

Thursday 21st May 2020

WALT listen to and discuss a wide range of fiction, poetry, plays, non-fiction and reference books or textbooks.

Text- My Longest Journey (Twinkle)

Success criteria

I can read a range of texts.

I can discuss what I have read.

Task 1

Read the text below and answer the questions in your purple books.

My Longest Journey

Winter's greeting, cheeks slapped red by the first morning's chill,
Throats on fire, plumes erupting with every breath,
Faces hidden, friends like highwaymen in hoods and scarves,
Desperate dances; feet stamp and hands clap their reluctant beats.

Colour retreats, once happy gardens wither in silent submission,
Shivering trees, branches stripped bare by leaf-greedy storms,
Gatling-gun clouds, raindrops shower like bouncing bullets,
Vampire skies, draining daylight into shadows and darkness.

Sledges poised, dreams of hilltops brushed cotton-wool white,
Crunching footsteps, forging giddy pathways through fresh snow,
Carrot-nosed sentries, standing proud in every garden,
Streets at war, glove-tightened grenades explode with laughter.

Wasted weekends, reluctant dog walks and slow soggy Sundays,
Countdown calendar, striking days like a gloomy prisoner,
Reluctant traveller, wishing the long journey would finally end,
Please give me a year of spring and summer. Winter is not my friend!



Task 2

Copy and complete and the answers in your purple books

My Longest Journey

Questions

1. In verse 1, what makes the poet's friends seem like **highwaymen**?

2. Explain what has happened to the trees in verse 2.

3. Explain what the **carrot-nosed sentries** are in verse 3.

4. Does the poet like or dislike winter? Find one piece of evidence to back up your opinion.

5. How would the poet prefer the year to be organised?

Activity 3

Check your answers below and edit.

My Longest Journey

Answers

1. In verse 1, what makes the poet's friends seem like highwaymen?
Their faces are covered with hoods and scarves just as highwaymen cover their faces.
2. Explain what has happened to the trees in verse 2.
The trees have no leaves and are moving/swaying in the wind.
3. Explain what the **carrot-nosed sentries** are in verse 3?
Carrot-nosed sentries are snowmen.
4. Does the poet like or dislike winter? Find one piece of evidence to back up your opinion.
The poet dislikes winter. Accept any of the following as evidence: cheeks slapped, throats on fire, desperate dances, once happy gardens, mention of guns, vampire skies, wasted weekends, reluctant walks, soggy Sundays, gloomy prisoner, wishing the journey would finally end, winter is not my friend!
5. How would the poet prefer the year to be organised?
The poet would prefer the year to be made up only of spring and summer.