

Year 5 Reading Fluency – Week 5 – 1.02.2021 Group 2, 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 5 – 1.02.2021 Group 2, 3 & 4

Reading Text – Red Leaves by Sita Brahmachari

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 5 – 1.02.2021 (Groups 2, 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: Red Leaves

Author: Sita Brahmachari

Red Leaves

Zak hears a strange voice in some woods. He hides behind a tree when he encounters a strange woman called Elder.

He supposed that she could be about his grandma's age when she'd died or older, much older even. Her hair hung in a mass of wild frizzy curls down her back and had been dyed flame red. She'd threaded leaves through the top strands like a tangled crown. Zak stared at her clothes. She'd piled one piece on top of the other in an eclectic collection of leaf layers. The overall effect was like the rag rug his mum had once brought home from one of her trips to Africa. It was impossible to tell exactly what the old woman was wearing or how small or large she really was underneath all those petticoats that swept the earth as she walked. Everything she wore seemed to have been chosen to match the russet tones of autumn, like camouflage.

Get a hold of yourself. She's just a homeless old woman. But Zak found that he could not tear his gaze away from her. She was close enough now for him to hear the hollow rumblings of her stomach.

'There, my Crystal, don't you cry. My belly's singing you a lullaby!'

It was then that he realised that she was swaddling a baby wrapped in a crocheted woollen shawl, more holes than blanket. Despite the *old* woman's hushings, the baby hadn't stirred or made a sound. Zak's heart clamped in his chest.

What's she doing with a baby? Has she stolen it out of someone's pram?

He was relieved to see a young woman walking her dog up a steep connecting path.

The nearer she drew, the louder the old woman's voice seemed to become.

'But here's a wood wanderer coming. Wafting perfume. Not my kind, gets up my nose. makes me sneeze.'

The woman held the baby close and rocked it. No movement came from underneath its shawl.

'Here she comes. What do you think, my crystal? Will she walk right past? Pretend we're invisible? How could anyone not take pity on you, my baby?'

Then she held the bundle up, like an offering. The dog came bounding over and sniffed at it before tossing its head dismissively. The young woman strained to get a closer look, before she too turned and hurried away.

'Could you spare us the price of a cup of tea? No...? Straight past, eyes glazed over, locking us out. Just an old tree stump with gnarly roots. That's all I am these days.'

And with that the old woman dropped the baby on the ground, where it landed with a thud and slid from its blanket. Zak gave a sharp intake of breath and was just about to spring from his hiding place when a bald plastic head rolled in his direction, its blue eyes wide and unblinking.

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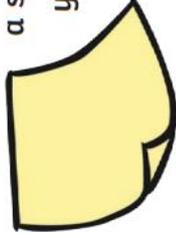
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As you are reading through the text, underline the key words which show you what, why and how something is being done. They may prove useful to you later for recapping events.



Grab a Sticky Note

A good way to summarise is to see what you can fit onto a sticky note. This forces you to focus on only the key points.



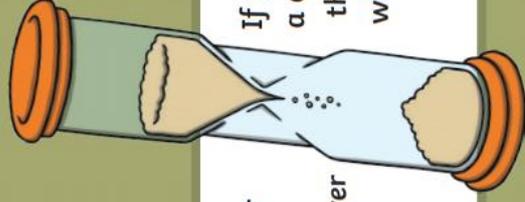
Give Yourself a Fact Limit

If you need more than five bullet points, then you are not being selective enough about what is important.

Identifying and Summarising The Main Ideas of a Text

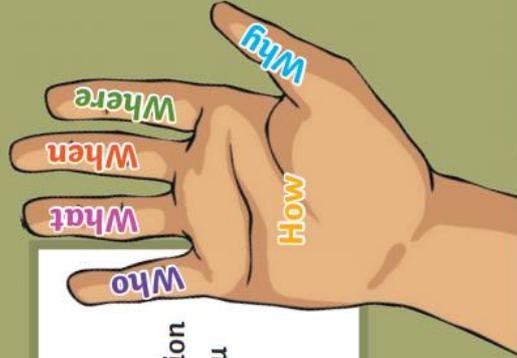
Character Limit

Summarise the key points into a status update. Will people be interested or is your message too long to read?



If you had to leave someone a quick voicemail recapping the paragraph you'd read, what would you say before time ran out?

Retell the story in your own words to a friend in ten seconds. Whatever you leave out mustn't be important.



Ask yourself questions about the text, starting with each of these question words. These will get you thinking about the key points being made.

Answer the following questions:



Getting started

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

1. 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.

