



Year 5 English – Reading - Comprehension, Informative Text – Home Learning, Week E

Week E – Reading - Comprehension

Learning Intention:

Students will:

- ✦ ***Read for information and comprehension, a number of informative texts and answer related questions***

Monday –

The Story of Vegemite – Read the text and then answer the pages following

Tuesday –

Usain Bolt – Read the text and then answer the pages following

Wednesday –

Wimbledon – Read the text and then answer the pages following

Thursday –

The Tour De France – Read the text and then answer the pages following

Friday –

JK Rowling – Read the text and then answer the pages following

The Story of Vegemite

The story of how Vegemite was invented began in 1922 with the Fred Walker Company. They wanted to create a spread from one of the world's richest known sources of Vitamin B. The company, which was later known as the Kraft Food



Company, hired a chemist known as Dr Cyril P. Callister. It was he who developed the spread, using leftover brewers' yeast extract and various vegetable and spice additives.

The Fred Walker Company came up with the very clever idea of having the public name the spread themselves. They launched a competition right across Australia, and in 1923 the winning entry was announced. 'Vegemite' was to be its name! By the end of 1923, jars of Vegemite were being sold all over the country.

Unfortunately, a similar product from England known as 'Marmite' was already very popular in Australia. Shoppers weren't keen to try something different and Vegemite sales dropped. They decided to call it a different name to try to convince people to buy it. It became known as 'Parwill', with a clever catchphrase to go with it: "If Marmite...then Parwill"! Even with this new strategy, sales did not improve.

It took the Fred Walker Company 14 years to change Vegemite back to its original name before the people of Australia would embrace it. Doctors began recommending it as a rich source of Vitamin B and during the Second World War, the armed

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forces were buying it to send to the soldiers. It became so popular that it even had to be rationed, as the company couldn't meet demands.

Another clever advertising tool that was used was the creation of the song 'Happy Little Vegemites', which was released on the radio in 1954. It became a television commercial two years later and was aired right through the 1960s. Even today, the song is easily recognised, with Vegemite putting 'a rose in every cheek'.

Vegemite has gone on to become a food source that is loved

by Australians of all different ages, at any time of the day. Twenty-two million jars are sold every year. It has a thick and sticky consistency and is almost black in colour. Being one of the richest known sources of Vitamin B, it is very salty. Australians are used to the flavour, as they grow up eating it. When travelling overseas, some people even take it with them as a small reminder of home. However, adults who try it for the first time say that it is something that takes a little getting used to!

Questions

1. The Fred Walker Company went on to be known as what?

2. Who developed the recipe for Vegemite?

3. What were the ingredients for Vegemite?

4. What was the name of the song sung in the advertisement about Vegemite?

5. What year was Vegemite being sold for the first time?

6. What was the name of the product that was very similar to Vegemite?

7. What happened after the company couldn't meet demands of the spread?

8. Why is Vegemite good for you?

9. Name the two very important groups who supported the buying of Vegemite.

10. Have you ever tried Vegemite? If so, what was it like? If not, does this text make it sound good?

The story of Vegemite **Answers**

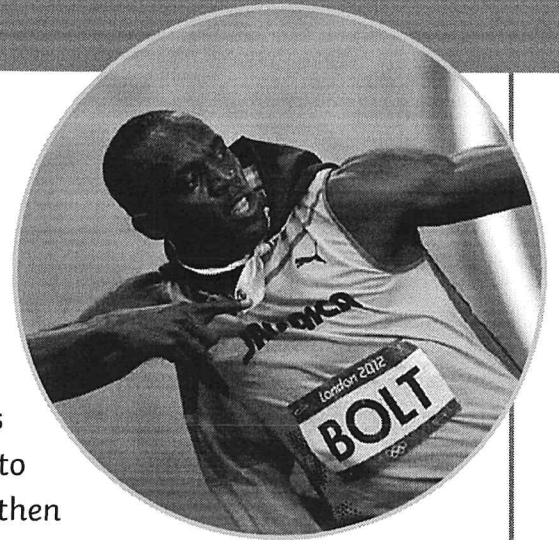
1. The Fred Walker Company went on to be known as what?
The Kraft Food Company
2. Who developed the recipe for Vegemite?
Dr Cyril P. Callister
3. What were the ingredients for Vegemite?
Leftover brewers' yeast, vegetable and spice additives
4. What was the name of the song sung in the advertisement about Vegemite?
'Happy Little Vegemites'
5. What year was Vegemite being sold for the first time?
1923
6. What was the name of the product that was very similar to Vegemite?
Marmite
7. What happened after the company couldn't meet demands of the spread?
It had to be rationed
8. Why is Vegemite good for you?
Because it is one of the richest sources of Vitamin B.
9. Name the two very important groups who supported the buying of Vegemite.
Doctors and the armed forces
10. Have you ever tried Vegemite? If so, what was it like? If not, does this text make it sound good?
Answers may vary.

Usain Bolt

Biography

So, how do you become the greatest sprinter of all time?

Usain St. Leo Bolt once said, 'When I was young, I didn't really think about anything other than sports.' He first showed sprinting potential at a very young age and became the fastest 100m runner at his school by the age of 12. Whilst at secondary school, Usain was encouraged to concentrate on sprinting, which led him to win his first High School Championships medal. Since then he has set new world records, overcome injuries, won many medals, become a national treasure in his home country of Jamaica and he hasn't even finished yet!



