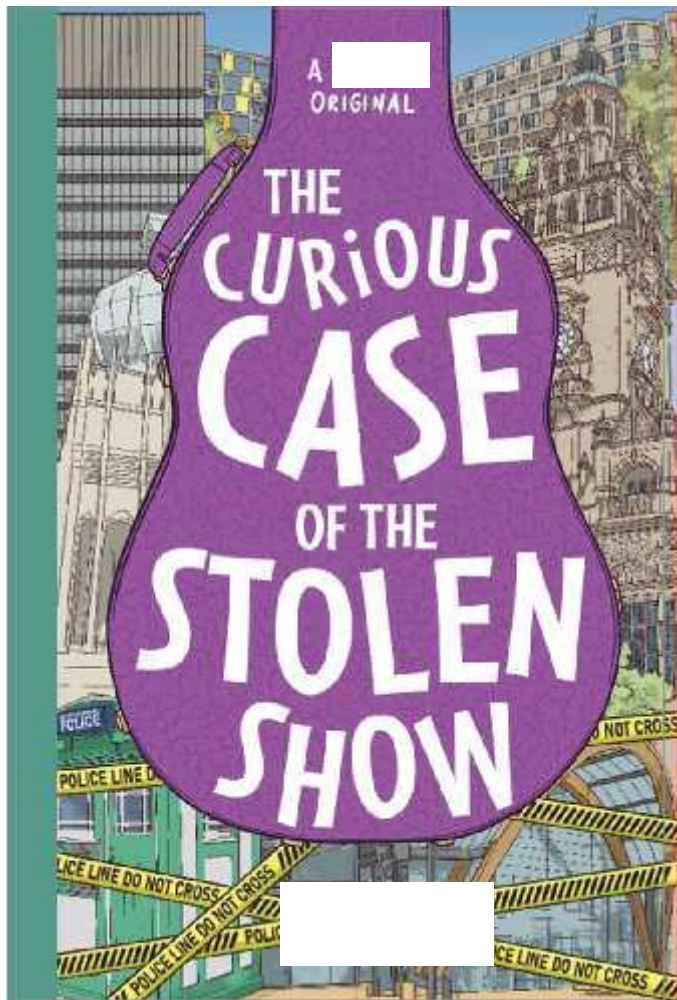


The Curious Case of the Stolen Show

Guided Reading Questions

Front Cover



What impression do you get from this front cover?

Do you think that this is a fiction or non-fiction book? Why?

Can you make any predictions about the book?

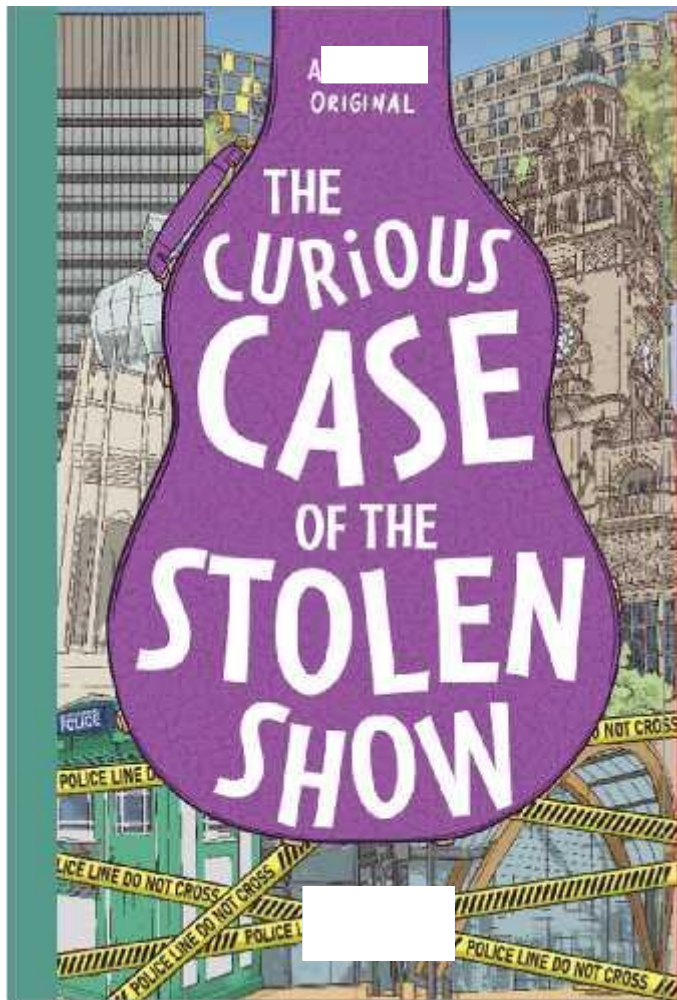
Back Cover



Read the blurb.