And with that the old woman dropped the baby	
'Here she comes. What do you think, my Crystal?'	
She'd threaded leaves through the top strand	1
But Zak found that he could not tear his gaze away	
Despite the old woman's hushings	

2. What is the name of the old woman's baby?

.....

3. Who else is in the wood, apart from Zak and the old woman?

.....
.....

4. What did the old woman want money for?

.....

5. What made the old woman sneeze?

Tick **one**.

the baby

perfume

the dog

leaves

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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. Read the paragraph beginning *He supposed that*. Look at the sentence: *She'd piled one piece on top of the other in an eclectic collection of leaf layers*.

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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. **Find and copy one** word that means the same as matted.

.....

2. **Find and copy one** word that means the same as unusual.

Possible difficult vocabulary – Red Leaves

strange – Something that is **strange** is unusual or unexpected, and makes you feel slightly nervous or afraid.

encounters – If you **encounter** someone, you meet them, usually unexpectedly.

hung – If something **hangs** in a high place or position, or if you **hang** it there, it is attached there so it does not touch the ground. Hung is past tense.

mass – A **mass of** things is a large number of them grouped together.

frizzy – **Frizzy** hair is very tightly curled.

dyed – that has been coloured with **dye**

threaded – If you **thread** a long thin object **through** something, you pass it through one or more holes or narrow spaces.

strands – A **strand of** something such as hair, wire, or thread is a single **thin** piece of it.

tangled – **twisted** together; **messy** or **untidy**

eclectic – An **eclectic collection** of objects, ideas, or **beliefs** is **wide-ranging** and **comes** from many different sources.

layers – A **layer** of a material or substance is a **quantity** or piece of it that covers a surface or that is between two other things.

overall – You use **overall** to **indicate** that you are **talking** about a **situation** in general or about the whole of something.

underneath – If one thing is **underneath** another, it is **directly** under it, and may be covered or **hidden** by it.

petticoats – A **petticoat** is a piece of **clothing** like a **thin skirt**, which is worn under a skirt or **dress**.

match – If something of a particular colour or design **matches** another thing, they have the same colour or design, or have a **pleasing** appearance when they are used together.

russet – **Russet** is used to **describe** things that are reddish-brown in colour.

tones – A **tone** is one of the lighter, darker, or **brighter** shades of the same colour.

camouflage – **Camouflage** consists of things such as leaves, **branches**, or brown and green **paint**, which are used to make it **difficult** for an **enemy** to **see** military forces and equipment.

gaze – If you **gaze at** someone or something, you look steadily at them for a long time, for **example** because you **find** them **attractive** or **interesting**, or because you are **thinking** about something else.

hollow – Something that is **hollow** has a space **inside** it, as **opposed** to being solid all the way through.

rumblings – A **rumbling** is a low **continuous noise**.

lullaby – A **lullaby** is a quiet song which is **intended** to be **sung** to **babies** and young children to **help** them **go** to sleep.

swaddling – If you **swaddle** a baby, you wrap **cloth** around it in order to **keep** it **warm** or to **prevent** it from moving.

wrapped – When you **wrap** something, you fold paper or cloth tightly round it to cover it completely, for **example** in order to **protect** it or so that you can give it to someone as a present.

crocheted – **make (a garment or piece of fabric) using crochet**. made with a **crochet hook**

shawl – A **shawl** is a large piece of **woollen cloth** which a woman wears over her shoulders or **head**, or which is wrapped around a baby to **keep** it **warm**.

hushings – To make silent or quiet. To calm or soothe.

stirred – If you **stir**, you move slightly, for example because you are uncomfortable or beginning to wake up.

clamped – To **clamp** something in a particular place means to put it or hold it there firmly and tightly.

pram – A **pram** is a small vehicle in which a baby can lie as it is pushed along.

relieved – If you are **relieved**, you feel happy because something unpleasant has not happened or is no longer happening.

steep – A **steep** slope rises at a very sharp angle and is difficult to go up.

connecting – joined or linked; linking two things

wanderer – A **wanderer** is a person who travels around rather than settling in one place.

wafting – If sounds or smells waft through the air, or if something such as a light wind wafts them, they move gently through the air.

perfume – **Perfume** is a pleasant-smelling liquid that you can put on your skin to make yourself smell nice.

rocked – When something **rocks** or when you **rock** it, it moves slowly and regularly backwards and forwards or from side to side.

movement – **Movement** involves changing position or going from one place to another.

underneath – **If one thing is underneath another, it is directly under it, and may be covered or hidden by it.**

invisible – If you describe something as **invisible**, you mean that it cannot be seen, for example because it is transparent, hidden, or very small.

