

Comprehension


Part A

The following questions are about Chapter 3 of 'How to Skin a Bear'.

1. What time of day is it? (p. 21)

2. What does Bee do to try to get Dog to come to her? (p. 21)

3. What does Bee think the tangled roots might mean if she knew how to navigate? (p. 21)

4. Why do you think the author chooses to write  rather than writing it as the word three? (p. 21)

5. Why does Bee shake her head hard from side to side? (p. 22)

6. Why do Bee's feet have cuts and grazes all over them? (p. 22)

7. Why do you think Bee says, 'Oh, pig's bladder'? (p. 23)

8. Name two things that Bee has done wrong. (p. 23)

9. What does Bee do to try to make herself stay awake? (p. 24)

10. Why couldn't Bee grab the tree trunk properly? (p. 26)

11. What is your favourite part of this chapter? Explain your answer.

Part B

The following questions are about Chapter 3 of 'How to Skin a Bear'.

1. 'I stumble into a clearing.' Why do you think Bee stumbles? (p.21)

2. 'I frantically scan the area around me...' What does 'frantically scan' tell the reader about the way that Bee looks around? (p. 21)

3. "Your job is plucking feathers, Bee. Just stick with the tribe and you'll be alright."
Although this is shown in inverted commas in the text, it does not tell us who is saying this. Who do you think might be saying this? (p. 21)

4. Why does Bee start running? (p. 22)

5. Which phrase tells you that Bee's chest hurts from running? (p. 22)

6. How is Bee's skin described? Do you think this is a good description? (p. 23)

7. Why do you think the writer decided to put a gap and a picture of a skull to break up the text in the middle of page 24?

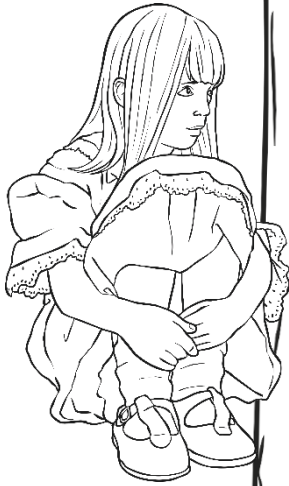
8. Describe something that the author has done in this chapter to create suspense and make you want to read on.

Challenge Task

Do you think that Bee shows determination in this chapter? Explain your answer.

Missing Poster

Use a word-processing application on a desktop computer or laptop to complete this activity. Here is a missing poster for Alice from 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland'.



Missing

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS GIRL?

Alice was last seen on Thursday afternoon near the riverbank.

Alice is 7 years old and was wearing a blue dress with a white pinafore. She is approximately 110cm tall and has blonde hair.

Police are particularly interested to hear from anyone who may have seen a white rabbit in the area.

Anyone with any information should contact Alice's mum and dad.

HELP US FIND ALICE, PLEASE.

Produce a poster like this to help find Bee. Imagine Achoo and the other tribe members have made this poster to put up at the end of Chapter 2, after Bee has gone missing. Although we know that Stone Age people didn't read and write, for this poster you can pretend that they did!

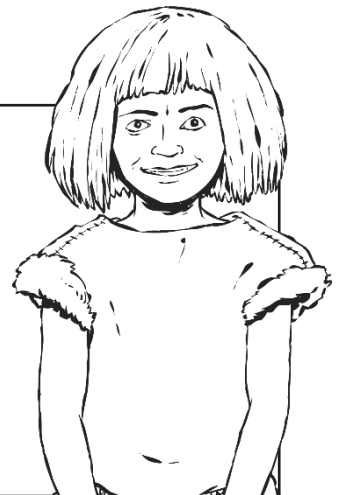
She was last seen.....

At the time of her disappearance.....

Bee was known to....

Hair, tunic, furs, Dog, bare feet

Please contact....



Challenge Task

Think carefully about the size and style of font you have used on your poster. Edit your work to make important words and phrases stand out more.

Personification

Part A

Personification is used in Chapter 3 to describe the trees: 'The wind rushes through the clearing and the trees wag their fingers at me'.

Personification means giving human qualities to an animal or to something that is not alive. In the example above, the wind rushes like a person might do and the trees wag their fingers (their branches) like a cross person.

Underline the examples of personification in the text below. The first one has been done for

As I walked into the forest, angry brambles lashed at my bare legs. I wasn't sure which way to go. Tall nettles spitefully reached out for my exposed arms and stung them. I needed to get out of this hostile forest. A breeze blew through the forest and the foxgloves nodded at me as if giving a warning. Ferns danced ominously in the wind. The tall trees all around stood completely still and watched me.

