

Year 6 Reading Text LTP & Rationale.

Text - Who Let The Gods Out by Maz Evans Term - Autumn 1

Transition Period:

Swap-over morning:

Chapter 1 - Lying Low & Chapter 2 - Home is Where The Farm Is.

Week 1 - 3 days:

Chapter 3 - A Star Is Born.

Chapter 4 - Mum's the word.

Chapter 5 - Strangers in the Night.

These chapters can be used either to immerse children in the text and promote discussion around the characters - or they can provide the basis of more focused comprehension tasks.

Week 2:

RIC: Chapter 4 - Mum's the Word/ Chapter 5 - Strangers in the Night.

VIPERS - retrieval practice and the development of inference skills.

Writer's viewpoint - why did the author choose to create this kind of illness for mum?

Structure of texts - why does the author give so much detail about Elliot's school and home life?

Reading at 3/Homework: Chapters 6 to 9.

Non-fiction linked texts - suggestions:

*Explanation of dementia;

*Website for young carers;

*Newspaper articles about young carers.

Week 3:

RIC: Chapter 6 - The Swimming Lesson/ Chapter 7 - Prisoner Forty-Who?/ Chapter 9 Bad Council.

VIPERS - retrieval practice and the further development of inference skills/ explanation - techniques employed by the writer to create tension.

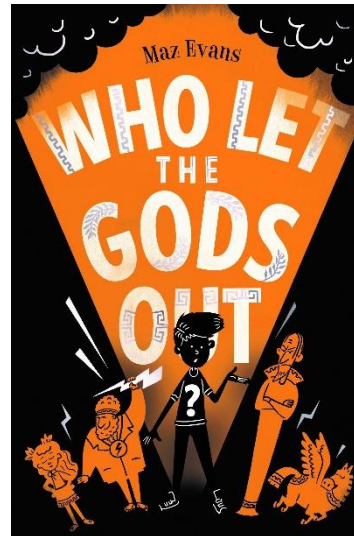
Writer's viewpoint - what is the writer trying to say through how he describes the Zodiac council?

Reading at 3/Homework: Chapters 10 to 13.

Non-fiction linked texts:

*Articles or discussions on air/ water pollution (NB: Virgo is disgusted by the state in which she perceives Earth to be in).

*Tourist information re Stonehenge.



Week 4:

RIC: Chapter 10 - Plain Sailing/Chapter 11 - A trip Down Memory Flame/ Chapter 13 - For Better or Worse.

VIPERS- writer's use of vocabulary.

Writer's Viewpoint/ structure: consider the techniques used to introduce us to each of the Greek Gods - and to build an understanding of the relationships between them. Why do we see the Gods in the contexts we do (e.g. shopping centre/ wedding)?

Reading at 3/Homework: Chapters 14 to 17

Non-fiction linked texts:

*Explanation texts/poetry - mythical creatures/ characters ,e.g. Charon, Cyclops, Centaur, Cerberus.

*Newspaper article - objection to building developments on greenbelt land (local context of East Leake).

Week 5:

RIC: Chapter 14-Myths & Legends/Chapter 17 - Family Matters.

VIPERS - explain & summarise focus.

Writer's Viewpoint/ structure: what do the Chaos Stones represent in the story?

Reading at 3/Homework: Chapters 18 to 21

Non-fiction linked texts:

*Ancient Greeks - prophecy & the Oracle.

*Extracts from a biography of a person on Times Rich List (link to Hypnos) - choose based on them showing values to be promoted under intent.

Week 6:

RIC: Chapter 18 - An Old Fiend/Chapter 20 - The Perfect Parents/ Chapter 21 - On The Look-Out

VIPERS - variety of foci (dependent on progress so far in the unit)

Writer's Viewpoint/ structure:

Reading at 3/Homework: Chapters 22 to 25.

Non-fiction linked texts:

*Explanation - reincarnation (potential link to beliefs of Buddhism)/building of the Tower of London.

*Biography - Emperor Nero/ Genghis Khan/ Napoleon.

*Recount - State Opening of Parliament.

Week 7:

This week, the Year 6 children are away on residential.

The remainder of the text will be used for evening reading so that the story can be completed (Chapters 26 to 29).

Year 6 Reading Text LTP & Rationale.

Text - Who Let The Gods Out by Maz Evans Term - Autumn 1

Rationale/ link to curriculum:

This is a humorous, appropriately accessible text (for the first half term of Year 6) that has been chosen to engage the children with their study of ancient Greece and its myths & legends: the children will meet the Greek gods and various mythical creatures in the context of the modern world with which they are familiar, e.g. Hermes who is addicted to social media and loves coffee house culture and Aphrodite who runs a dating agency. This allows them to understand the character and roles of the Gods that they will learn about during the history topic.

Links to intent:

Being a global citizen requires people to take social responsibility; the Gods need to come out of retirement to protect the mortal world and, through the character of Mrs Porshley-Plum, the story explores how sometimes personal aspiration is at the expense of the well-being of others.

Ambition is explored through the character of Virgo - who is not content with her normal responsibilities and instead opts to take on a more demanding role.

Keeping ourselves safe: in this story, Elliott puts himself in danger through his need to keep a secret (about his mother's health) but learns that he needs help if he and his mum are to be safe. The book can be used to explore why some secrets should not be kept.

Equality: this concept (linked to diversity) is explored in how immortals and mortals are considered and viewed differently. Both immortals and mortals come to realise that both ways of life have value.

Links to PSHE/CARE:

Issues relating to young carers: Elliot, the main character, is taking care alone of his mother who is suffering with dementia. He is very isolated at the start of the story and learns through his encounter with Virgo that some problems are just too large to handle alone.

The writer's choice of dementia as mum's illness supports the need to focus on mental health as part of the well-being curriculum.

Key Vocabulary:

ambrosia	Refers to the food of the Gods in Greek mythology. In modern terms, it is something that is delicious to smell or taste.
academic	Relates to school or other areas of learning. An academic is a person who studies/ teaches as a career.
adversaries	Person/ group who opposes or attacks another.
constellation	A grouping of stars/ ideas/ feelings or objects (that are clearly related).
crescendo	A steady increase in force or intensity - often related to noise.
delusional	A strong belief in something that is false or unrealistic.
desolate	Barren wasteland/ solitary or lonely place.
diplomacy	Skill in managing negotiations so that no-one is upset.
hooligan	Someone who does not follow rules/ may refer to damaging property or attacking others.
Immortal/ mortal	Immortal - will live forever. Mortal - belonging to this world/ able to die.
insomnia	Being unable to achieve sufficient sleep.
massacre	The unnecessary killing of large numbers of animals/ people.
mythology	Set of stories, traditions or beliefs associated with history.
obliterated	Remove or destroy all traces of something.
oracle	A communication of the gods/ a person who gives wise or highly-respected communication.
pneumonia	Significant illness - inflammation of the lungs.
psychotic	Suffering from mental instability (losing touch with reality as others see it).
reincarnation	The belief that the soul, upon death, comes back to the Earth in a different form.
repossession	To take back, e.g. to take back property where a debt has not been paid.
semaphore	Communication by visual signals (e.g. by changing position of lights or flags).
stupor	Unaware of what is happening around.
styx	River running through the Underworld (Greek mythology).