

9

When books
come to lifeLevel: 

Let's think!

1. What was your favourite English book as a child?
2. How does reading English books help you?

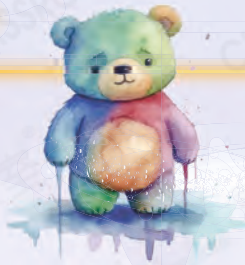
PLAYLIST



READ ALONG

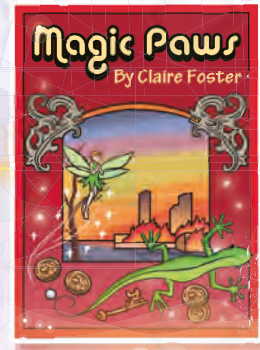


Text 1



Magic Paws

By Claire Foster



1 The box was lined with shiny black satin. However, it was hardly visible because Mandy had filled it with many of her favourite toys. She always added another one whenever they travelled. 'If you take a toy with you on a journey,' Moses, Mandy's father, had said when he put the first one in her box, 'an odd thing happens: the toy begins collecting your memories. And forever after, as soon as you play with that toy again, all the memories will come back to you—the sights you saw in that place, the smells, the ice cream you ate while you were holding it ... yes, toys are like an ivy wall as memories cling to the fake fur better than anything else.'

2 He was probably right, but there was another reason why Mandy took her toys whenever they went away. They were her home when she was somewhere strange. They were familiar voices, friends that never quarrelled with her. They were clever and powerful friends—daring and knowledgeable. Her toys cheered her up when she was sad and kept her from being bored. Moses often cut fabric to the right size and re-stitched the old toys that had become worn out from the many children holding them tightly.

~210 words

Text 2

Plot summary

1 The story centres around Moses, a toy restorer with a magical yet dangerous gift, and an enchanted toy called Magic Paws. By telling stories to the magical teddy bear, Moses can bring people or things into and out of books. However, he accidentally reads his wife into *The Lost Map* and brings the book's villain, Jaxton, out into the real world. Later, Moses's daughter, Mandy, discovers the startling truth and learns why her father hides the teddy in Aunt Elsa's house. 5

2 Jaxton attempts to keep himself in the real world, so he orders Blade, another character from *The Lost Map*, to lure Moses, Mandy and Elsa to his hideout village. He even tries to destroy all copies of *The Lost Map*. Since Blade is longing to return to the fictional world, he helps Moses, Mandy and Elsa escape over the hills. 10

3 While Jaxton is forcing Moses to bring some jewels out of *The Lost Map*, Moses warns that he cannot control what comes in or out of the book. This is proven when one of Jaxton's men vanishes, and a young Arab boy from *The Arabian Nights* is brought out into the real world.

4 When Jaxton's plan becomes even more dangerous, Moses seeks out the author of *The Lost Map* to help protect his daughter. Moses believes in the author's ability to control the lives and deaths of the characters he creates. As a result, they devise a plan to stop Jaxton's evil deeds by changing the storyline. 15

My review

5 As a toy collector, I can relate to the characters in the story. Moses and Mandy keep toys in every room, even in the kitchen and bathroom. Mandy takes her toys with her when they escape, and Elsa turns to toys to cope with her unhappiness. The adventures are both amazing and exciting, as the characters from *The Lost Map* come to life in a fascinating way. One line in the book that particularly resonates with me is 'Isn't it odd how a teddy bear seems to come to life the longer it stays with its owner?'. I think Magic Paws is a book worth reading multiple times. I highly recommend it to all toy lovers! 25

~350 words

Looking into Grammar

We usually use present tenses to summarise a book, film or play.

To talk about permanent situations, habits or feelings in the setting, we use the simple present tense.

To talk about temporary or ongoing actions, we use the present continuous tense.

✓ While Jaxton **is forcing** Moses to bring some jewels out of *The Lost Map*, Moses **warns** that ...

? In paragraph 2 of Text 2, circle the verbs used in the simple present tense and underline the verb used in the present continuous tense.

Read Text 1 and answer questions 1–3.

(6 marks)

1. Complete the summary of paragraph 1 by writing the correct given words in the spaces provided. Each word can be used ONCE only.

box
toy
remember
right
strange
travel

Something (i) _____ will happen when children (ii) _____ with toys. Children will (iii) _____ the moments they first play with their toys.

