What other signals do you know? List some more signals and say what they are used for.
- 7 Doorbells tell us when there is a visitor. Imagine that you hear a doorbell ring and when you open the door your most favourite person is standing behind the door. Write about who is behind the door and how you feel when you see them. The person can be real or fictional, they may be living or historical. You can include a picture if you wish.

Language development

- 1 The president or prime minister is the head of a country. Who is the head of:
 - a) a football team
 - b) a school
 - c) a ship
 - d) a business?
- 2 A baker works in a bakery. Where do these people work?
 - farmer
 - surgeon
 - sailor
 - teacher
 - auctioneer
 - bank-teller
 - engineer
 - lawyer
 - travel agent
 - teacher
- 3 The Austrians belong to Austria and the Turks belong to Turkey. To which countries do these people belong?
 - Irish
 - Trinidadian
 - Kenyan
 - French
 - Jamaican
 - Barbadian
 - Welsh
 - Spanish
 - Cuban
 - Haitian
 - Vincentian
- 4 You all know about traffic lights.
 - a) What does the red light mean?
 - b) What does the amber light mean?
 - c) What does the green light mean?
- 5 The Jamaicans won a **victory**, but the Welsh suffered a **defeat**. Give words opposite in meaning to the following words in the story.
 - short
 - opened
 - high
 - quickly
 - happy
 - found
 - under
 - remember
 - many
 - fierce
 - alive
 - noise
 - head
 - safety
 - floor
 - busy
 - humble
 - attacked
 - advanced
 - day
- 6 Here are some sentences from the story. Write them out and put the correct punctuation mark at the end of each sentence.
 - a) Then a very strange thing happened
 - b) What do you wish as a reward
 - c) A splendid idea
 - d) The baker watched it very closely
 - e) He turned quickly but the noise stopped
 - f) Now, my good man

Comprehension skills

- 1 What did Tommy and Betty like to spend their time doing?
- 2 What did Tommy and Betty not like to spend their time doing?
- 3 Name three things that their mother found fault in them for.
- 4 Name three things that mother said the Brownie used to do.
- 5 Give a description of the owl. Use adjectives from the story to make your description as detailed as possible.
- 6 Why did the children wait until dark to go and see the owl?
- 7 Describe what it was like in the woods.
- 8 How do you think Tommy and Betty felt when they were walking into the woods?
- 9 Name three things that the owl says Betty could do like a brownie.
- 10 In the beginning, the children are described as 'lazy, forgetful and untidy'. Do you think these words could still be used to describe the children by the end of the story?

Critical thinking

- 11 Owls are nocturnal creatures. This means they are awake at night time. Use reference books or the internet to find out the names of five more creatures that are nocturnal. Remember to stay safe online; have an adult around when you are using the internet.
- 12 Choose one of your nocturnal creatures and create a fact file about it. Include these facts: Where are they found? What do they eat? What do they look like? You may include a picture if you wish.

Study skills

- 1
 - a) When washing, what is needed with water to remove the dirt?
 - b) How should you dry yourself?
- 2
 - a) To clean your hair, you should wash your hair with _____.
 - b) How can you keep your hair tidy?
- 3
 - a) What do you use to clean your teeth?
 - b) What do you put on the brush?
- 4
 - a) What should you do with your clothes each afternoon?
 - b) Why must you take off wet clothing as soon as possible?
- 5 Describe the best way to clean and polish your shoes.
- 6 When sweeping a floor, why should you brush all dust and dirt to one spot?
- 7 When washing dishes, why should the water be hot?
- 8 Describe the best way to make tea.
- 9 What should you remember when you are asked to go to the shops?
- 10 If you have a number of things to get, what should you do?