pity – If you feel **pity for** someone, you feel very sorry for them.

bundle – A **bundle of** things is a number of them that are tied together or wrapped in a cloth or bag so that they can be carried or stored.

offering – An **offering** is a gift that people offer to their God or gods as a form of worship.

bounding – If a person or animal **bounds** in a particular direction, they move quickly with large steps or jumps.

sniffed – If you **sniff** something or **sniff at** it, you smell it by sniffing.

tossing – If you **toss** your head or **toss** your hair, you move your head backwards, quickly and suddenly, often as a way of expressing an emotion such as anger or contempt.

dismissively – **in a manner that suggests that something or someone is unworthy of consideration.**

strained – **showing signs of nervous tension or tiredness**

spare – You use **spare** to describe something that is not being used by anyone, and is therefore available for someone to use.

price – The **price** of something is the amount of money that you have to pay in order to buy it.

glazed – If you **describe** someone's **eyes** as **glazed**, you mean that their **expression** is **dull** or **dreamy**, usually because they are **tired** or are having **difficulty concentrating** on something.

stump – A **stump** is a small part of something that remains when the **rest** of it has been removed or broken off.

gnarly – **difficult and dangerous**

dropped – If you **drop** something, you accidentally **let** it fall.

thud – A **thud** is a dull sound, such as that which a heavy **object** makes when it **hits** something **soft**.

slid – **move smoothly along a surface while maintaining continuous contact with it.**

sharp – A **sharp** point or edge is very thin and can cut through things very easily. A **sharp knife**, tool, or other object has a point or edge of this kind.

intake – Your **intake** of a particular **kind** of food, drink, or air is the amount that you **eat**, drink, or **breathe** in.

spring – When a person or animal **springs**, they jump upwards or forwards suddenly or quickly.

plastic – **Plastic** is a material which is produced from oil by a chemical process and which is used to make many objects. It is light in **weight** and does not break easily.

rolled – **move in a particular direction by turning over and over on an axis.**

direction – A **direction** is the **general** line that someone or something is moving or pointing in.

unblinking – If you **describe** someone's eyes or expression as **unblinking**, you mean that they are **looking** steadily at something without blinking.

Phrases to unpick:

'encounters a strange woman', 'dyed flame red', 'threaded leaves through', 'tangled crown', 'eclectic collection of leaf layers', 'the overall effect', 'underneath all those petticoats', 'swept the earth as she walked', 'to match the russet tones of autumn', 'get a hold of yourself', 'could not tear his gaze away', 'hollow rumblings of her stomach', 'swaddling a baby', 'crocheted woollen shawl', 'more holes than blanket', 'old woman's hushings', 'Zak's heart clamped in his chest', 'relieved to see a young woman', 'the nearer she drew', 'a wood wanderer', 'wafting perfume', 'not my kind', 'how could anyone not take pity on you', 'like an offering', 'bounding over', 'tossing its head

dismissively', 'strained to get a closer look', 'spare us the price of a cup of tea', 'eyes glazed over', 'gnarly roots', 'Zak gave a sharp intake of breath', 'eyes wide and unblinking'.

Answers: Getting Started

1. 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.

And with that the old woman dropped the baby	5
'Here she comes. What do you think, my Crystal?'	4
She'd threaded leaves through the top strand	1
But Zak found that he could not tear his gaze away	2
Despite the old woman's hushings	3

2. Crystal.

Answers: Making Headway

1. Assorted
2. wild, flame, leaf or leaves, earth, russet, autumn, camouflage.
3. When it falls on the ground, Zak sees its plastic bald head, which means it's a doll not a baby.

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

	True	False
The old woman dropped the baby on the ground.	✓	
The dog sniffed at the baby before losing interest.	✓	
The old woman was Zak's grandma.		✓
Zak couldn't stop looking at the old woman.	✓	
The old woman was well groomed.		✓

5. Lullaby.

Answers: Aiming High

1. Tangled.
2. Strange.
3. Fiction, because it is a made up story (narrative), not a factual book.
4. References to the old woman being homeless. **For example:** The old woman is wearing lots of clothes on top of each other to keep her warm. Zak can hear her stomach rumbling because she is hungry. She also complains that people won't even give her money for a cup of tea, so she probably doesn't have any money and may be begging.
5. Either yes or no with a full explanation based on details from the text. **For example:**
Yes. I think Zak will feel sorry for her as everyone else ignores her and she has a pretend baby.
Or...
No. Zak will keep hiding behind the tree as the woman seems strange talking to herself and her doll and will hurry away like the others.