2. Why did Moses say ‘toys are like an ivy wall’ (line 9)?

2 Ivy is an evergreen plant that often grows on walls.

Because _____ like ivy to a wall.

3. Complete the description by filling in each blank with ONE word taken from paragraph 2.

For Mandy, toys were like her (i) _____ when she went away. She saw them as (ii) _____ who were always nice to her.

Read Text 2 and answer questions 4–12. For multiple-choice questions, choose the best answer and blacken ONE circle only.

(17 marks)

4. Read paragraph 1. Why does Mandy’s mother disappear in the story?

- A. Moses gives her a dangerous gift.
- B. She is taken by Jaxton.
- C. Jaxton locks her up in the fictional world.
- D. Moses puts her in a book by mistake.

A B C D

5. Below is an introduction of *Magic Paws*. There is ONE mistake in each line. Underline the mistake and replace the word with ONE word that expresses the correct idea. Write the word in the space on the right. The first one has been done for you.

e.g. *Magic Paws* is a story about a toy maker who restorer
 (i) can bring people or things in and out of toys. _____
 (ii) One day, he brings the villain out intentionally. _____
 (iii) After that, he asks his sister to help find the teddy bear. _____

6. Read paragraphs 1–3 of the plot summary. Put the events below in the correct order. Write 1–4 in the boxes provided.

	Jaxton is brought out of <i>The Lost Map</i> .
	A character from <i>The Lost Map</i> disappears.
	Blade refuses to help Jaxton.
	Moses talks to Jaxton.

6 Time phrases and linking words are important clues that show the development of the story.

7. Complete the table below about the purpose and its action(s) using the information in paragraphs 2–4.

Jaxton wants to stay in the real world.	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He tries to lure Moses and his family to his hideout village. • He (i) _____.
Moses wants to protect Mandy.	→	He asks for (ii) _____.

8. Who does 'they' (line 17) refer to? _____

9. Who may have power over Jaxton and Blade? Why?
- _____
- _____

10. What is the main idea of paragraph 5?

- A. People should play with toys.
 B. *Magic Paws* is a good read for book lovers.
 C. *Magic Paws* can help readers escape from the real world.
 D. The author of *Magic Paws* gives good advice to the readers.

A B C D

11. Find words in the text to match the following definitions.

- (i) _____ (para. 2) (n.) a secret place where someone can go when they do not want to be found
- (ii) _____ (para. 4) (v.) to plan or invent a new way of doing something
- (iii) _____ (para. 5) (v.) causes you to feel the same way

12. Use the information given in the plot summary to match each person with the correct speech bubble. Write the correct letter in the circle.

A. Moses

B. Blade

C. The author

D. Jaxton

(i)

I just want to go home.



(ii)

I can't let myself live in this stupid book again.



(iii)

I have the ability to create characters in the fantasy world.



(iv)

I can move characters between books and our world.



Vocabulary

GLOSSARY



A. Complete the speech below with the given words. Make sure your answers are grammatically correct.

Adjective: daring enchanted knowledgeable

Noun: hideout

Verb: attempt cling devise long quarrel resonate

Unleashing the Power of Fantasy

Good morning, everyone. It's an honour to be here today to talk about what inspires me to write fantasy stories and to encourage all of you to write your own.

Have you ever had some unusual thoughts that (1) _____ to your mind? You might have imagined yourself exploring a pirate's secret (2) _____, living in a / an (3) _____ castle, or (4) _____ plans to defeat an evil dragon. These thoughts might seem strange, but they can leave you in wonder and awe.

As a writer of fantasy books, I find that my most (5) _____ and imaginative ideas often stem from difficult situations that I faced, like not achieving what I (6) _____ for or (7) _____ with my best friend. These ideas may seem hard to pin down at first, but they can turn into compelling stories that (8) _____ with readers.

Many (9) _____ and successful people embrace their own fantasies and draw inspiration from their wildest ideas. For example, Stephen King's horror stories were born from his own fears and imagination. Therefore, never feel ashamed of your own fantastical visions.

If you enjoy writing, you should (10) _____ to write your own stories. Jot down your ideas, organise them, and let your imagination run wild. You never know where your creativity might lead you!

