

IF I MET A SNAKE

Monday

This poem plays with words. Read the first two lines to see how it works. Then, using the word list provided, fill in the blanks. (There are extra words you might not need.) When you've finished, explain why you chose those particular words.

If I Met a Snake

If I met a slithering snake, I would recoil in horror.

If the potatoes were overdone, I'd surely boil with rage.

If the lemonade was flat, I'd quietly _____ with anger.

If I met my favourite film star, I'd hope to _____ my age.

If I had a cuddly piglet, I'd easily _____ with delight.

If I lost my old dog, Henry, I'd _____ up the wrong tree.

If a tiger told a silly joke, I might _____ with laughter.

If I felt the Earth rumble, I would _____ nervously.

If I missed the ball at cricket, I'd _____ the nearest bus.

If our rugby team was losing, I'd _____ to hide my fears.

If I dropped My auntie's china, I'd _____ into a sweat.

If I saw my bungalow fall down, I'd _____ into tears.

If I were a terrible goalkeeper, I'd _____ my energy.

If I couldn't join the orchestra, I'd surely _____ the fool.

If your nose dribbles in my direction, I would _____ a mile.

If an Olympic athlete visited, I'd _____ for joy at school.

quake

roar

jump

shout

fizz

break

squeal

slide

catch

bark

act

save

play

dive

try

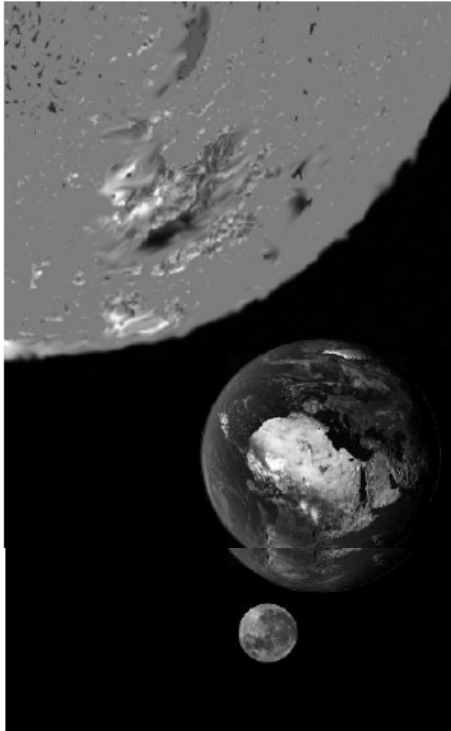
run

collapse

SUN, EARTH AND MOON

Tuesday

Read this information about the Sun, Earth and Moon. Then look at the meanings given in the table below. Find the relevant words in the text.

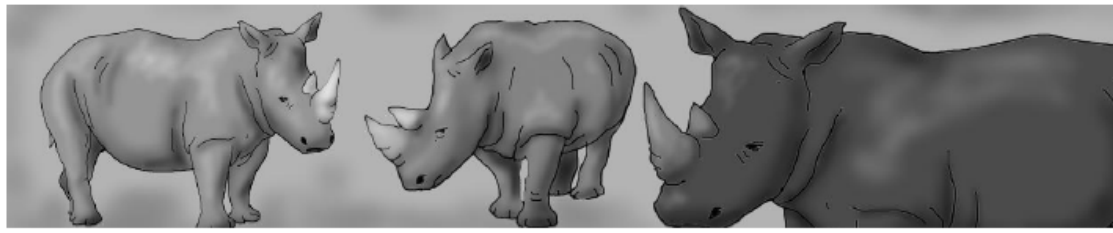
	<p>At the centre of our solar system is our nearest star, the Sun. It is composed mainly of two gases: hydrogen and helium. Approximately one million Earths would fit inside the Sun. It takes 365 days for our planet to orbit the Sun.</p> <p>The Earth has its own satellite: the Moon. Its orbit of the Earth takes 27.3 days. It is not a source of light. Instead it reflects light from the Sun. Recent discoveries have shown that the Moon has some atmosphere, but no air we could breathe. Scientists believe that its craters were caused by the impact of meteorites hitting its surface.</p> <p>The Earth is one of eight planets orbiting the Sun. (Pluto was once classified as a planet until recently.) One significant feature of the Earth is that about 71% of its surface is covered with water. Water is an essential requirement for life.</p>
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Now find words that have the meanings shown in the table:

meaning	word
be made of	
almost exactly	
take a path round an object in space	
an object in space that revolves round a planet	
the gases surrounding a planet or moon	
the striking of one thing against another	
identified as part of a group	
important	
absolutely necessary	

RHINOS

Read this information about rhinoceroses, then complete the table below, explaining what the words mean. If you're unsure, read the relevant sentence again.



You can identify members of the rhinoceros family by their large dimensions, their diet of plants, and thick, protective hide. Although the skin may resemble armour-plating, it is very sensitive to sunburn and insect bites. This is the reason they wallow around in mud, which acts as extra protection.

The name *rhinoceros* comes from two Greek words: *rhino* (nose) and *ceros* (horn). Rhino horns are not bone and continue to grow throughout their lifetime. Horns are composed of a protein called keratin, which is the same substance that hair and fingernails are made from.