Does this change your predictions about the story?

During and After Reading Each Chapter



These slides are intended to be displayed while each respective chapter is being read by a group or class.

They could also be displayed before or after each chapter is read and be used with either a group or an individual reader.

Each chapter has three questions plus a 'Detective Challenge'. These are designed to:

- increase specific focus while reading and develop skills in comprehension, inference and retrieval;
- prompt discussion and analysis of the content afterwards.

Answers are provided to the main three questions, although these are suggested answers only and a range of answers or discussion points may be relevant.

Chapter One

1

What background information do we find out about Demi in this chapter?

2

What jobs do Pappy and Dada have?

3

How do we know that Demi is a big fan of Amasi?

Detective Challenge



What is your impression of the character of Demi in this first chapter?



Chapter One

1

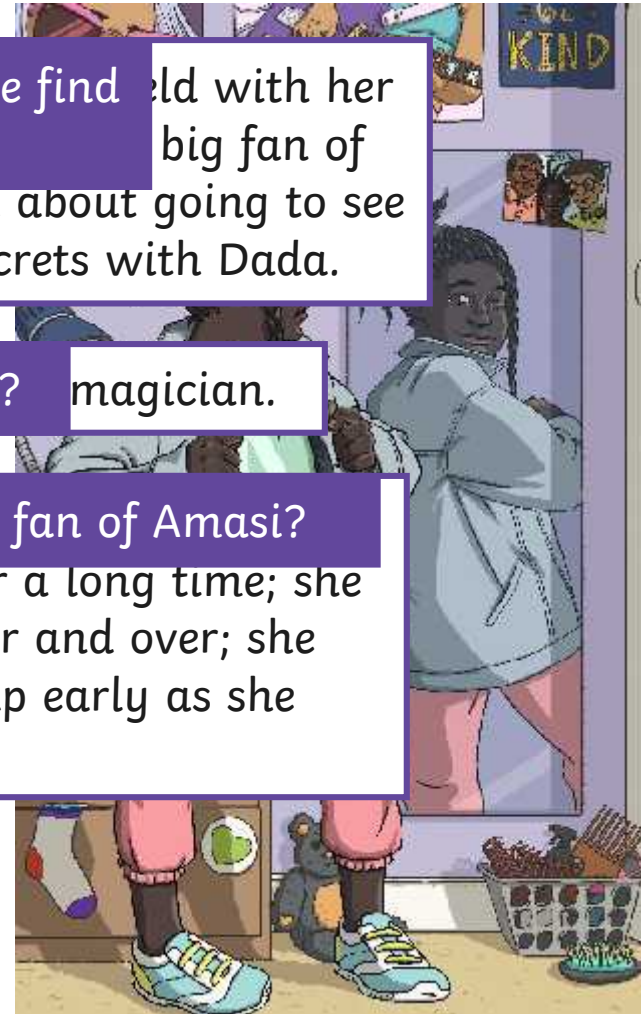
What background information do we find out about Demi in this chapter? Demi is a big fan of the singer Amasi and is very excited about going to see her; she likes watching magician secrets with Dada.

2

What jobs do Pappy and Dada have? Pappy is a magician.

3

How do we know that Demi is a big fan of Amasi? Amasi is Demi's favourite singer; she's been a fan for a long time; she watches her social media videos over and over; she knows all the song lyrics; she was up early as she was too excited to sleep.



Chapter Two

1

Why do you think the lady might have lots of sandwiches?

2

What evidence is there to suggest that Demi and Dada get along well?

3

Why doesn't Demi step on the lines between the bricks on the ground?



Detective Challenge



Were there any passengers on the tram that you thought sounded suspicious? What makes you suspect them?

Chapter Two

1 Why do you think the lady might have lots of sandwiches?

2 What evidence is there to suggest that Demi and Dada get along well?
taking her to the city centre event;
they both like magic.