The sun smiled down on the beach and the sand tickled my feet as I walked across it. I felt very content. The warmth of the sun was like a fleecy blanket giving me a cuddle. A crab nodded 'good day' to me from a rock as I passed him. Seaweed danced gleefully in the water. What a beautiful day it was to be at the seaside!

I climbed aboard the fierce rollercoaster. As I sat in the seat, the safety bar grasped me firmly in place. An icy wind howled around us and the rollercoaster seemed to grumble loudly as it pulled away. Time flew by quickly as the rollercoaster charged around the rails and, before we knew it, we were back at the start. We got off the ride and, as we were the last ride of the day, we left the lonely roller coaster sitting sadly in silence.

Now write one or more sentences of your own which uses personification. Use the word bank or your own ideas.

Noun	Adjective	Verb
sandcastle	grumpy	smiled
wind	lively	danced
cloud	cheery	leapt

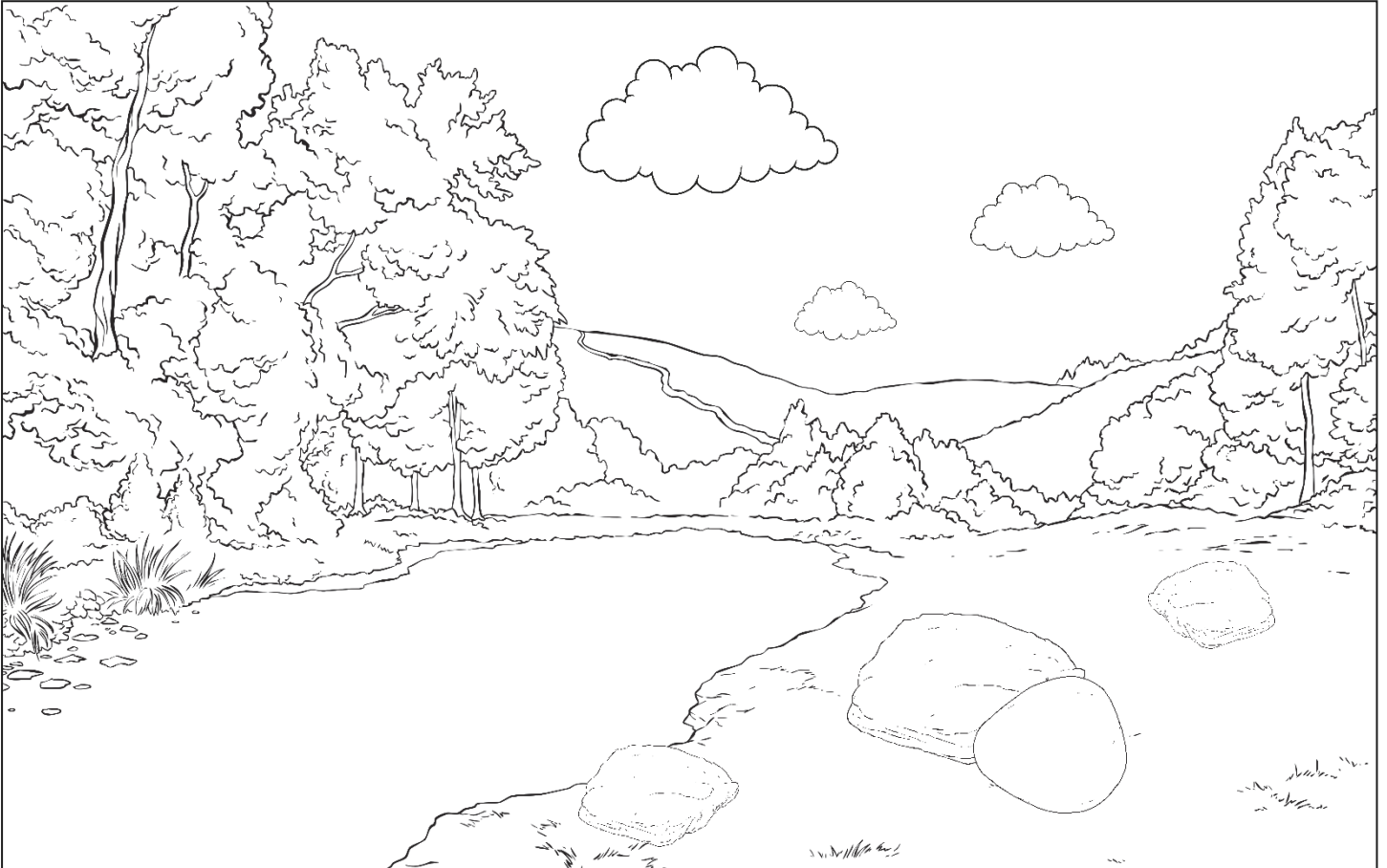
Example: The thirsty plants cried out for water.

