

English Tasks - 22.6.20

VIPERS - "The Frost Fair" by Emma Carroll

Then, through a narrow gap between the buildings, Maya glimpsed the river. Except it wasn't black and shiny anymore. It didn't even look like water. Out of the gloom, the Thames glowed a greyish-white. There were things on it that definitely were not boats. Things with legs that shouted and waved.

People.

Maya stared in amazement. The river, she realised, was completely frozen over. She'd never seen the Thames like this: actually she'd never seen a frozen river before - only in films and those ones were probably computer-generated.

This didn't look anything like a movie, though. It looked real. It *felt* real, just as the cobblestones and the snowflakes did. She kept walking, keen to get to the other side of the bridge. Passing under another archway, she found herself on the opposite bank of the river.

The second her feet touched solid ground again, she knew. No, this wasn't a dream. She had a sudden sense of purpose, as if she was here for a reason, though she still didn't know what.

At the water's edge were signs advertising some sort of fair. Maya tried to read what they said. The writing was dreadful. Some of the letters she couldn't make out, but what she could see sent excitement shooting through her. There were queues as far as the eye could see. So, this was where the crowds were heading; everyone was here to go out on the ice. Perhaps that was why she was there too.

Finally, she reached the front of the crowds. Men were taking money at the river's edge: people queued up to pay.

"A shilling a go on the ice, ladies and gents! The Thames is frozen two yards deep," said the man collecting people's payments. "More chance of me turning into King George than of that ice cracking."

King George?

That couldn't be right. The person on the throne was a queen, not a king. But everyone was dressed so strangely weren't they? And in return, her jeans and trainers had been getting some funny looks. She rubbed her eyes, blinked. Yet, nothing changed. She was still here, on the riverbank. If this wasn't a dream, what was it?

Q1 - R	How much did it cost to go on the ice?
Q2 - V	What does this phrase mean? 'The person on the throne'.
Q3 - I,E	Find at least two clues in the text that show Maya isn't where she expects to be.
Q4 - E	Why do you think some words are shown in italics?
Q5 - E	Describe what the atmosphere would be like waiting to walk across the ice, use the text to help you.
Q6 - V	What does this phrase mean? 'Out of the gloom'
Q7 - I	Why do you think Maya was keen to get to the other side of the bridge?
Q8 - S	Summarise what we know about the place Maya finds herself in.
Challenge P	How do you think Maya ended up in this situation? Write down your thoughts.

English

Task 1	Have you ever walked down to the canal at Linthwaite or Slaithwaite? Have you visited any local reservoirs? If you haven't you might want to go for a walk before you begin this writing task. Use your memories of walking by the water to create a mind map of vocabulary. What can you see? Hear? Smell? You could take some photos of your own or draw a detailed picture, then add your vocabulary around it.
Task 2	Imagination time! Like the character Maya from this week's Vipers you are going to experience your canal visit in a different way. Imagine that you wake up one morning and discover that an icy winter has descended on Linthwaite in the middle of summer! How would you feel? What might you say? Would you go out and explore? Where would you go first? Watch these clips to remind yourself about how to punctuate direct speech, then try and include some in your writing. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zvftsbk https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zsh2tfr
Task 3	We can learn a lot by listening to authors, their inspiration and methods of working. https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zfxmxyz Scroll down to the second clip featuring the author Michael Morpurgo, find out about his writing process.
Task 4	It seems as though Maya has travelled back in time somehow in this week's Vipers extract. Can you imagine something similar happening to you? Imagine that you are crossing a bridge, using a canal lock or travelling through a deep tunnel on a boat. When you get to the other side or come out of the tunnel the time has changed. You are back in Victorian Linthwaite. Think about how you would know this had happened. Maya realises there is a king instead of a queen, she sees that her clothes are all wrong compared to the other people around her. How would you know? What would you feel like? https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zpccwmn/articles/zytbrdm Your task is to write about travelling back, describing what you see, how things have changed. If you want to write a whole story you can or you can focus on the story opening. Now that you have thought carefully about your ideas make a story plan – you might like to use a comic strip format.
Task 5	Time to write! Almost... In Maya's story the author uses fronted adverbials to make sentences more interesting. Watch the clip and complete the activities, then include some in your work: https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zwwp8mn/articles/zp937p3 Use your story plan and write.... don't forget to send us a photo or copy of your work at year3.4@linthwaiteclough.co.uk