

Reading VIPERS

Vocabulary Make sure what you are reading makes sense...

- What does the word ___ mean?
- Which word(s) tells you about...
character setting mood
- Which words give you clues about...
character setting mood
- Find the word in the texts that mean...

Use the clues in the text...

infer

- Find and copy words that show that...
- How do these words/part of the text make you feel?
- How do the descriptions of ___ show that they are...?
- How can you tell that...?
- What voice might the character use?
- What was ___ thinking when...?
- Who is telling the story?
- Why has ___ happened?
- How does ___ feel?

Who? What? When? Where? Why? How?

Predict

What will happen? You have to use the text to support you...

- From the cover, what will the text be about?
- What is happening now? What happened before? What will happen after?
- What does this part of the text suggest will happen next?
- Do you think the setting will make certain things happen in the story?
- Do you think ___ will happen? Yes? No? Maybe? Explain your answer using evidence from the text.

Think about the text...

Explain

- What's similar and different?
- What changes from the beginning to the end of the text?
- Why did the author use the word or phrase...?
- Why has the text been arranged like this?
- Why was this feature ___ used?
- Which words and phrases were the most effective? Why?
- Find the parts of the text that show how the mood of the character changes throughout the text...

The answer is always in the text... find it...copy it!

RETRIEVE

- How would you describe the story/text?
- What genre is the text? How do you know?
- How did...? How often...? How ___ is...?
- Who had...? Who did...? Who is...?
- What happened to/when...?
- What does ___ do?
- What can you learn from ___ in this section?
- Give one example of ___

What happened in the text? (in order)

Sequence

- Can you number the events from 1-5 to show the order they happened in the story?
- What happened after ___?
- What was the first thing that happened in the story?
- Can you summarise in a sentence: the opening/middle/end?
- In what order do these chapters/headings come in the story?

The Twits by Roald Dahl

Chapters 11, 12, 13 & 14: Mrs Twit goes ballooning up, Mrs Twit goes ballooning down, Mr Twit gets a horrid shock, The house, the tree and the monkey cage.

Vocabulary check: Match the vocabulary from the text to its meaning (definition) and other words which could be used instead (synonyms)..

Vocabulary	Definition <i>What it means</i>	Synonyms <i>Other words that mean the same</i>
ghoulish grin	a light, fabric skirt worn under a dress	split, cracked, opened up
petticoats	Look quickly through a small gap	cruel smile, monstrous grin
gaped	a horrible smile that means you are happy something bad is happening	furtively, snatching a look, glimpse
peeping	wide open	undergarment, slip, underskirt

In these chapters you will also spot some unusual words – like 'grunion' and 'swazzle'. These are nonsense words created by Roald Dahl – he is well known for doing this in his stories. Make a list of the nonsense words as you spot them:

VIPERS book talk questions:

Mrs Twit goes ballooning up, Mrs Twit goes ballooning down

- 1.What did Mr Twit do to Mrs Twit which sent her up into the sky? VIPERS
- 2.How do we know that Mrs Twit was scared when she went into the sky? VIPERS
- 3.Why did Mr Twit send Mrs Twit up? VIPERS
- 4.What did Mrs Twit do to get herself down? VIPERS
- 5.How many strings did Mrs Twit bite through, to make herself still in the air? VIPERS

Mr Twit gets a horrid shock

1. How do you think Mr Twit feels when he spots Mrs Twit floating back down? Why? VIPERS
2. What names does Mrs Twit call Mr Twit? What types of names are they? Why has she chosen to use them? VIPERS
3. How does Roald Dahl let us know that Mr Twit is worried about Mrs Twit returning? VIPERS
4. List all of the words and phrases which let you know Mrs Twit is furious with Mrs Twit. VIPERS



Challenge VIPERS

The house, the tree and the monkey cage

“ Here is a picture of Mr and Mrs Twit’s house and garden. Some house! It looks like a prison. And not a window anywhere.

“Who wants windows?” Mr Twit had said when they were building it. “Who wants every Tom, Dick and Harry peeping in to see what you’re doing?” It didn’t occur to Mr Twit that windows were meant mainly for looking out of, not for looking into.

And what do you think of that ghastly garden? Mrs Twit was the gardener. She was very good at growing thistles and stinging-nettles. “I always grow plenty of spiky thistles and plenty of stinging-nettles,” she used to say. “They keep out nasty nose little children.”

Near the house you can see Mr Twit’s workshed.

To one side there is The Big Dead Tree. It never has any leaves on it because it’s dead.

1. Identify the reasons Mr and Mrs Twit give for their decisions to keep the house and garden the way that they are.
2. Underline use of adjectives, alliteration and simile to describe the house and garden.
3. In amongst all the dead and horrible plants in the garden, there is a monkey cage with 4 monkeys in it. What do you think is the reason the Twits have this cage and the monkeys? How do you think The Twits treat their monkeys? What helped you to decide?
4. Design your own garden for The Twits (think back to the types of characters they are and their likes and dislikes), then create a paragraph to describe it, similar to the way Roald Dahl has described their garden in the book. You need to include:
 - The features of the garden.
 - Adjectives or simile for the feature.
 - The reason it is there.