3 Why doesn't Demi step on the lines between the bricks on the ground?



Chapter Three

1

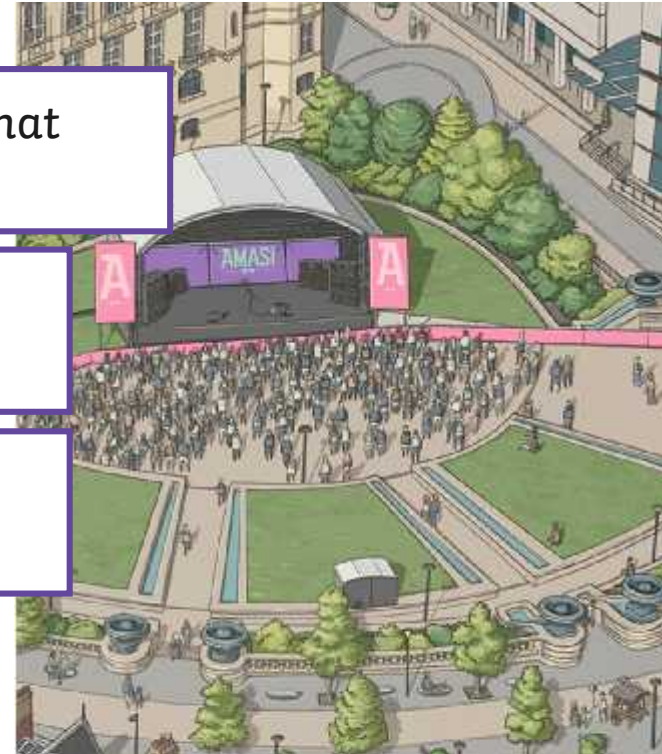
Which two streets are mentioned that border the town hall?

2

What is the reason for the protest?
Do you agree with the protesters?

3

Why is the guitar considered so special to Amasi?



Detective Challenge



Have there been any characters, events or observations in this chapter which you think may become important in the mystery plot?

Chapter Three

1

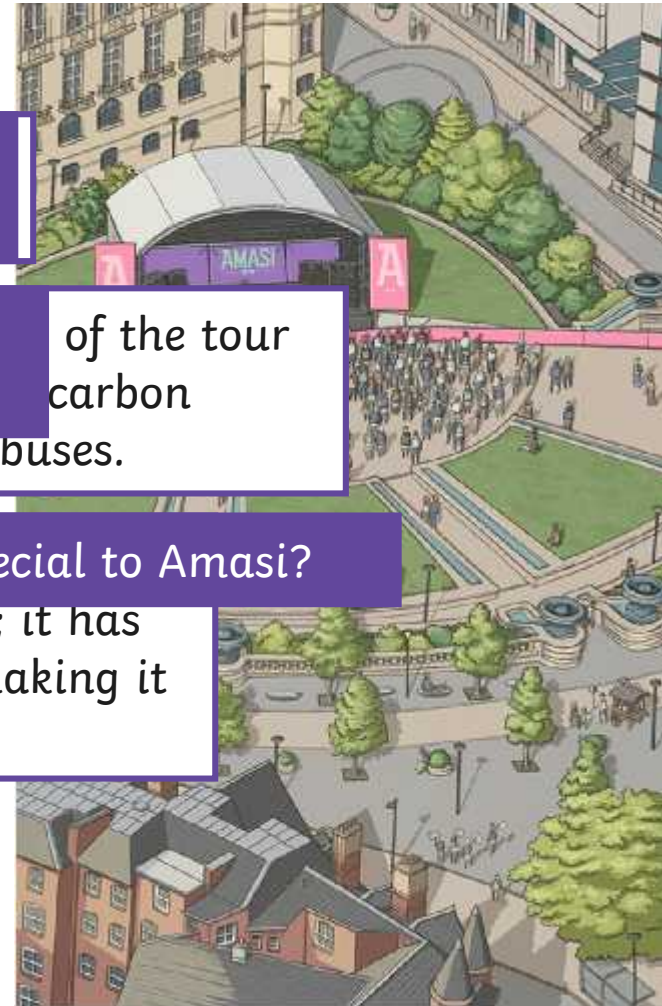
Which two streets are mentioned that border the town hall?

2

What is the reason for the protest? Do you agree with the protesters? of the tour carbon dioxide emissions from planes and buses.

