

Year 5 Reading Fluency – Week 2 – 11.01.2021 Group 3 & 4:

Please look through this pack carefully and complete the tasks as thoroughly as possible. You will find other resources to support you included in this reading pack, such as dictionary definitions for identified vocabulary that you should learn and become familiar with. In addition, please log on to the school YouTube channel where there will be video films of each session to support you with your learning. The film clips to accompany these sessions will be titled:



Year 5 Reading Fluency – Week 2 – 11.01.2021 Group 3 & 4

Reading Text – A Clever Way to Catch a Thief by Abigail Steel

There are five sessions per week where you will be able to practise reading fluently every day. Please read the text provided repeatedly over the course of the five sessions to improve your understanding of the text.

Day 1: Teacher will read text first. Read and annotate the text – definitions of unfamiliar vocabulary.

Day 2: Read and annotate the text – definitions of unfamiliar vocabulary (unpick phrases).

Day 3: Read text, summarise and then answer 'Getting Started' questions.

Day 4: Read text and answer 'Making Headway' questions.

Day 5: Read the text and answer 'Aiming High' questions.

How to use this booklet:

On the first day of the introduction of a new text, the teacher will read it to you first (watch film clip). As the teacher is reading the text to you, underline unfamiliar words or phrases (the definitions may be searched for during or after each session).

Each day, read the text along with the teacher, and then practise reading the text independently.

Annotate the text – discuss unfamiliar language or phrases to ensure you understand the text before answering the questions.

Answer the questions in the following order:

1. Getting Started
2. Making Headway
3. Aiming High

Please refer to the definition sheet for support where necessary (at the back of the pack).

If there is vocabulary not identified in the pack that you wish to look up the definition for, please use an online dictionary, such as the Collins Dictionary. This is a useful resource, provides clear definitions of unfamiliar language, and gives examples of how words are used correctly within a sentence.

<https://www.collinsdictionary.com/>

Remember to log on to the school You Tube channel where you will find films of our reading sessions to support you, titled: Year 5 Reading Fluency – Week 2 - 11.01.2021 (Group 3 & 4)

If you require further support, please email the year 5 team at: year5@mpjs.org.uk

LO: To read quickly and accurately, developing my comprehension

Text: A clever Way to catch a thief
Author: Abigail Steel

This is an old tale about a rich man who finds that he is constantly losing things from his house. He suspects that one of his servants may be stealing, but which servant, and how can he be sure to catch the thief?

A Clever Way to Catch a Thief

One evening, when it was getting dark and the servants had finished their day's work, he brought them all together.

"Sadly," he said, "we seem to have a thief amongst us, but with your help I think we can rid ourselves of him or her." The servants looked at each other, sorry to think that one of their number was untrustworthy, but uncertain how the rich man could possibly detect the culprit.

"I have placed a table in the centre of the room next door, and on the table is a box. I have put into the box an old cockerel that possesses magic powers. In turn, I want each of you to go into the room. It is dark in there, but don't put on any light. Feel your way to the table and gently rest your left hand on the box."

"But what will that show?" asked one of the servants, quite perplexed.

"If you are not the guilty one, nothing will happen – but if you are the thief, the magic cockerel will immediately detect this and will crow so loudly we shall all immediately hear, and know who is to blame."

The servants glanced at each other, some thinking the rich man might be going mad! Other servants were anxious, not sure whether the cockerel really did possess magic powers. What might happen to them, they thought, if left alone in the dark room with the strange creature?

"If you are innocent you have nothing to fear," reassured the rich man.

So, one by one, the servants went into the room, but not a sound was heard. Not once did the magic cockerel crow.

"Excellent!" exclaimed the rich man as the last servant emerged from the dark room. "Now we know for sure who is the guilty person."

The servants were totally puzzled.

"There is a very good reason why the cockerel made no sound. There was no cockerel in the box to make a sound! Each of you show me your left hand. There was no cockerel, but there was soot on top of the box," said the man.

"You," he exclaimed, thrusting his finger towards the only servant with a clean hand, "must be the guilty person. You were the only person frightened to place your hand on top of the box!"

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Answer the following questions (don't forget to refer to the dictionary at the back of this pack for support).



Getting started

Content domain: 2b - retrieve and record information/identify key details

Write sentences to answer each question. Refer to the text in your answer.

1. Why did the rich man think one of his servants had been stealing from him?

.....

2. Why did the innocent servants have nothing to fear?

Tick **one**.

The servants would have soot on their hands.

The cockerel would detect their innocence and not crow.

They would have clean hands.

The cockerel would crow.

3. Who had soot on their hands?

.....

4. Why didn't the cockerel make a sound?

.....

5. At what point in the day did the event in the text happen?

.....

6. Using information from the text, tick **one** box in each row to show whether each event is **true** or **false**.

	True	False
The rich man wanted to check each servant's right hand.		
The cockerel made no sound.		
The guilty servant would have a clean hand.		
The cockerel possessed magic powers.		

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Answer the following questions:



Making Headway

Content domains: 2a - give/explain the meaning of words in context,
2b - make inferences/explain and justify with evidence

1. In your own words, explain the vocabulary below in the context of the story. Use a dictionary for help.

perplexed guilt innocence anxious soot

2. How do you think the rich man felt when he realised someone was stealing from him? **Justify** your answer using evidence from the text or your own experiences.

