

Year 5 Reading Revision Activity

Answers

Fiction Reading Mat

1. When Bjalki first speaks, his 'voice rumbled from behind Gudmund's shoulder'. Why do you think the writer used this verb to describe the way Bjalki speaks?
Children to refer to how the author wants to portray Bjalki as, 'strong', 'huge', 'powerful'.
2. What is an 'Ulfberth'?
An Ulberth is a type of sword.
3. How do you think Gudmund was feeling when Bjalki crept up on him? Give two reasons why you think this.
Children to give two appropriate reasons for their answer, e.g. Gudmund was surprised because he gripped his sword ready to fight and spun around quickly to see who was there.
4. Explain what you think happened when Valgard attacked Gudmund's village:
Gudmund's father fought the people who attacked their village and his father was killed.

Year 5 Reading Revision Activity

Answers

Non Fiction Reading Mat

1. Viking swords weren't just used in battle. What other use did they have?
Viking swords were used to show a person's status and wealth.
2. Vikings sometimes gave names to their swords. Find one from the text and explain why that might be a good name for a Viking sword.
'Leg-biter' due to the sword being used to cut/sever their enemies' legs (less armour around legs). Gold-hilt' due to the beautiful embellished hilts.
3. Imagine you were given a Viking sword, and you had to give it a Viking name. What would you call it? Give a reason for your answer.
Children to write appropriate answer and give reason for their choice of name.
4. Name the three parts of a Viking sword that make up the hilt:
 1. Pommel
 2. Grip
 3. Cross-guard

Year 5 Reading Revision Activity

Answers

Poetry Reading Mat

1. Who are 'they'?

'They' are the Vikings.

2. 'red rain had filled the air'

What sort of image does this create in your mind?

Children write appropriate answer referring to the 'red rain' representing blood, therefore creating an image of fighting and many being murdered.

3. Look at the verse beginning 'Hush! I hear them coming!...'

Read the lines carefully and try to visualise what is happening. Now write a few sentences below summarising what you think is happening in this verse.

Children write a few sentences to show what they think would happen next.

4. Read the third verse and think about the person narrating the poem. Why do you think he asks for forgiveness?

He asks for forgiveness because he has run away and left his friends and family alone as the Vikings search the village.

The Ulfberth

Gudmund stared at his sword. It glinted in the early dawn light and a shiver ran down his spine. Soon it would be time. He looked down at the others. The warriors looked peaceful as they lay around the camp, the sun's rays slicing their sleeping bodies between long, tree-lined shadows.

"Not long now," a voice rumbled from behind Gudmund's shoulder.

Gudmund gripped his sword and spun round. A huge warrior stood over him. He had deep, shadowed eyes, a matted beard, and wild, yellow hair. Gudmund loosened his grip, it was Bjalki, his friend and comrade. The huge man tore at a piece of meat with his teeth and sat down beside Gudmund. "Today you will have peace, my old friend," he growled, chewing at some gristle. "As Odin is my witness."

Gudmund tried to smile. "Do you know how long it has been, Bjalki?" he asked, staring at the strange markings that ran along the sword's blade. "I was just seven seasons old." A light breeze eased through Gudmund's hair and the sky darkened. "I remember Valgard attacking the village. I remember him fighting my father..." His eyes misted over and he ran his fingers over the handle of his sword. "And I remember the ship burial when my father was laid to rest."

Bjalki reached over and slapped Gudmund's shoulder with a giant hand. "Then today you will have your revenge," he smiled; his eyes wide and wild. "And if not, then you shall meet your father again in Valhalla!" The sun crept out from behind the clouds, and the blade glistened once again. "That is an Ulfberth sword," Bjalki exclaimed, the sun reflecting into his eyes.

"Indeed it is," Gudmund smiled knowingly, rising to his feet. "It was my father's, and his father's before him."

"Then Odin really is with you!" Bjalki laughed. He jumped up and began kicking at the sleeping men's feet. "Wake up!" he roared. "We are Vikings! Today we battle! Today we taste victory!"

"For Odin!" the men cheered.

"For our king!" Bjalki bellowed, raising Gudmund's arm into the air.

'For my father', Gudmund thought, as the Ulfberth glinted in the early dawn light.



1. When Bjalki first speaks, his 'voice rumbled from behind Gudmund's shoulder'. Why do you think the writer used this verb to describe the way Bjalki speaks?



