

Monday 18th May

Reading comprehension - The Iron Man

Read the narrative and complete the questions below.

Warm up

The writer of this story is more famous for being a poet than a children's author.

Read the first three paragraphs.

1. Where is the Iron Man standing? _____
2. Is this scene set during the day or the night? _____
How do you know? _____
3. What do you think will happen next? _____

Read on to see if you are right.

Essential Vocabulary

4. Find the word 'brink'. Do you think this word means the Iron man was:
(a) standing quite close to the edge of the cliff?
(b) standing on the edge of the cliff?
(c) far away from the edge of the cliff? _____ Draw your answer.
5. Find a phrase that shows us how the sea acted on the edge of the rocky beach.

Show someone how this would look and sound.
6. Why do you think Ted Hughes uses this idea? _____
7. Copy the word 'CRRRAAAASSSSSH!' into your book. Count the number of each letter in this word. What do you notice? _____
8. Do you think this is a spelling mistake or has it been done on purpose? _____
9. Why do you think he repeats the word 'CRASH' three times shortly afterwards?

Main Questions

10. Is the Iron Man big? If so, how big? Collect evidence from the text: _____

11. On a scale of 1 - 10, how strong do you think the wind was that night? Give a reason for your answer. _____

12. Do you think the Iron Man is heavy? _____ Why do you think this?

13. How does this affect his movement? Is it fast or slow? _____

14. When the Iron Man falls, is it quiet or noisy? _____ Make a list of all the words that suggest this: _____

15. When the Iron Man breaks up, was it into many pieces or only one or two? _____
How do you know? _____

16. Was the sea calm that night? _____ What makes you think this? _____

Reflection

17. Does the fact that this is how Ted Hughes starts 'The Iron Man' surprise you? ____
Why? _____

18. How do you think Ted Hughes' work as a poet has influenced his writing? _____

19. Can you spot pieces of the text that sound more poetical or where, like a poet, he plays with the structure or punctuation of the text? Make a list of examples.