Language development

- 1 Rewrite the following sentences changing all masculines into feminines.
 - a) The **man** saved the little **boy**.
 - b) **Father** and **uncle** were laughing.
 - c) The **prince** bowed to the **king**.
 - d) My **brother** waved to **him**.
 - e) **He** spoke to the **husband**.
- 2 The owl says "Tu-whit-tu-who".
What do the following creatures say
 - a) cat
 - b) dog
 - c) cow
 - d) sheep
 - e) duck
 - f) cock
 - g) cuckoo
 - h) rook
- 3 What jobs do you do to help at home?
How often do you do them? Write a short paragraph to describe how you help out at home.
- 4 *Twist me and turn me and show me the elf.
I looked in the water and there saw myself.*
Find a word to fit in these rhymes:
 - a) Twist me and turn me and show me the moon
I looked in the water and there saw a _____
 - b) Twist me and turn me and show me the light
I looked in the water and it gave me a _____
 - c) Twist me and turn me and show me the way
I looked in the water, in fact I stared all _____
 - d) Twist me and turn me and show me _____
I looked in the water _____
- 5 Here are some sentences from the story but the punctuation is missing.
Write them out and insert the missing punctuation.
 - a) In a little house nearby there lived a man and his wife and their two children Tommy and Betty
 - b) He swept the floor lit the fire drew the water and made ready the breakfast
 - c) After dark the two children went into the wood to find the brown owl
 - d) Their home was always bright and clean and everybody was happy

Comprehension skills

- 1 How can you tell if sugar cane is young?
- 2 How can you tell when sugar cane is ready for harvest?
- 3 Who was Darius?
- 4 Where and when did Darius first find sugar cane?
- 5 Where did the Arabs take sugar cane to?
- 6 Which language does the word sugar come from?
- 7 Where is Gomera?
- 8 Why did Columbus stay much longer in Gomera than he had planned?
- 9 Who was Norbert Rillieux and what did he invent?
- 10 In what year was slavery abolished?

Critical thinking

- 11 Sugar is sweet and we make lots of delicious food with sugar. What is your favourite sweet food? Write either a short poem or a paragraph about your favourite sweet dish.
- 12 Christopher Columbus was a famous explorer. Go to the library to do some research about him and answer these questions.
 - a) In what country was Columbus born, and in what year?
 - b) In what year did Columbus die and where is he buried?
 - c) What type of transport did Columbus use to make his journey?
 - d) What happened on October 12, 1492?
 - e) Find a picture of Christopher Columbus and describe what he looked like.

Language development

- 1 Use a dictionary to find out the meaning of these words from the story:
 - a) century
 - b) frond
 - c) impurity
 - d) labourer
 - e) luxury
 - f) multiple
 - g) murky
 - h) shred
 - i) stalk
 - j) tropical
- 2 Find the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn on a map in an atlas. Name some countries that lie between the two tropics.
- 3 There is another line on the map that is exactly halfway between the two tropics and exactly across the middle of the Earth. What is this line called? Name some countries that lie upon this line.
- 4 Choose four of the countries you have named in Questions 2 and 3. Find out the name of their capital cities. You can identify capital cities on maps by looking at the key.

Comprehension skills

- 1 What town was Patrick born near to and in which country was it?
- 2 How old was Patrick when the warriors came?
- 3 What did the warriors do when they captured Patrick?
- 4 Who was Milchu?
- 5 What does a swineherd do?
- 6 For how long was Patrick a swineherd?
- 7 How many miles did Patrick walk before he reached the sea?
- 8 What did Patrick do in return for safe passage on the ship?
- 9 What country did the ship travel to?
- 10 What job did Patrick's uncle have?
- 11 What job did Patrick train to do?
- 12 What animal is Patrick said to have driven out of Ireland?

Critical thinking

- 13 Northern Ireland and Scotland are two countries that make up part of the United Kingdom. Which other two countries are also part of the United Kingdom?
- 14 An Irish wolfhound is a large breed of dog. There are many different breeds of dog. How many do you know? Can you describe what some of them are like?



Comprehension skills

- 1 In what way did the younger brother say that he was different from his older brother?
 - 2 What did the two brothers do before they parted ways?
 - 3 What did the younger brother build for himself?
 - 4 Do you think the younger brother was happy in his work? Find sentences in the story to back up your point of view.
 - 5 Name one item that the younger brother makes and describe what it is used for.
 - 6 By what day did the older brother have to complete his mission for the king?
 - 7 What was the older brother trying to avoid by going on his mission?
 - 8 What caused the older brother to get lost on his way back?
 - 9 Explain the events which lead to the two brothers meeting again.
 - 10 What was the cause for great rejoicing in the land?
- Critical thinking**
- 11 The older brother says to the king "I do not believe most of the stories that are going about." What lesson can we learn from the older brother?
 - 12 Do you celebrate Christmas? What do you do? Write about Christmastime.

