

Year 3 Reading Comprehension Autumn

- Find evidence in the text to support answers
- Use context to work out meaning of words
- Understand motivation, cause and effect
- Discuss events as a whole

Week 1

Read the text below and answer the questions carefully. Remember to look back at the text for the answer and write full answers



CHAPTER 2

That was anywhere.....apart from the room under the house – the cellar! The doorway into this room had a metal chain secured around it and five extensive locks: two at the top, two at the bottom and one in the middle to secure the chain. Old Rufus always wore the five keys on a rusty chain around his left ankle and wouldn't let anyone, but himself, into the room. Every evening without fail, he would spend one hour in this room. The noises that came from under this door would **intrigue** even the least nosy of humans.

When Kasper searched the house for somewhere comfortable and free of dust to sleep, he often sat in front of the locked door staring up at it, checking every centimetre of the flat white surface, trying to imagine a way in. He had to keep a careful look out for Old Rufus though, as he had been warned many times not to go anywhere near the door. But Kasper believed he was a brave, curious and naughty feline who liked dangerous adventures!

So one wintry evening, Kasper lay by the roaring open fire beside his owner's feet, pretending to be fast asleep. He had devised a cunning plan to get into the secret cellar. Rather than relying on his poor memory or paper to showcase his ingenious idea - he drew a clever map of his plan on his left paw.

Old Rufus rose from his chair at the usual time of twenty past seven, bent to his feet and untied the key chain; walking slowly to the locked door at the back of the house next to the rickety fridge.

As soon as Old Rufus was out of sight, Kasper opened one of his eyes to check that the old man had left the room. As spritely as a hefty cat could: he jumped from the floor to the chair, onwards to the ancient chandelier and then the wooden plinth above the door that led to the kitchen where Old Rufus was halfway through unlocking the five different locks. Kasper stood there still, flat against the wall so that he wouldn't be spotted. The plinth displayed Old Rufus' ghostly plate and teapot collection from the four corners of the world.

As the final lock snapped open, Old Rufus tugged at the stubborn door. It creaked open slowly allowing the light from the kitchen to penetrate the black abyss of the cellar, casting a long shadow of Rufus down the stone stairway. Three seconds to wait....2 seconds..... and just at the right moment as Rufus stepped into the blackness, Kasper nudged the favoured teapot from Sri Lanka with his wet sniffy nose. The teapot rocked backwards and forwards on the plinth until it could rock no more; tipping silently over the edge where gravity took control pulling the teapot to the solid oak floor below. Energetically Kasper pounced from the plinth to the kitchen worktop behind the toaster and crouched low, watching the teapot fall to its resting place with an almighty smash!

The sound echoed in Rufus' ears and he turned his head, stepping backwards out of the dark stairwell. He ran with thunderous strides to the shattered pieces of his teapot and fell to his knees – a sad sobbing noise emitting from his chest. Simultaneously, Kasper took the opportunity to jump silently to the floor and crept slowly into the darkness.

Old Rufus stared at the pieces of broken teapot, picking up the largest section tears rolling down his weathered face, memories of his time in Sri Lanka flooding back.

1 In the first line the author uses a Can you explain why?

2 The cellar door was very secure. Do you agree? How do you know?

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3 What does the word **intrigue** mean?

4 What was the inside of Old Rufus' house described like? Tick 2

dirty		dust		clean	
tired		tidy		sparkly	

5 What did Kasper use his paw for?

6 Describe Kasper's plan or movements to get into the cellar?

7 What words describe the cellar as the door opened?

8 What did Old Rufus like to collect when on his travels?

boats		plates		sparkly		bottles	
-------	--	--------	--	---------	--	---------	--

9 Why did Kasper make the teapot smash onto the kitchen floor?

10 How did Kasper react when he saw the teapot on the floor? Why do you think he felt this way?

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Week 2

Read Chapter 3 p13-16 and answer the questions carefully. Remember to look back at the text for the answer and write full answers



1 How was Kasper feeling as he moved down the stairs into the cellar?

2 Which words best describe Kasper's character? Tick 2

scared		selfish		mean	
brave		thoughtless		kind	

3 What lit up the cellar?

4 What wonderful surprise greeted Kasper in the cellar?

5 What appeared from the floor of the cellar?

6 How large was the hole in the cellar floor? As large as a....

boat		house		mouse		elephant	
------	--	-------	--	-------	--	----------	--

7 Why do you think Old Rufus' eyes were closed as he sat on the floor?

8 What do you think the strange object was that rose out of the floor in front of Rufus? Explain your answer fully.

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Week 3

Read Chapter 4 p17-21 and answer the questions carefully. Remember to look back at the text for the answer and write full answers



1 Why was Kasper reluctant to speak to his master?

2 What word on p17 tells you how Rufus' feelings towards Kasper changes?

3 Imagine you are Old Rufus, explain how the magical puzzle piece came to be in your possession.

4 Why is this puzzle piece so important to the whole universe?

5 (p19) What does 'the cogs in Kasper's brain were turning very fast' mean?