3

Why is the guitar considered so special to Amasi? charm; it is tuned perfectly for her; it has been customised with diamonds, making it worth a lot of money.



Chapter Four

1

Why does Dada want Demi to come down from his shoulders?

2

What is the protester carrying?

3

What does Demi say she might find in Dada's hair?



Detective Challenge



How do you think the protest and the commotion around it might be linked with Amasi?

Chapter Four

1

Why does Dada want Demi to come down from his shoulders?

2

What is the protester carrying? cards inside.

3

What does Demi say she might find in Dada's hair?
rabbit (because he's a magician).



Chapter Five

1

According to the text, what were police boxes once used for and when?

2

'My heart quickens and thumps inside my chest ... I can't keep still. I dance from toe to toe and cling on to Dada's sleeve.'

What do these sentences tell you about how Demi feels?

3

What items are prepared on stage before Amasi's arrival?

Detective Challenge



Why do you think the police box might be used as a temporary holding cell for the protester?



Chapter Five

1

According to the text, what were police boxes once used for and when? arily
locking up a suspect until they were transported away. This was before police cars were common or mobile phones were invented.

2

'My heart quickens and thumps inside my chest ... I can't keep still. I dance from toe to toe and cling on to Dada's sleeve.'
What do these sentences tell you about how Demi feels?

3

What items are prepared on stage before Amasi's arrival? a
se.



Chapter Six

1

'There's an electric kind of buzz flickering through the crowd, now.'

How does this description show that the crowd are excited?

2

Find a phrase or sentence in this chapter which shows how much Demi idolises Amasi.

3

What two things are inside the guitar case?



Detective Challenge



Who do you think could have left the note and why?

Chapter Six

1

'There's an electric kind of buzz flickering through the crowd, now.'

How does this description show that the crowd are excited?

(conducted) from person to person.

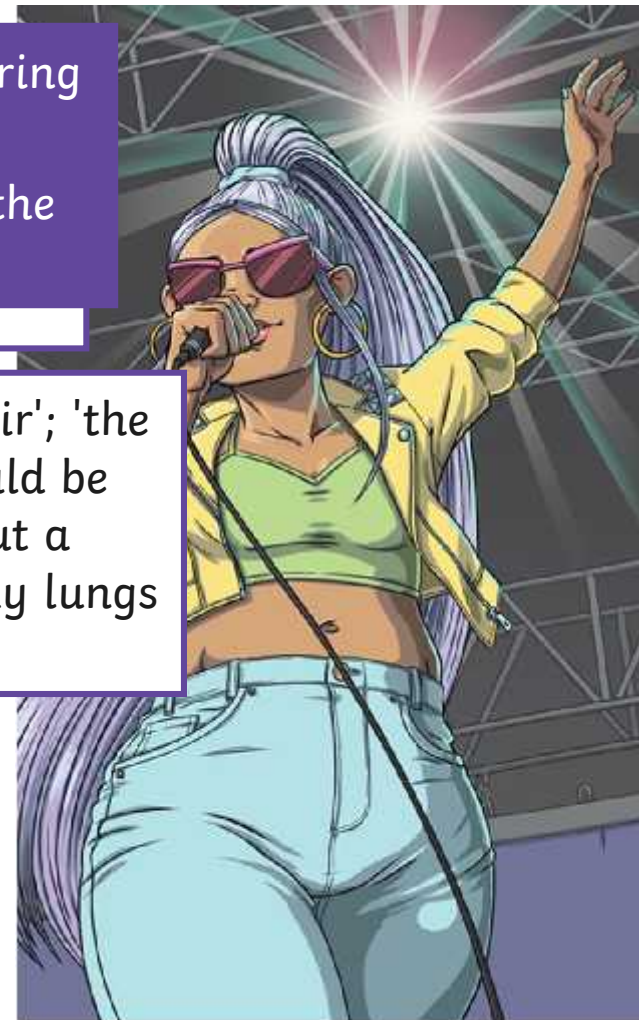
2

Find a phrase or sentence in this chapter which shows how much Demi idolises Amasi.

'happy squeal'; 'I scream as loud as my lungs will allow me'; 'I feel upset for her'.

3

What two things are inside the guitar case?