Image interpretation

- 1 Who lives in a palace?
- 2 Why did a castle have strong high walls?
- 3 Would you like to live in a mansion or stately home? Why?
- 4 Describe a villa.
- 5 What kind of house is a bungalow?
- 6 Where is a cottage usually to be seen?
- 7 What is a skyscraper?
- 8 Where would you find a penthouse?
- 9 What is a caravan?
- 10 Where would you see a houseboat?

Language development

- 1 The blacksmith shoes horses. Who:
 - a) files planes
 - b) delivers letters
 - c) grows crops
 - d) mends pipes
 - e) types letters?
- 2 Twelve o'clock midday is called noon.
 - a) Twelve o'clock at night is called ____.
 - b) Seven days is called a ____.
 - c) Twelve months is called a ____.
 - d) A hundred years is called a ____.
 - e) Two weeks is called a ____.
- 3 The blacksmith lived in a cottage. Whom would you expect to find living in a:
 - 1) palace
 - 2) barracks
 - 3) snow-house
 - 4) wigwam
 - 5) prison?
- 4 The elder brother rode off like the wind. Complete the following:
 - a) The boy could climb like a ____.
 - b) The girl could swim like a ____.
 - c) The boy could run like a ____.
 - d) The girl could sing like a ____.
 - e) The glutton could eat like a ____.
- 5 The blacksmith used a hammer and anvil.
 - a) The boy used a ____ to sharpen the pencil.
 - b) The man used a ____ to dig the garden.
 - c) The girl used a ____ to sweep the floor.
 - d) The joiner used a ____ to smooth the wood.
 - e) The engineer used a ____ to tighten the nuts.
- 6 Complete the following. No. 1 has been done for you.

1) younger	older
2) smaller	_____
3) slower	_____
4) shorter	_____
5) thinner	_____
6) earlier	_____
- 7 The two men in the story were brothers. What name do you give to your father or mother's:
 - a) sister
 - b) brother
 - c) mother
 - d) father?
- 8 The peal of bells. Put the following words in their proper places: clatter, screeching, tramp, jingle, beating.
 - a) the ____ of feet
 - b) the ____ of drums
 - c) the ____ of hoofs
 - d) the ____ of brakes
 - e) the ____ of spurs



Comprehension skills

- 1 Who tried to keep the making of silk secret?
- 2 Where did the princess hide the eggs?
- 3 In what season do silk moths lay their eggs?
- 4 On what particular tree are the eggs laid?
- 5 Which word best describes the size of the eggs?
 - a) large
 - b) small
 - c) tiny
- 6 What do the worms need to do after they have been eating for nine days?
- 7 What do the worms grow to become?
- 8 What causes the sticky gum to go hard?
- 9 How long might the thread be before the cocoon is finished?
- 10 Why do six or seven threads need to be twisted together?

Critical thinking

- 11 These are the stages of the silk moth. Put them in the correct order.
caterpillar, worm, egg, moth
- 12 Silk is a delicate and expensive fabric. What items can you think of that are made from silk?
- 13 Moths can fly, but they are not birds. What other creatures do you know that can fly but are not birds?

Language development

- 1 Here are some adjectives used in the extract. In each case, the noun is missing. Find the noun in the passage which is described by each adjective.
 - a) little _____
 - b) shining _____
 - c) beautiful _____
 - d) wild _____
 - e) cool _____
 - f) warm _____
 - g) long _____
 - h) hair-like _____
 - i) sticky _____
 - j) hot _____

Comprehension skills

- 1 In which country did this tale take place?
- 2 Which mountains were the people travelling towards?
- 3 Name three animals which are mentioned in the story.
- 4 Where did the streams of pure water come from?
- 5 What crops did the people grow?
- 6 What is 'irrigating'?
- 7 Describe some ways in which the people tried to combat the crickets.
- 8 Why were the people weeping?
- 9 Why were the people woeful when they first saw the gulls?
- 10 How did the people feel about the gulls by the end of the story? Why did their feelings change?

Critical thinking

- 11 The people crossed the plains in wagons pulled by horses. Today, we can travel much more easily, quickly and comfortably! Name some different modes of travel that we have today.
- 12 The Rocky Mountains are in the USA. Use an atlas to find some more mountain ranges in North and South America. Name them and state the country in which they are found.
- 13 Insects can be a pest to farmers. Go to the library and research how farmers protect their crops from pests. Write a short report on what you find out.
- 14 What crops do farmers grow in Jamaica?