Rhinos have well-developed senses of hearing and smell, but poor eyesight. If you were to stand motionless, even as close as thirty metres away, you might not be detected (unless you smelled awful). If you were to make a sound, however, you would immediately be in danger. In that situation, finding a tree to climb is a better strategy than trying to outrun them. They can run at between 30 and 40 mph!

word	meaning
identify	
dimensions	
protective	
hide	
diet	
resemble	
wallow	
composed	
substance	
continue	
detected	
strategy	

BOUDICCA – WHO’S WHO?

Here is some information about events and the people in the life of Boudicca. Underlining the key characters will help you answer the questions that follow.

Boudicca



Before the Romans arrived in Britain, different parts of the country were controlled by different Celtic tribes: the Iceni, for instance, in what is now known as East Anglia, and the Trinovantes in an area north of the Thames estuary. Often they traded; sometimes they fought against each other.

The ruler of the Iceni was Prasutagus, the husband of Boudicca. When the Romans conquered the south of England in AD 43, Prasutagus was permitted to carry on ruling. When he died, however, the Romans took direct control, plundering Iceni lands and property. The tribes began to resent the Romans.

At first, the Celtic tribes had great success, defeating the Roman Ninth Legion and destroying the Roman capital of Camulodunum (Colchester). This was followed by victories at Londinium (London) and Verulamium (St Albans). The Roman Governor of Britain at the time, Gaius Suetonius Paulinus, was forced to retreat.

The Roman historian, Tacitus, has provided us with an account of a battle that took place around AD 61.

It has been said that Boudicca prayed to Andrasta, the Celtic goddess of war, before facing the reinforcements that Governor Paulinus put together. Yet, even heavily outnumbering the Romans, the Iceni and the other tribes were no match for the Romans' discipline, weaponry and cavalry. It was a massacre. What happened to Boudicca, no one can be certain. Was she killed in battle or taken prisoner? Some say she took her own life.

Her determination and bravery live on. In 1902, a bronze statue of the Warrior Queen riding in her chariot, designed by Thomas Thornycroft, was erected near the Houses of Parliament in London.

Now complete the table below, saying who each person was.

name	who or what were they?
Iceni	<hr/> <hr/>
Prasutagus	<hr/>
Trinovantes	<hr/> <hr/>
Camulodunum	<hr/>
Londinium	<hr/>
Verulamium	<hr/>
Gaius Suetonius Paulinus	<hr/>
Tacitus	<hr/>
Andrasta	<hr/> <hr/>
Thomas Thornycroft	<hr/> <hr/>
Warrior Queen	<hr/>

THE TOWER OF LONDON

After a school trip to the Tower of London, these children gave a short presentation in assembly. They each chose a topic that interested them.



After William the Conqueror defeated King Harold at the Battle of Hastings, he needed castles and towers to protect himself and keep control of England. The Tower of London was one of those buildings.

The first person to be imprisoned in the White Tower was Ranulf Flambard. He was the Bishop of Durham and the chief tax collector. He had made himself very rich and King Henry I accused him of extortion (forcing people to hand over more money to him than they needed to).

One night, while a feast was going, he had friends smuggle in a rope inside a gallon of wine. Inviting his guards to join him, he soon got them drunk. Then he used the rope to let himself down from a window. Outside, his friends were waiting with horses; and so he also became the first person to escape from the tower.



Many years ago, according to a legend, an enormous, ghostly bear appeared beside the Martin Tower. It frightened a guard to death! Literally! He dropped down dead on the spot. Now you might think: "What would a bear be doing there?" Well, in 1251, King Henry III received a present from the King of Norway. It was a polar bear and a long chain was attached to a collar, so that it could hunt for fish in the River Thames. Maybe the guard was scared by the real bear: it was white and he wouldn't have seen one before. The ghost hasn't been seen since.

The Tower of London had been standing for 400 years when Henry VIII was born. He used it for all sorts of things, such as a fortress and a prison. He also used it as a storehouse for his own precious possessions. In fact, he and Anne Boleyn lived there for a while. He had coins minted there and even kept a menagerie of wild animals there.



1. Why did William the Conqueror order the construction of the Tower of London?

2. Ranulf Flambard held two important positions. What were they?

3. What does **extortion** mean?

4. Sanjeev suggests that Ranulf Flambard has two 'firsts' – two records. What are they?

5. What phrase suggests that Hannah doubts the story of the ghostly bear?

6. What is Hannah's explanation for the guard being scared to death?

7. Seth says the Tower of London has had many uses. Tick the ones he mentions.

storage of vegetables

prison

minting coins

games room

fortress

menagerie

storehouse for possessions

living accommodation

Multiplication Square

×	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24
3	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36
4	4	8	12	16	20	24	28	32	36	40	44	48
5	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
6	6	12	18	24	30	36	42	48	54	60	66	72
7	7	14	21	28	35	42	49	56	63	70	77	84
8	8	16	24	32	40	48	56	64	72	80	88	96
9	9	18	27	36	45	54	63	72	81	90	99	108
10	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	110	120
11	11	22	33	44	55	66	77	88	99	110	121	132
12	12	24	36	48	60	72	84	96	108	120	132	144

Anglo-Saxon Runes

Aa



Bb



Cc



Dd



Ee



Ff



Gg



Hh



Ii



Jj



Kk



Ll



Mm



Nn



ng



Oo



Pp



Qq



Rr



Ss



Tt



Uu



Vv



Ww



Xx



Yy



Zz