Chapter Seven

1

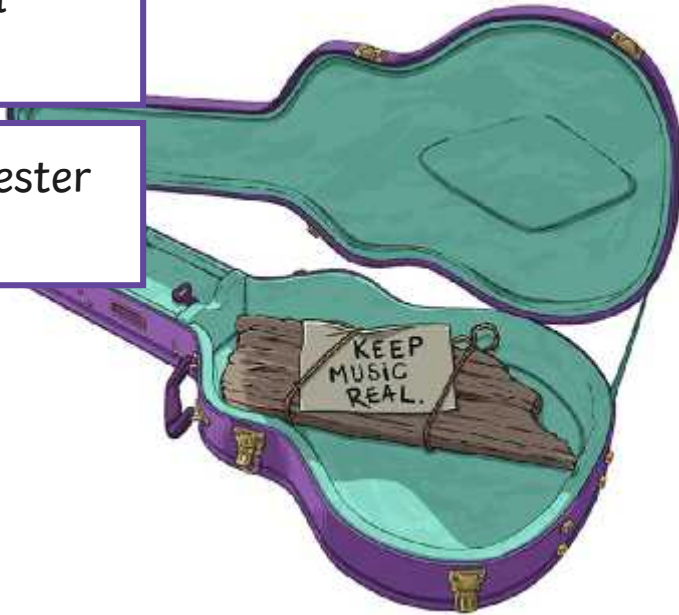
Where does Demi want to head to in order to explore and investigate?

2

What prompts Demi to link the protester to the crime of the missing guitar?

3

Who are the two named police officers and what do they do after attending the green police box?



Detective Challenge



Do you think the protester could have escaped from the police box? If so, how might he have done it?

Chapter Seven

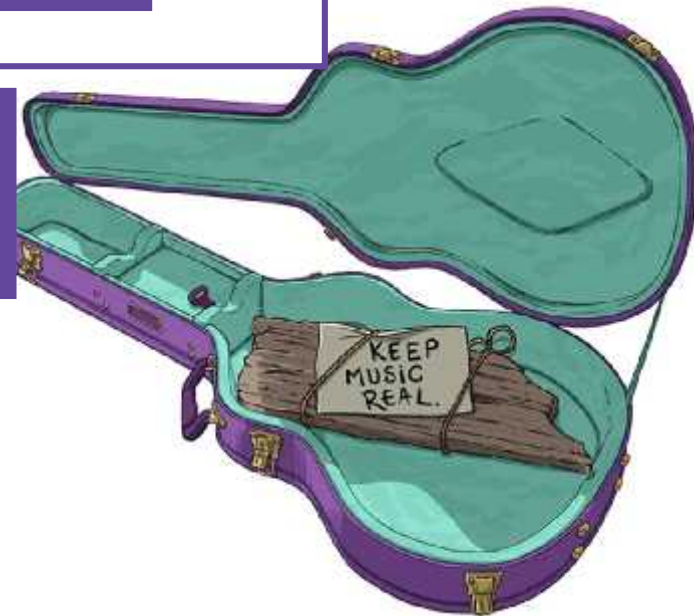
1 Where does Demi want to head to in order to explore and investigate?

Near the stage or the tour bus.

2 What prompts Demi to link the protester to the crime of the missing guitar?
the protester saying.

Keep
rheard

3 Who are the two named police officers and what do they do after attending the green police box?
sergeant and then goes to search the surrounding streets.



Chapter Eight

1

What do the two police officers left behind think of what has happened?

2

What do you think Dada means by the phrase, 'you don't miss a trick'?

3

Where does Demi go while Dada is in the newsagents?



Detective Challenge



What do you think Demi might find inside the police box in the next chapter?

Chapter Eight

1

What do the two police officers left behind think of what has happened?

couldn't have taken the guitar while locked in the box in handcuffs; that the protester looked smug as he came out of the box.

2

Where does Demi go while Dada is in the newsagents? 2. What do you think Dada means by the phrase, 'you don't miss a trick'?

3

Where does Demi go while Dada is in the newsagents?



Chapter Nine

1

What things does Demi see inside the green police box?

2

What happens to the door when Demi leaves the box?

3

Which lock does one of the keys fit?



Detective Challenge



What do you think the other key could be for?

Chapter Nine

1

What things does Demi see inside the green police box? What does she see outside the box? What does she see on the wall? What does she see on the floor? What does she see on the table? What does she see on the window? What does she see on the door? What does she see on the wall? What does she see on the floor? What does she see on the table? What does she see on the window? What does she see on the door?