Part B

Personification is used in Chapter 3 to describe the trees: 'The wind rushes through the clearing and the trees wag their fingers at me'.

Personification means giving human qualities to an animal or to something that is not alive. In the example above, the wind rushes like a person might do and the trees wag their fingers (their branches) like a cross person.

Write about the scene shown below, including lots of examples of personification in your writing. Use the word bank or your own ideas.



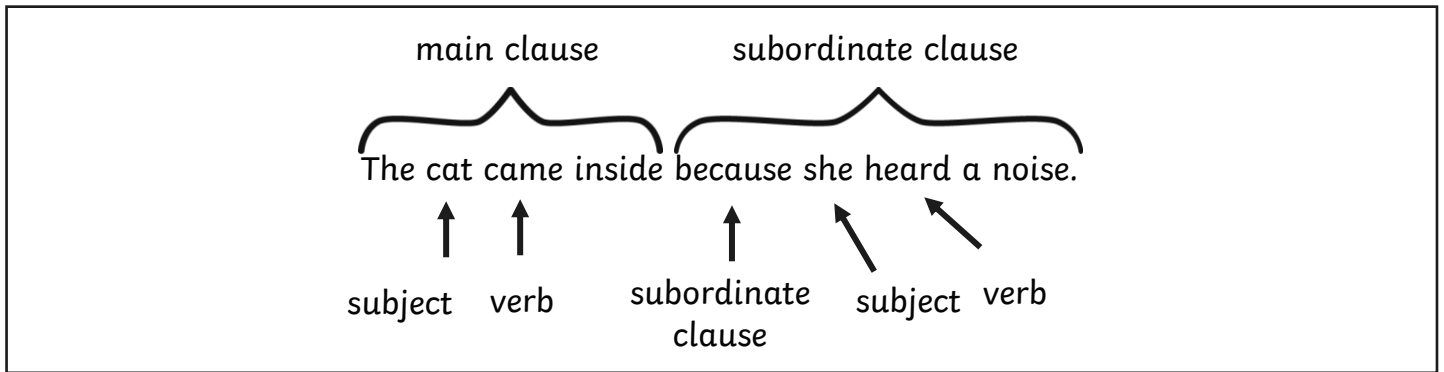
Noun	Adjective	Verb
clouds	friendly	dance
stream	careful	waltz
rocks	gentle	sleep
tree	helpful	rest
branches	kind	nod
leaves	sensible	somersault

Subordination

Part A

Subordinating conjunctions such as 'when', 'if', and 'because' can be used to join a main clause and a subordinate clause to make a complex sentence.

Remember: a clause is a group of words which contains a subject and a verb.



Select the conjunction that you think would make the most sense to join the clauses in the sentences below, and write it in the gap.

when	if	because
------	----	---------

E.g. Bee will learn to do other jobs **when** she is older.

1. Bee always complains _____ she has to pluck feathers from ducks.
2. Dad says that Bee has to pluck feathers _____ it is her job.
3. The tribe have been on the move _____ they are on their way to their summer hunting ground.
4. Dog gets excited _____ he hears Bee shout.
5. Bee thinks she would be great at hunting _____ she were allowed to do it.
6. Bent Tree sits beside the fire _____ she has made.
7. You might damage your eyes _____ you look at the sun.
8. Bee drops the lifeless duck _____ Vulture asks them to follow him.

9. The tribe performs the Ritual _____ Bent Tree tells them to.
10. The cave lion mask is very special _____ it has been passed down in the tribe since the Long Frost.
11. Glinting Fang killed a cave lion _____ it attacked her tribe.
12. The elders look like fearsome monsters _____ they freeze.
13. Dog and Bee do their own ceremony _____ they are not allowed to join in with the Ritual.