Study skills

- 1 a) Where are ducks to be seen?
b) What kind of bills do they have?
- 2 a) How would you know geese in flight?
b) What kind of feet do they have?
- 3 a) Where are swans to be seen?
b) What sounds do they make when angry?
- 4 a) Where do herons live?
b) How do they catch fish?
- 5 a) Describe gulls in flight.
b) Where do they often rest?
- 6 a) Why are terns called 'sea swallows'?
b) What sounds do they make?
- 7 a) Gannets are very like _____ only bigger.
b) How do they catch fish?
- 8 a) Where are cormorants to be seen?
b) How would you know them in flight?
- 9 a) Where do penguins live?
b) They are expert swimmers but cannot _____.

Language development

- 1 Crickets are a type of insect. How many other insects can you name? List as many as you can.
- 2 A seagull is a bird which lives by the sea. How do you think these birds got their names?
 - a) wagtail
 - b) skylark
 - c) woodpecker
 - d) blackbird
 - e) cuckoo
- 3 A lake is a body of water. How many other words for bodies of water do you know? List as many as you can. Try to give an example from real life for each one, for example, lake and Salt Lake.
- 4 Some bodies of water contain salt water and some bodies of water contain fresh water. Split your list of water bodies into two categories: freshwater and salt water.
- 5 The seagulls ate the crickets and the crickets ate the crops. This is an example of a food chain. What animal do you think eats each of the following?
 - a) mice
 - b) carrots
 - c) grass
 - d) insects
- 6 Human food products often come from animals. Which animal provides us with each of the following?
 - a) pork
 - b) beef
 - c) mozzarella cheese
 - d) honey
 - e) milk (there is more than one possible answer)



Comprehension skills

- 1 What is the name for Saint David in the Welsh language?
- 2 What change happened to the monk who baptised David, and what caused this change?
- 3 Who was Paulinus and what did he do?
- 4 Where did David and the monks build a huge fire?
- 5 Who was Boia?
- 6 Why was Boia's wife angry?
- 7 What did Boia and his wife ask of David?
- 8 What did David build in Vallis Rosina?
- 9 Which city did David travel to and why is it special?
- 10 Who comes to visit David's tomb and why do they visit it?

Critical thinking

- 11 The story tells us about monasteries and churches. Different faiths have different buildings that are special. Do you know the names for any other holy or religious buildings?
- 12 Saint David is the patron saint of Wales. Who is the patron saint of these places?
 - a) Spain
 - b) Scotland
 - c) Ireland
 - d) England
 - e) Barbados
 - f) Mexico

To answer these questions, you can go to the library and use books or the internet to do some research. Stay safe when using the internet by having an adult around to help you.

Comprehension skills

- 1 Of the animals which give us leather, which are farmyard animals?
- 2 Of the animals which give us leather, which are reptiles?
- 3 What is the difference between a hide and a skin?
- 4 Why must the skin be taken off carefully?
- 5 How does salt help to protect the skin?
- 6 What changes happen to the skins after being soaked in brine?
- 7 What changes happen to the skins after being soaked in lime?
- 8 What type of dye is usually used for tanning?
- 9 Why does leather need tanning?
- 10 What is chamois?
- 11 What does a roller do?
- 12 Many everyday items are made from leather. What items do you have at home that are made of leather? Draw and label some leather items found in your home.



Comprehension skills

- 1 What was the narrator doing with the stones?
- 2 How did the Red Girl get the guava for the narrator?
- 3 What was the difference between the ways boys and girls usually got fruit off a tree? Is this true for the boys and girls that you know?
- 4 How was the Red Girl different?
- 5 Why did the narrator call her the 'Red Girl'?
- 6 What do you think were the usual greetings that the mothers called out?
- 7 Why do you think that the narrator imagined that she saved the Red Girl from a fire?
- 8 Which word best describes what the narrator thought about the Red Girl?
 - a) that she was ugly
 - b) that she was beautiful
 - c) that she was scary
- 9 The narrator tells us that the Red Girl's hands were filthy. How does she describe them?
- 10 Make two lists, one list stating the things that the narrator did and another list showing the things that the Red Girl did not do. You may begin like this:

The Narrator	The Red Girl
Bathed every day	Bathed once per week

Critical thinking

- 11 What is your opinion of the Red Girl's mother?
- 12 What was the narrator's opinion of the Red Girl? Why do you think she felt that way about her?
- 13 How do you feel about the Red Girl?