2

What happens to the door when Demi leaves the box?

3

Which lock does one of the keys fit? What does she see outside of the green police box.



Chapter Ten

1

Why does Demi not notice the phone calls from her dad?

2

Who does she bump into when she starts walking and why are they there?

3

What does Demi learn about the roadblock which diverted the tour bus?



Detective Challenge



Why do you think the roadblock and diversion could be linked to the guitar theft?

Chapter Eleven

1

How does Celeste react as Demi is leaving?
What does this tell you about Celeste?

2

What does Demi spot in her own photos on her phone and what does this make her suspect?

3

What does she hear when she watches back her video?



Detective Challenge



Who do you now think took the guitar and how did they do it?

Chapter Eleven

1

How does Celeste react as Demi is leaving? What does this tell you about Celeste?

suggests that

2

What does Demi spot in her own photos on her phone and what does this make her suspect?

Comparing Demi person.

3

What does she hear when she watches back her video?



Chapter Twelve

1

What evidence does Demi think links the busker and the protester? What differences are there between them?

2

Who is seen near to the tour bus?

3

How does Dada distract the security steward?



Detective Challenge



What new information does Demi learn in this chapter?
Does this change your theory about what has happened?

Chapter Twelve

1

What evidence does Demi think links the busker and the protester? What differences are there between them? The busker has his own guitar; the protester has a bag with placards.

2

Who is seen near to the tour bus? Other members of the crew. An event steward is also near the barrier.

3

How does Dada distract the security steward?



Chapter Thirteen

1

What does the timestamp on the video suggest?

2

Why do you think Demi describes the feeling as 'like climbing the ladder on a board game only to slither back down a snake. Or like a jigsaw with important pieces missing'?

3

What does Dada mean when he describes his theory of a 'switcheroo'?



Detective Challenge



Do you agree with Demi's theory about how the protester left the police box?

Chapter Thirteen

1

What does the timestamp on the video suggest about the protester's location? The protester is standing near the ice box.

2

Why do you think Demi describes the feeling as 'like climbing the ladder on a board game only to slither back down a snake. Or like a jigsaw with important pieces missing'?

3

What does Dada mean when he describes his theory of a 'switcheroo'? Amasi's valuable guitar from its proper case into the old, battered case, leaving the empty one to be carried on stage.



Chapter Fourteen

1

What do Dada and Demi believe the small key was for?

2

How does Demi's experience with the door of the green police box link to her theory of the protester's 'trick'?

3

How do Celeste's sisters photos help Demi to explain and support her theory?



Detective Challenge



Where do you think Demi might recognise the man from?

Chapter Fourteen

1

What do Dada and Demi believe the small key was for?

2

How does Demi's experience with the door of the green police box link to her theory of the protester's 'trick'?
This could be the same as when she was looking at the open door but couldn't actually see the protester going into the box.

3

How do Celeste's sisters photos help Demi to explain and support her theory?
The photos show the busker had gone but left his guitar case behind - possibly when joining the protest if he and the protester are the same person. The third photo helps Demi to recognise who she thinks the man actually is.



Chapter Fifteen

1

Why do Dada and Demi not get a taxi or speak to Pappy by phone?

2

Where do they discover the old guitar case belonging to the busker?

3

How does Pappy react when Demi tells him about her theory? What does this show about his feelings regarding her investigating?



Detective Challenge



Do you have any new theories as to what will happen next? Are there any flaws in Demi's theory?

Chapter Fifteen

1

Why do Dada and Demi not get a phone to get a taxi or speak to Pappy by phone to get a tram due to the busy city centre traffic.

2

Where do they discover the old guitar case belonging to the busker?

3

How does Pappy react when Demi tells him about her theory? What does this show about his feelings regarding her investigating? Pappy is pleased that Demi has been investigating.



Chapter Sixteen

1

Why does it saying Demi made 'little air quotes' around the word 'checked'?

2

What is meant by the word 'preposterous'?

3

Where does Pappy say the bag containing the guitar would be now?



Detective Challenge



Why do you think Pappy is hesitant to believe the accusations?

Chapter Sixteen

1

Why does it saying Demi made 'little air quotes' around the word 'checked'?
believe the bag was checked properly.

