



Comprehension is making meaning from text!

USE THE TEXT AND GIVE EVIDENCE.

What do we know from the title and blurb?

Discussion points: What is the genre? What might the parcel be? What is a smuggler? When might the book be set? Where do you think the adventure will happen?

Discuss your predictions for the story.

Read the prologue. What do we know now? What have we learnt? Do you think your predictions are still correct?

Discuss the children's interpretation of the prologue. Does it confirm or make them rethink their predictions?

Read chapter 1.

When and where is the book set? How do you know, or what makes you think that?

The children may have different opinions on this and that is fine, but they **MUST** back their opinions up with evidence from the text.

What do we know about the character Finn? Back it up with evidence from the text. We learn a lot about Finn in this chapter. While the many of the facts below can be found directly in the text, the children may need to infer others from what is said*:



The story is told from his perspective.

He has a sister, called Aria.

He can hold his breath for eleven minutes.

He can talk to the sea creatures and they can understand him.

The sea watches him and fears for him.* (What does that infer?)

Thinking of his mum makes him sob* (what do the children interpret from that?), later in the chapter we are told she has disappeared. Finn hides his emotions and locks them away, despite the gaping hole in his heart.

He doesn't often help with jobs.*

His dad has a boat that Finn can sail it (he's left at the helm).*

He doesn't have big muscles.*

He and his family are smugglers.*

He has a penknife.

He's worried about the parcel.*

Pg 8. What does "curiosity defeating the sulk" mean?

Wanting to know what Finn has to say about the parcel is more important to Aria than sulking. Encourage the children to interpret rather than just reword the sentence, i.e.: Being curious wins over her sulking.

Discuss the final questions in chapter 1.

Children to discuss the points drawing on what they already know from chapter 1.