Now write your own sentences about the story, including the conjunctions listed in the box.

when

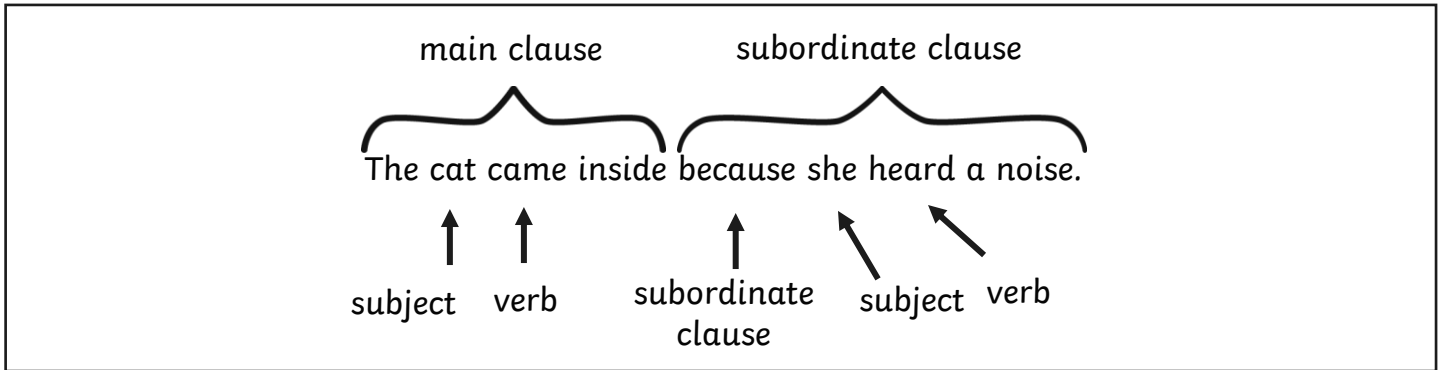
if

because

Part B

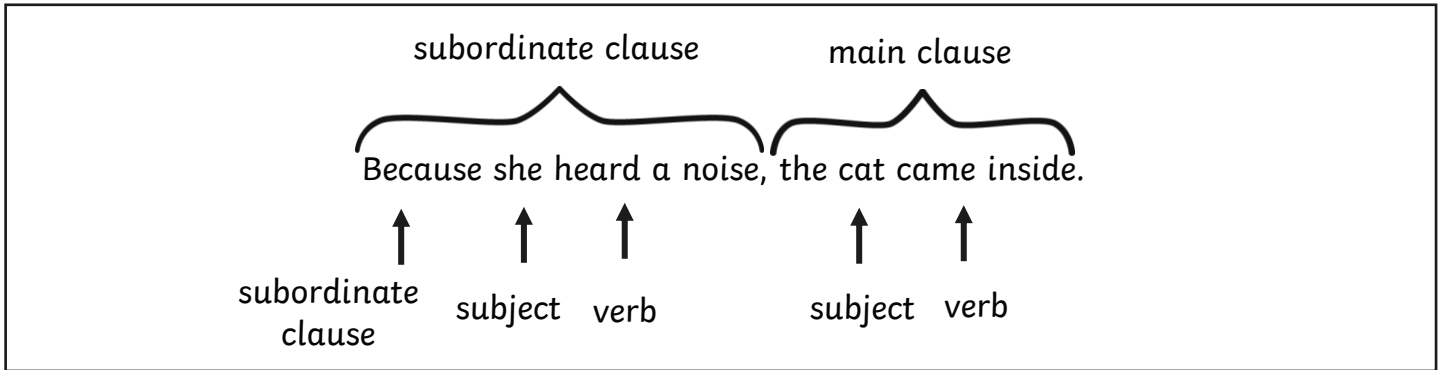
Conjunctions such as 'when', 'if' and 'because' can be used to join a main clause and a subordinate clause to make a complex sentence.

Remember a clause is a group of words which contains a subject and a verb.



Sometimes the conjunction might be placed at the start of the sentence.

When this happens, a comma is used to separate the two clauses in the sentence:



Rewrite the sentences below so that they start with the subordinating conjunction.

E.g. Bee grabs hold of Dog when Dog tries to run after a frenzied squirrel.

When Dog tries to run after a frenzied squirrel, Bee grabs hold of Dog.