Language development

- 1 Complete these sentences on the Red Girl with an adjective.
 - a) Her face was _____.
 - b) Her hands were _____.
 - c) Her hair was _____.
 - d) Her fingernails were _____.
 - e) Her feet were _____.
 - f) Her dress was _____.
- 2 Find the meaning of these words in paragraph two of the story. Use the sentences before and after the sentence in which these words appear to help you guess the meaning of each word. Also use your knowledge of the situation to help you.
 - a) inquiries b) unruly
 - c) forcibly d) surrounded
 - e) forbearance f) tugged
 - g) claiming
- 3 Name the gases which trees absorb and release.
- 4 Guavas grow on trees. What other fruits do you know that grow on trees? Name as many as you can.
- 5 Choose five of the fruits you have named. Give at least two adjectives to describe each fruit.
- 6 Make a poster asking people to save trees. With a friend create a song or a poem about trees that can go on your poster. Ask your teacher to display your poster in class or on the school's notice board.

Comprehension skills

- 1 There are four main human characters in the story. Who are they?
- 2 Here are some key events from the story. Put them into the correct order.
 - The postman hears Peter groan.
 - Peter hears the sound of trickling water.
 - Peter spends the entire night plugging the hole.
 - Peter's mother asks him to run an errand.
 - Hans tells Peter a fantastic story.
 - Peter plugs the hole with his own arm.
 - Peter is carried home, and everyone is proud of him.
- 3 Why must Holland be protected from water?
- 4 Name two things that have been built to prevent water from getting in.
- 5 Why was Peter afraid to go for help?
- 6 How did Peter begin to feel as the hours went by?
- 7 Why did Peter need to be carried home?

Critical thinking

- 8 Peter's mother wanted to scold him for not coming home. Do you think his mother did scold him or not? Explain why.
- 9 In the story, Peter is described as 'the brave boy'. Do you agree that Peter was brave? Use examples from the story to back up your point of view.
- 10 Would you have taken the same action as Peter did, or would you have done something different? Explain what you would do in Peter's shoes.

Study skills

- 1 a) Describe a rainbow.
b) How is it caused?
- 2 a) What is a volcano?
b) Name three famous volcanoes.
- 3 a) What is a desert?
b) Name two large deserts.
- 4 a) What is lightning?
b) What is thunder?
- 5 a) What are icebergs?
b) Where are icebergs to be seen?
- 6 a) What is a geyser?
b) Where are geysers to be found?
- 7 a) Name two strange kinds of lake.
b) What is strange about them?
- 8 a) Describe the Aurora Borealis.
b) What is it also called?
- 9 a) What is an earthquake?
b) Name any country which is troubled by them.
- 10 a) What is an eclipse of the sun?
b) What happens at the same time?

Language development

- 1 From the following list, write out the words which should always begin with a capital letter: william, mother, holland, dyke, mary, cottage, world, monday, country, april, village, london
- 2 To whom should you go if you want:
 - a) a tooth taken out
 - b) your hair cut
 - c) your shoes mended
 - d) a bottle of medicine
 - e) to buy bread and cakes?
- 3 A trickle of water is a tiny stream of water. What is meant by a:
 - a) shower
 - b) storm
 - c) downpour
 - d) torrent
 - e) flood?
- 4 Peter's mother baked some cakes in the oven.
Put the following in the sentences best suited to them:
in the basin, on the chair, in the cupboard, in the fridge, on the floor, on the table, on the wall, on the mat.
 - a) I put some milk _____.
 - b) I washed my hands _____.
 - c) I sat _____.
 - d) I wiped my feet _____.
 - e) I hung the picture _____.
 - f) I spread the tea-cloth _____.
 - g) I laid the carpet _____.
 - h) I put away the dishes _____.
- 5 The postman wears a uniform while working. Name others who wear a uniform at their work.
- 6 A flat stretch of land is called a plain. What name is given to the following?
 - a) a piece of land surrounded by water
 - b) a stretch of water surrounded by land
 - c) the low ground between hills
 - d) a very high peak of land
 - e) a point of land stretching out into the sea
- 7 Peter put his **hand** into the **hole**.
Write sentences using:
 - a) mother ____ cakes ____ oven.
 - b) Hans ____ stories ____ world.
 - c) boy ____ pencil ____ desk.
 - d) girl ____ doll ____ floor.
 - e) lady ____ flowers ____ garden.
 - f) dog ____ cat ____ tree.
- 8 In the story we read about the sun, moon and stars. Here are some other words and phrases to do with space. Research them in books or on the internet and give their meaning. Remember to stay safe when using the internet by having an adult around to help you.
 - a) planet
 - b) solar system
 - c) constellation
 - d) asteroid