.....

3. Why do you think the servants were 'sorry to think that one of their number was untrustworthy'?

.....

4. How do you think the innocent servants felt going into the dark room? **Tick** all that apply.

confident

nervous

relieved

excited

5. How do you think the guilty servant felt when he or she was going into the dark room? **Justify** your answer.

.....

.....

6. Using information from the text, tick **one** box in each row to show whether each statement is a **fact** or an **opinion**.

	Fact	Opinion
The room was dark.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The cockerel possessed magic powers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There was a thief among them.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There was soot on top of the box.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The rich man was disappointed.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. Why did some of the servants think the rich man was going mad? Explain your answer.

.....

.....

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Please answer the following questions:



Aiming High

Content domains: 2a - give/explain the meaning of words in context,
2b - make inferences/explain and justify with evidence

1. What type of text is this?

Tick **one**.

fiction

science-fiction

non-fiction

adventure

2. Find and copy **one** word that means 'worried'.

.....

3. Describe the character of the rich man, based upon what you learn in the text.

.....

.....

4. Explain why the moment the rich man says 'Excellent!' is a turning point in the story.

.....

.....

5. Number these things from 1 to 5 to show the **order** in which they appear in the text. The first one has been done for you.

must be the guilty person	
Not once did the magic cockerel crow.	
when it was getting dark	1
There was no cockerel in the box	
The servants glanced at each other,	

Possible difficult vocabulary:

constantly – You use **constant** to [describe](#) something that [happens](#) all the time or is always there.

suspects – A **suspect** is a person who the [police](#) or [authorities](#) think [may](#) be guilty of a [crime](#).

servants – A **servant** is someone who is employed to work at another person's [home](#), for [example](#) as a [cleaner](#) or a [gardener](#).

amongst – Someone or something that is [situated](#) or [moving among](#) a group of things or people is [surrounded](#) by them.

untrustworthy – If you [say](#) that someone is **untrustworthy**, you [think](#) they are [unreliable](#) and cannot be trusted.

uncertain – If you are **uncertain about** something, you do not [know](#) what you should do, what is [going to happen](#), or what the [truth](#) is about something.

detect – To **detect** something means to [find](#) it or discover that it is [present somewhere](#) by using [equipment](#) or making an [investigation](#).

culprit – When you are [talking](#) about a [crime](#) or something [wrong](#) that has been done, you can [refer](#) to the person who did it as **the culprit**.

cockerel – A **cockerel** is a young male [chicken](#).

magic – **Magic** is the power to use supernatural forces to make [impossible](#) things [happen](#), such as making people disappear or [controlling](#) events in [nature](#).

rest – If you **rest** or if you **rest** your body, you do not do anything [active](#) for a time. If you **rest** something [somewhere](#), you put it there so that its weight is supported.

perplexed – If you are **perplexed**, you [feel](#) confused and [slightly](#) worried by something because you do not [understand](#) it.

guilty – If someone is **guilty of** a [crime](#) or offence, they have committed that crime or offence.

immediately – If something [happens immediately](#), it happens without any delay.

blame – If you **blame** a person or thing **for** something [bad](#), you [believe](#) or [say](#) that they are [responsible](#) for it or that they caused it.

glanced – If you **glance at** something or someone, you look at them very quickly and then look [away](#) again [immediately](#).

mad – Someone who is **mad** has a [mind](#) that does not work in a [normal](#) way, with the result that their [behaviour](#) is very [strange](#). Mad – angry.

anxious – If you are **anxious**, you are [nervous](#) or worried about something.

strange – Something that is **strange** is unusual or [unexpected](#), and makes you [feel slightly nervous](#) or [afraid](#).

creature – You can [refer](#) to any living thing that is not a plant as a **creature**, [especially](#) when it is of an [unknown](#) or [unfamiliar kind](#). People [also](#) refer to [imaginary](#) animals and beings as **creatures**.

innocent – If someone is **innocent**, they did not [commit](#) a crime which they have been [accused](#) of.

fear – **Fear** is the unpleasant feeling you have when you [think](#) that you are in danger.

reassured – If you [feel reassured](#), you feel less worried about something, usually because you have received help or advice.

exclaimed – Writers sometimes use **exclaim** to show that someone is speaking suddenly, loudly, or emphatically, often because they are excited, shocked, or angry.

emerged – To **emerge** means to come out from an enclosed or dark space such as a room or a vehicle, or from a position where you could not be seen.

puzzled – Someone who is **puzzled** is confused because they do not understand something.

soot – **Soot** is black powder which rises in the smoke from a fire and collects on the inside of chimneys.

thrusting – If you **thrust** something or someone somewhere, you push or move them there quickly with a lot of force.

frightened - If you are **frightened**, you are anxious or afraid, often because of something that has just happened or that you think may happen.

Phrases to unpick:

'he brought them all together', 'to have a thief amongst us', 'one of their number was untrustworthy', 'detect the culprit', 'possesses magic powers', 'feel your way', 'the magic cockerel will immediately detect this', 'if you are innocent you have nothing to fear', 'emerged from the dark room', 'the servants were totally puzzled', 'thrusting his finger towards the only servant with a clean hand'.