6 What words tell you that Rufus is an old man?

7 Was Kasper pleased about the contents of the cellar?

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Week 4

Read Chapter 5 p22-30 and answer the questions carefully. Remember to look back at the text for the answer and write full answers



1 Who else lived in Dexter's house?

2 What did Dexter do when he sat on the stairs?

3 What word does the author use to describe the parents in the house?

oldies		naggers		crumbles		feedies	
--------	--	---------	--	----------	--	---------	--

4 What did Dexter and Dood hide from the other people in the house?

5 How did Dexter and Dood first meet? Join the boxes so that the sentences make sense.

Mum asked Dad
Mum ran with Dexter
Mum decided to
Dad was watching

top Gear.
around the woods.
how she looked in her dress.
start running.

6 How did Dexter cleverly stop the morning walk?

7 What words were 'music to Dexter's ears'?

8 What did Dood and Dexter do with most of their time?

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Week 5

Read Chapter 6 p31-35 and answer the questions carefully. Remember to look back at the text for the answer and write full answers



1 Why did Kasper think that Old Rufus was foolish for not using the jigsaw piece in a different way?

2 (p31) What does the word **opportunist** mean?

3 What had Rufus replaced the five locks with?

4 Why had Kasper spent most of his time in the garden recently?

5 Describe what Kasper's plan was....

6 How long did the tunnel take to make and who dug it for him?

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Week 6

Read Chapter 7 p36-40 and answer the questions carefully. Remember to look back at the text for the answer and write full answers



1 What was Kasper waiting for that morning?

2 (p36) What does the word **skulked** mean?

3 What was the tunnel entrance, the hole, covered with?

bucket		wood		brick		plant pot	
--------	--	------	--	-------	--	-----------	--

4 Why couldn't Kasper fit down the tunnel?

5 What happened to him as he squeezed his way down the tunnel?

6 Describe what the mouse workers did when they realized what had happened to Kasper?

7 Why did the mice run straight into the blockage?

8 How did Kasper feel when he finally broke into the cellar?

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Week 7

Read Chapter 8 p41-44 and answer the questions carefully. Remember to look back at the text for the answer and write full answers



1 How was Kasper going to change the world?

2 What did Kasper do when he left Rufus' house? Join the boxes...

Took out the puzzle piece	and placed his head on his bag.
He ran and ran	he didn't know how to make it work.
He realized that	and stared at it carefully
He lay down	until he could run no more.

3 (p42) What does the word **unperturbed** mean?

4 What did Kasper do to try and make the puzzle piece work?

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____

5 What did Kasper do when he realized that the puzzle piece wouldn't work?

6 How would you make the puzzle piece work? What would you try?

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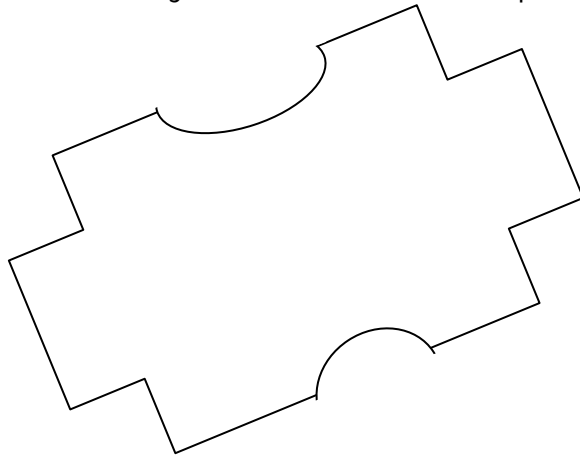
Week 8

Read Chapter 9 p45-47 and answer the questions carefully. Remember to look back at the text for the answer and write full answers



1 Why did Kasper consider returning home to Old Rufus' home now that he had escaped with the puzzle piece?

2 Shhhhh! What is the secret to ignite the power within the puzzle piece? Write in the puzzle...



3 Where did the water come from to ignite the power of the puzzle piece?

4 What was Kasper doing whilst the puzzle piece came to life?

5 When you looked closely at the puzzle piece, what could you see?

6 Why did Kasper have an audience of creatures watching him?

7 As Kasper woke, he realised that he would have to go home very soon....why? Do you agree?

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Week 9

Read Chapter 10 p48-52 and answer the questions carefully. Remember to look back at the text for the answer and write full answers



1 Why did Kasper get annoyed with something buzzing around his head?

2 (p48) What does the word **precious** mean?

3 What was stopping Kasper speaking?

cold		water		puzzle piece		feathers	
------	--	-------	--	--------------	--	----------	--

4 How did the puzzle piece know what wish to grant?

5 As the woodland creatures looked on, what happened to Kasper?

6 Describe the place where Kasper was taken to? Use all of your senses...

See	Hear	Taste	Smell	Feel

7 Kasper realised moments too late that the puzzle piece was laid beside him. What happened?
