

Thursday 23rd April 2020

Good morning all.

As we are looking at poetry in our writing, we will work on poems for the rest of the week for our Guided Reading.

The objective will be to look at **vocabulary in context**.

This means that you will be asked questions that will test your understanding of vocabulary.

You might need to identify the correct usage of the words based on the way they are used in the passage (that's why it's called "in context").

Examples:

1. Which word/ phrase has the opposite meaning as...?

2. Find the words that have similar meanings to the following words...

WALT - understand vocabulary in context

The following is a poem by Pie Corbett.

After reading through the poem, think about the features.

What do you notice about the style in which it has been written?

A Poem to be Spoken Silently...

It was so silent that I heard
my thoughts rustle
like leaves in a paper bag . . .

It was so peaceful that I heard
the trees ease off
their coats of bark . . .

It was so still that I heard
the paving stones groan
as they muscled for space . . .

It was so silent that I heard
a page of this book
whisper to its neighbour,
'Look he's peering at us again . . .'

It was so still that I felt
a raindrop grin
as it tickled the window's pane . . .

It was so calm that I sensed
a smile crack the face
of a stranger . . .

It was quiet that I heard
the morning earth roll over
in its sleep and doze
for five minutes more . . .

by Pie Corbett

Below are 2 sets of questions about the poem.

Set one are designed for those of you who might be *less confident* about the questions.

Set two questions are for those of you who are *more confident* about answering the questions.

Please decide on the questions that are best for you.

Set one questions

'A poem to be spoken silently' by Pie Corbett

- 1) What does the word 'rustle' tell you about the sound of the author's thoughts?
- 2) Look at the line '*I heard the trees ease off their coats of bark.*' What do you think this sounds like?
- 3) What other words mean a similar thing to 'silent' in this poem
- 4) Give an example of how objects act like people in this poem
- 5) Do you think the author could actually hear 'a smile crack the face of a stranger?' Give a reason.
- 6) What idea is the poem trying to give you?
- 7) List 4 adjectives in the poem
- 8) What would you ask Pie Corbett about the poem if you met him?

Set two questions:

'A poem to be spoken silently' by Pie Corbett

- 1) Why did the writer use the word 'rustle' to describe the sound of his thoughts?
- 2) What does the line '*I heard the trees ease off their coats of bark*' mean?
- 3) Why would paving stones groan if they were **muscling** for space?
- 4) Name some **synonyms** used for 'silent' in this poem
- 5) Give 2 examples of **personification** in this poem
- 6) Do you think the author could actually hear '*a smile crack the face of a stranger?*' Give some reasons.
- 7) Which line of the poem makes you feel the most calm and peaceful?
- 8) List 6 of your favourite adjectives in the poem.
- 9) What other poems does this remind you of?
- 10) What would you ask Pie Corbett about the poem if you met him?