

# 49 Rapid Reading Activities

Quick comprehensions designed to last up to 10 minutes. Based on texts from previous curriculum texts including new and original questions. Answers also included.

## Question Types

- w/p Words and Phrases
- i Inference
- kf Key Facts (Retrieval)
- ot Other (e.g.: Language Choice, Comparisons)

## Text Difficulty

- l Low Level Text
- m Middle Level Text
- h High Level Text

Tip: Press **Ctrl+L** to view pdf full screen.  
Press **Esc** to return.

**Anousheh's Space Blog, September 25<sup>th</sup>:** Everyone wants to know: how do you take a shower in space? How do you brush your teeth? Well my friends, I must admit keeping clean in space is not easy! There is no shower with running water. Water does not 'flow' here, it 'floats' – which makes it a challenging act to clean yourself. There are wet towels, wet wipes and dry towels that are used. Now brushing your teeth in space is another joy. You cannot rinse your mouth and spit after brushing, so you end up rinsing and swallowing. Astronauts call it the 'fresh mint effect'.

**w/p** Find and copy another word that suggests it is '**not easy**' to clean yourself in space.

**kf** What reason is given for needing wet towels, wet wipes and dry towels?

**i** Find and copy a group of words that shows that Anousheh wrote her blog for others to read.

**ot** Why does Anousheh use '**another joy**' to describe brushing teeth?

**Anousheh's Space Blog, September 25<sup>th</sup>:** Everyone wants to know: how do you take a shower in space? How do you brush your teeth? Well my friends, I must admit keeping clean in space is not easy! There is no shower with running water. Water does not 'flow' here, it 'floats' – which makes it a challenging act to clean yourself. There are wet towels, wet wipes and dry towels that are used. Now brushing your teeth in space is another joy. You cannot rinse your mouth and spit after brushing, so you end up rinsing and swallowing. Astronauts call it the 'fresh mint effect'.

**w/p** Find and copy another word that suggests it is '**not easy**' to clean yourself in space.

**Challenging**

**kf** What reason is given for needing wet towels, wet wipes and dry towels?

**Water does not flow.**

**i** Find and copy a group of words that shows that Anousheh wrote her blog for others to read.

**Everyone wants to know; well my friends.**

**ot** Why does Anousheh use '**another joy**' to describe brushing teeth?

**She is describing and enjoys all the challenges of trying to stay clean.**

## Star spotters' guide to seeing shooting stars:

1. Find out when a meteor shower is due and arrange to go star spotting with an adult (they don't have to be an expert!).
2. Wear warm clothes and equip yourself with a blanket, a pillow and a torch.
3. You do NOT need a telescope or binoculars.
4. Go outside and find somewhere that is far away from town lights.
5. When you have found your spot, lie down on your blanket, switch OFF your torch and stare up at the sky.
6. Allow some minutes to pass. The longer you look, the more stars you will see as your eyes get used to the darkness.
7. Wait for the shooting stars to appear!

w/p

**Arrange** is closest in meaning to...

- Set out
- Meet
- Pack up
- Plan

kf	True or False?
	Take warm clothes, a blanket, a pillow and a torch.
	Stay close to town.
	Point your torch up to the sky.
	You must have binoculars.

- i How does the information make it sound easy to be a star spotter?

## Star spotters' guide to seeing shooting stars:

1. Find out when a meteor shower is due and arrange to go star spotting with an adult (they don't have to be an expert!).
2. Wear warm clothes and equip yourself with a blanket, a pillow and a torch.
3. You do NOT need a telescope or binoculars.
4. Go outside and find somewhere that is far away from town lights.
5. When you have found your spot, lie down on your blanket, switch OFF your torch and stare up at the sky.
6. Allow some minutes to pass. The longer you look, the more stars you will see as your eyes get used to the darkness.
7. Wait for the shooting stars to appear!

w/p

**Arrange** is closest in meaning to...

- Set out
- Meet
- Pack up
- Plan**

kf	True or False?
	Take warm clothes, a blanket, a pillow and a torch. <b>T</b>
	Stay close to town. <b>F</b>
	Point your torch up to the sky. <b>F</b>
	You must have binoculars. <b>F</b>

- i** How does the information make it sound easy to be a star spotter?  
**Accessible location; don't need special equipment; don't need an expert.**

## White Fang (part 1)

The cub came upon them suddenly. It was his own fault. He had been careless. He had left the cave and run down to the stream to drink. It might have been that he took no notice because he was heavy with sleep. And his carelessness might have been due to the familiarity of the trail to the pool. He had travelled it often, and nothing had ever happened before.

He went down past the blasted pine, crossed the open space, and trotted in amongst the trees. Then, at the same instant, he saw and smelt. Before him, sitting silently on their haunches, were five live things, the like of which he had never seen before. But at the sight of him the five men did not spring to their feet, nor show their teeth, nor snarl. They did not move, but sat there, silent and ominous.

i Who does the word **them** in the first sentence refer to?

kf What had the wolf gone down to the stream for?

i Why might the wolf have been careless?

kf How did the men react when they saw the wolf?

Motionless

Noisily

Excitedly

## White Fang (part 1)

The cub came upon them suddenly. It was his own fault. He had been careless. He had left the cave and run down to the stream to drink. It might have been that he took no notice because he was heavy with sleep. And his carelessness might have been due to the familiarity of the trail to the pool. He had travelled it often, and nothing had ever happened before.

He went down past the blasted pine, crossed the open space, and trotted in amongst the trees. Then, at the same instant, he saw and smelt. Before him, sitting silently on their haunches, were five live things, the like of which he had never seen before. But at the sight of him the five men did not spring to their feet, nor show their teeth, nor snarl. They did not move, but sat there, silent and ominous.

i Who does the word **them** in the first sentence refer to?

The men.

kf What had the wolf gone down to the stream for?

Water; a drink

i Why might the wolf have been careless?

He had been there many times before (without harm).

kf How did the men react when they saw the wolf?

**Motionless**

Noisily

Excitedly

‘Inventions’ adapted from ‘Eureka!: Great inventors and their brilliant brainwaves’ by Richard Platt, Kingfisher, 2003.

‘White Fang’ an extract from ‘White Fang’ by Jack London, Puffin Books 1999.

‘Charlie Small’ from ‘Charlie Small: Gorillas vs the Leopard men, by Charlie Small’, published by David Fickling, The Random House Group Limited.

‘Shooting Stars’ adapted from ‘The Marshall Children’s Guide’ to Astronomy by Jacqueline Mitton and Simon Mitton, Marshall Publishing Ltd, 1998 and Comets and Meteors, by Robin Kerrod, Belitha Press Ltd, 2000. ‘Anousheh’s blog’ adapted from [www.anoushehansari.com/blog/](http://www.anoushehansari.com/blog/) [10 February, 2010] ‘Giants’ by Lydia Pender.

Sample key stage 2 English reading booklet Electronic PDF product code: STA/15/7321/e ISBN: 978-1-78315-739-6 © Crown copyright and Crown information 2015

2015 key stage 2 levels 3–5 English reading booklet. Electronic PDF product code: STA/15/7207/e ISBN: 978-1-78315-437-1 © Crown copyright and Crown information 2015

2014 key stage 2 levels 3–5 English reading booklet . Electronic PDF product code: STA/14/7023/e ISBN: 978-1-78315-117-2 © Crown copyright and Crown information 2014

Sample key stage 2 levels 3–5 English unthemed reading booklet Electronic PDF version product code: STA/14/7001/e ISBN: 978-1-78315-072-4 © Crown copyright and Crown information 2013