Comprehension skills

- 1 Who was the Brown King?
 - a) a noble warrior
 - b) a strong horse
 - c) a rich governor
- 2 What job did Tom's father do?
- 3 How did the cowboy's capture the Brown King?
- 4 How did the fence stop the Brown King from escaping?
- 5 What happened when the Brown King did try to jump the fence?
- 6 Why did the men take the Brown King to the stable?
- 7 How do you think Tom felt when he saw the Brown King lying in the stable? What might he have whispered in his ear? Give evidence from the story to back up your point of view.
- 8 What is the name for a female horse?
- 9 How does Tom manage to convince the horses to let him get close to them?
- 10 How do you think Tom felt when he watched the King and Queen disappear into the distance? Give evidence from the story to back up your point of view.

Critical thinking

- 11 Imagine that you are the Queen. Retell the story from her point of view.
- 12 At the beginning of the story, Tom wanted to capture a strong wild horse so that he could be a cowboy. At the end of the story, Tom lets the horse go free. Why do you think Tom changed his mind?

Study skills

- 1 What is a cowboy's work?
- 2
 - a) What is a large grass farm for cattle called?
 - b) Where did the cowboys live?
- 3 Why do cowboys need a horse?
- 4
 - a) What are Australian cowboys called?
 - b) What are Mexican cowboys called?
- 5 Describe a cowboy's:
 - a) hat
 - b) scarf
 - c) shirt
 - d) jacket
 - e) trousers
 - f) boots
 - g) gloves.
- 6 What is a:
 - a) holster
 - b) Colt
 - c) Bowie
 - d) lariat?
- 7 Of what sports are cowboys fond?
- 8
 - a) What musical instruments do they like best?
 - b) What name is given to their kind of music?
- 9 Who fought against the rustlers and robbers in the bad old days?
- 10 Name five creatures which live on the wide grasslands and deserts.

Language development

- 1 A horse lives in a stable. Which animals live in a:
 - a) sty
 - b) kennel
 - c) burrow
 - d) byre
 - e) form?
- 2 Cowboys look after cattle. Who looks after:
 - a) sheep
 - b) goats
 - c) pigs or swine?
- 3 Cowboys work on a ranch. Where does each of the following work?
 - a) barber
 - b) miner
 - c) sailor
 - d) porter
 - e) clown
- 4 Cowboys use a rope in their work. Who uses a:
 - a) plough
 - b) anvil
 - c) saw
 - d) ticket-punch
 - e) spanner?
- 5 Describe how the following would dress:
 - a) an astronaut
 - b) a diver
 - c) a pilot
 - d) a policewoman
 - e) a fire-fighter.
- 6 Place the following correctly in their sentences.
On his head; Round his neck; On his feet; Round his waist; Under his arm
 - a) _____ the cowboy wore a belt.
 - b) _____ he carried a gun.
 - c) _____ he had a Stetson.
 - d) _____ he wore high-heeled riding boots.
 - e) _____ he tied a scarf.
- 7 Here are some adjectives used in the story. In each case, the noun is missing. Find the noun in the story which is described by each adjective.
 - a) wild _____
 - b) brave _____
 - c) high _____
 - d) hot _____
 - e) glossy _____
 - f) open _____
- 8 Find three more examples of adjectives and the nouns they describe.
- 9 These are words to do with horses, but the letters are jumbled. Unscramble the letters to find the words.
 - a) lastniol
 - b) balest
 - c) ream
 - d) dadsel
- 10 Write one sentence to describe the meaning of each word from Question 9.