1. Dad says that Dog cannot sleep in the tent because the tent is for humans.

2. Bee goes inside the tent when Dad takes Dog over to the other dogs.

3. Bee might have wanted to sleep outside with Dog if it had not been raining.

4. The tent is smelly because people break wind in there.

5. Bee listens to the rain drumming on the tent when she is lying in bed.

6. Bee tucks her toes under Dad's goatskin when Dad comes into the tent.

7. She is called Bee because she was small and fuzzy as a baby.

8. Bee plans to change her name if she grows up to be a fierce fighter.

9. Bee starts to dream when she closes her eyes.

10. Bee runs after Dog because she is desperate to keep him safe.

Challenge Task

Can you write your own sentences about the story that start with 'when', 'if' and

The Present Perfect Tense

Part A

The name of Chapter 3 is an example of a sentence in the present perfect tense: 'I have done a few things wrong.'

The present perfect tense uses the verb 'to have' + the past participle form of the main verb (usually ending in -ed or -en).

The present perfect talks about something that happened in the past but that might still be true now or affects something that happens today.


E.g. We have searched far and wide for Bee.

correct form of the verb 'to have'

past participle of the verb 'to search'

Read the following sentences. Tick the sentences that are written in the present perfect tense and put a cross next to the sentences that are not written in the present perfect tense.

If a sentence is not written in the present perfect tense, rewrite the sentence so that it is.

To have	
I have	
You have	
She has	
He has	
They have	
We have	

E.g.

Bee has lost her tribe. ✓

~~She walked for miles.~~ → She has walked for miles.

1. Dog has bolted away.

2. The tent has suffered some damage.

3. Dad looked for Bee.

4. Bee complained about plucking duck feathers.

5. Rat has learnt how to navigate.

6. Bent Tree performed many ceremonies.

7. Bee has fallen into a hole.

8. Bee felt lonely.

9. I have seen scary sights.

10. I saw a knot in a tree trunk.

11. I have plucked so many feathers.

12. Bee tried to climb out.

13. Bee jumped up at the trunk.

14. I have crawled inside a nook.

15. Dog licked Bee.

Now write your own sentence using the present perfect tense.

Part B

The name of Chapter 3 is an example of a sentence in the present perfect tense: 'I have done a few things wrong.'

The present perfect tense uses the verb 'to have' + the past participle form of the main verb (usually ending in -ed or -en).

The present perfect talks about something that happened in the past but that might still be true now or affects something that happens today.

E.g. We have searched far and wide for Bee.

correct form of the verb 'to have'

past participle of the verb 'to search'

Use the prompts below to write sentences in the present perfect tense.

E.g. Bent Tree warn → Bent Tree has warned the tribe about the Long Frost.

1. Bee worry

2. Sky Spirits watch

3. Dog sprint

4. Bee borrow

5. Eyelids droop

6. Bee bang

7. She tumble

8. The tribe hunt

9. The elders perform

10. We travel

11. Glinting Fang kill

12. My hand slip

13. Bee curl

14. The tribe reach

15. Bee see

Challenge Task

Use some of these verbs to write your own sentences using the present perfect tense: give, speak, take, eat, steal, ride.

E.g. drive → I have driven...

Think carefully about which form of the verb you should use.

Vocabulary

Part A

The word bank contains words from the chapters you have read so far in 'How to Skin a Bear'.

Work out which words fill the gaps in the sentences below and write the words in the gaps. You may find a dictionary helpful for this activity.

Cross the words out in the word bank when you have used them.

utterly	complained	survived	whines	pimple	sneaky	recognise	enormous
grazes	despite	crammed	slushy	accidentally	clamber	raise	shiver

E.g. It was so cold that I started to shiver.

1. The little boy started to _____ onto the top bunk.
2. My sister _____ that she was too cold.
3. It was _____ amazing to see my favourite pop star live in concert.
4. The ground was very _____ when the snow started to melt.
5. I thought that my cat had a _____ behind his ear but it was actually a bite.
6. The family _____ themselves into the small lift.
7. My brother fell from his bike but he escaped with only a few _____.

8. _____ the Ritual being performed, the storm still came.

9. My dog _____ when he wants to go for a walk.

10. I saw my old teacher in town but I did not _____ him at first.

There will be some words in the word bank that you have not used yet. Write one sentence for each word you have not used.

Part B

The words listed below are from the chapters you have read so far in 'How to Skin a Bear'.

Write your own definition for each word and then write a sentence to show that you understand how that word is used. You may find a dictionary helpful for this activity.

The first row has been filled in for you.

Word	Definition	Sentence
collapse	Fall down.	The den that the children had made was about to collapse.
procession		
pandemonium		
beckoning		
aurochs		
nook		
defiantly		
frenzied		
sodden		

Challenge Task

Write one sentence that includes these words from the text: tramping, moonlight, attempt.