2

What is meant by the word 'preposterous'?
absurd; it doesn't make logical sense.

3

Where does Pappy say the bag containing the guitar would be now?
ing



Chapter Seventeen

1

What examples of PC Mullins' expressions or body language can you find that suggest something about how she feels?

2

What link is revealed between PC Mullins and the protester/busker?

3

What is discovered in the bag?



Detective Challenge



Now that Demi's theory is proved wrong about Amasi's guitar being in the bag, what do you think is the solution to the mystery?

Chapter Seventeen

1

What examples of PC Mullins' expressions or body language can you find that suggest something about how she feels?

s
wards,

2

What link is revealed between PC Mullins and the protester/busker?

ort

3

What is discovered in the bag? not Amasi's missing one.



Chapter Eighteen

1

How is Demi feeling at the start of this chapter? What evidence supports your answer?

2

What does she notice about the police car being driven by PC Mullins?

3

Who does Demi say that the suspect actually is and how did she recognise him?



Detective Challenge



How are all the final elements of the mystery explained? Did you guess any of them correctly?

Chapter Eighteen

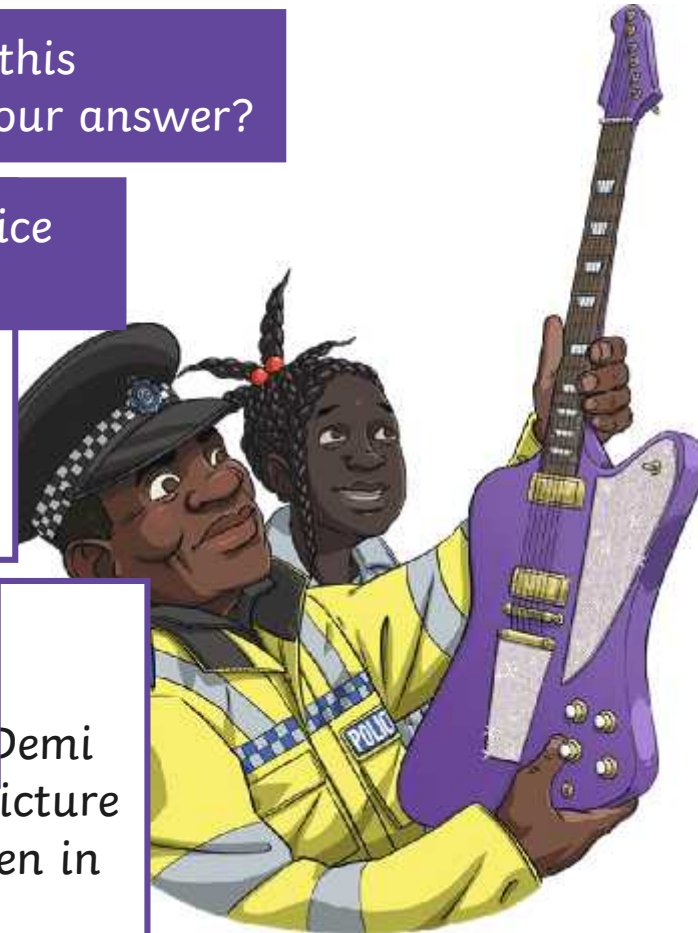
1 How is Demi feeling at the start of this chapter? What evidence supports your answer?

2 What does she notice about the police car being driven by PC Mullins?

back past the station towards the city centre. This is not the direction it was expected to head if taking the suspect home.

3 Who does Demi say that the suspect actually is and how did she recognise him?

Demi recognised him when she saw his picture because she was a fan of Amasi, even in those early days when most people hadn't heard of her.



Chapter Nineteen

1

What is Demi's reaction to seeing Amasi backstage?

2

What does Demi say she wants to be when she's older now?

3

Which passenger from the tram do we get one final mention of inside the concert?



Detective Challenge



Why do you think the writer has chosen to write this final chapter in the past tense? What effect does this have on the story?

Chapter Nineteen

1

What is Demi's reaction to seeing Amasi backstage? Her legs nearly give way. She thinks Amasi looks so normal and regular but still mesmerising.

2

What does Demi say she wants to be when she's older now? performer who sings and does some magic, but now has decided she wants to be both!

3

Which passenger from the tram do we get one final mention of inside the concert?