B. Complete the story mountain with the given words.

The five stages of a story plot

climax

conflict

exposition

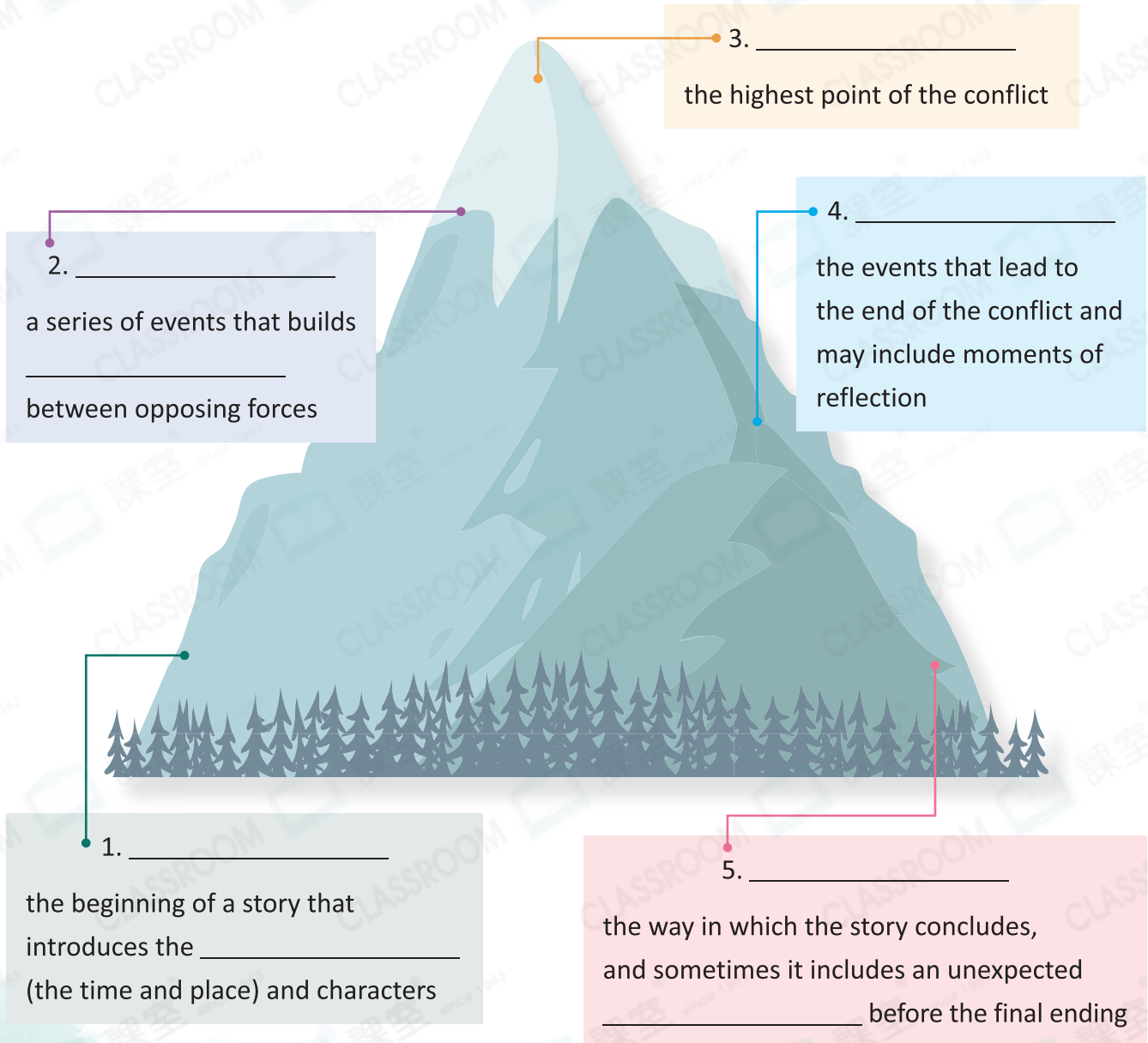
falling action

resolution

rising action

setting

twist



Writing

My favourite fiction

Write a review of your favourite fictional story in about 150 words.