2. What is an 'Ulfberth'?

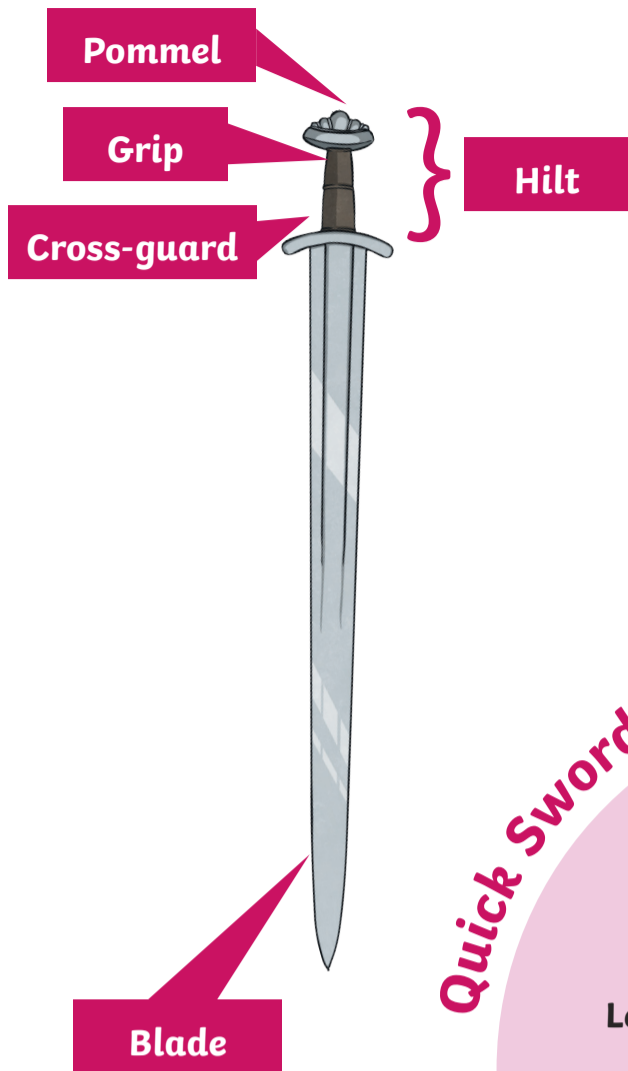


3. How do you think Gudmund was feeling when Bjalki crept up on him? Give two reasons why you think this.



4. Explain what you think happened when Valgard attacked Gudmund's village:

Viking Sword



Quick Sword Facts

Width: 4 – 6 cm
Weight: 1 – 2 kg
Length: 60 – 90 cm

Leg-Biter!

A sword might be the most expensive item that a Viking owned. They were often given names, like 'Leg-biter' and 'Gold-hilt', and passed down through the generations from father to son.

Ulfberth

The finest Viking swords came from central Europe and were made from high-quality steel. One of these was the Ulfberth, a sword of status and prestige.

Did you know?

Because they cost so much to make, not every Viking owned a sword. Spears were the most common weapon for warriors, but they were also quite fond of battle-axes!

Blades

The blade of a Viking sword was double-edged, which means it was sharp on both sides.

Viking Law

Viking law stated that all free men should own weapons. Decent weapons weren't used just for battles; they showed a person's status and wealth as well – none more so than a Viking sword!



1. Viking swords weren't just used in battle. What other use did they have?



2. Vikings sometimes gave names to their swords. Find one from the text and explain why that might be a good name for a Viking sword.



3. Imagine you were given a Viking sword, and you had to give it a Viking name. What would you call it? Give a reason for your answer.



4. Name the three parts of a Viking sword that make up the hilt:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

The Godless

I pray they did not see me,
through the flames and through the smoke
and I pray, Lord, for forgiveness
for the Godless Norsemen folk.

For they worship Thor and Odin,
and they slaughter and they kill;
they do not know of mercy,
and know nothing of God's will.

I pray you will forgive me
as I ran into this church
away from those who need me
in hope they'll stop their search.

Their swords and spears were flying;
red rain had filled the air,

they burnt down all the houses
and all the people there.

Hush! I hear them coming!
Their laughter scares me more.
As I kneel down praying to you, Lord,
they're smashing down the door.

I smell their ale and blood, Lord,
as I crouch and now I lie,
their footsteps'r edging near, Lord,
but I do not fear to die.

They've got me, Lord, it's over,
they've stabbed me – Lord, I'm broke!
Forgive them, Lord, I beg you:
the Godless, Norsemen folk.



1. Who are 'they'?



2. 'red rain had filled the air'

What sort of image does this create in your mind?



Look at the verse beginning 'Hush! I hear them coming!...'

Read the lines carefully and try to visualise what is happening. Now write a few sentences below summarising what you think is happening in this verse.



Read the third verse and think about the person narrating the poem. Why do you think he asks for forgiveness?

Reading Revision Mat Guidance

To complete each reading revision mat, you will need to read a short passage of writing; these will be taken from either a fiction text, a non-fiction text or a poem. Once you have read and understood the passage, you will have to answer seven different types of question based on what you have read.

Each of the seven areas has an accompanying canine character to hopefully remind you of the skills you need to answer that particular type of question:

Vocabulary Questions

Vocabulary Victor is there to help you work out the meaning of unknown words and phrases using context clues.

2a: Give / explain the meaning of words in context.



Retrieval Questions

Rex Retriever is there to help you to go into a text and just simply retrieve the facts and key details.

2b: Retrieve and record information / identify key details from fiction and non-fiction.



Summary Questions

Summarising Sheba is there to remind you to summarise the main point(s) or main event(s) of a paragraph or text.

2c: Summarise main ideas from more than one paragraph.



Inference Questions

Inference Iggy will help you hunt for clues in a text about how someone might be feeling or why something is happening.

2d: Make inferences from the text / explain and justify inferences with evidence from the text.



Prediction Questions

Predicting Pip tries to see the future and she will help you to work out what might happen next from clues in the text.

2e: Predict what might happen from details stated and implied.



Compare, Contrast & Comment Questions

Cassie the Commentator discusses the content of a paragraph/text and compares events and characters. Can you do the same?



2f: Identify/explain how information/narrative content is related and contributes to meaning as a whole.

2h: Make comparisons within the text.

Author Choice Questions

Arlo the Author likes to help you to spot examples of ambitious vocabulary and figurative language, and explain how these words/phrases add to the meaning of the text.



2g: Identify/explain how meaning is enhanced through choice of words and phrases.