Usain was born on 21st August 1986 in Jamaica. He grew up with his brother and sister, and enjoyed playing football and cricket.

He took part in his first race whilst at primary school, but sprinting wasn't his first love. Bolt has often said that if he hadn't have become a sprinter, he would have loved to have been a fast bowler, having been inspired by Waqar Younis, a former cricket player.

Whilst at high school, Usain focused on sprinting and won his first silver medal in the 2001 High School Championships. His talent caught the eye of former Jamaican Olympic sprinter Pablo McNeil, who went on to become his coach. Pablo would sometimes get frustrated with Bolt as he didn't always take his training seriously and enjoyed playing practical jokes.

The 2001 World Youth Championships was Usain's first appearance on the world stage. He didn't win any medals, but he did set a new personal best in the 200m race. The World Junior Championships came next for Usain and it was here that he became the youngest World Junior gold medallist.

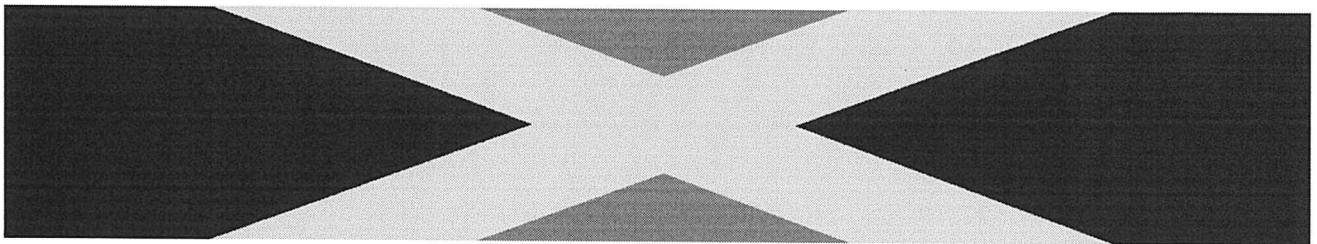
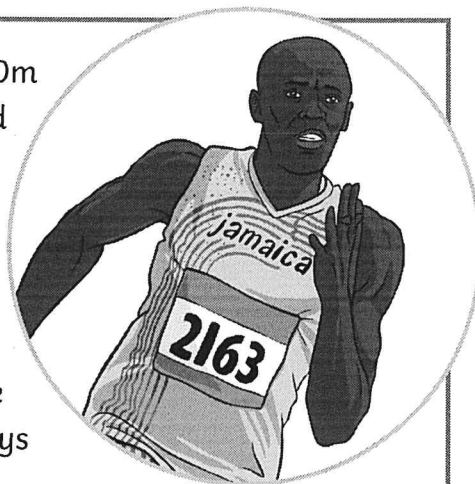


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In 2004, Usain became the first junior sprinter to run 200m in under 20 seconds. With this fantastic time, he turned professional and he was also chosen to compete in the Jamaican Olympic team. Bolt went to the Olympic Games in Athens in 2004 but a leg injury ruled him out of winning any medals. He had offers to go and train in America but Usain wanted to stay true to his roots and even though the training facilities were basic, he stayed in Jamaica. For some time after that, injuries caused him problems but he always came back stronger.



As the years passed by, Bolt took his sport more seriously and began to train harder to win events. At the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, he broke more world records and won gold in the 100m, 200m and relay. This was followed by the World Championships in Berlin, where he improved his times even further.

Bolt competed in the 100m, 200m and relay at the London 2012 Olympic Games, where he won golds in each event once again. This made him the first person to win all three events at consecutive Olympic Games. Following his performance in London, a fellow runner said, 'There's no doubt he's the greatest sprinter of all time.'

Bolt amazed everyone yet again during the 2016 Rio Olympics, by claiming not only gold in all three races (100m, 200m and relay) but also the title the 'triple-triple' meaning he had won gold in 3 events in 3 consecutive Olympic Games. However this amazing achievement didn't last long as in 2017, Bolt and his team mates were stripped of the gold medals from the 100m relay in the Beijing Games due to one of his teammates being disqualified for taking a banned substance.

In 2017, at the World Athletics Championships, Bolt's winning streak was over as he won a bronze medal in one event and in another, he collapsed on the track with a hamstring injury and had to be helped across the finish line by his teammates. This was Bolt's final ever race.

Usain is nicknamed 'Lightning Bolt' and continues to be widely regarded as being the fastest sprinter of all time.

| Olympic Games | Event | Medals |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------|
| 2008 Beijing | 100m, 200m, relay | Gold |
| 2012 London | 100m, 200m, relay | Gold |
| 2016 Rio De Janeiro | 100m, 200m, relay | Gold |

Questions

1. When and where was Usain born?

2. By what age had Bolt become the fastest 100m runner at this school?

3. Who is he inspired by?

4. Why did Pablo McNeil get frustrated with Bolt?

5. How do you think Bolt felt when he was chosen to represent his country in the Olympic Games?

6. Why do you think Usain reached a point in his life where he decided to take his sport more seriously and train harder?

7. Why is Usain nicknamed 'Lightning Bolt'?

8. Which do you think is Usain's greatest achievement to date? Why?

The Wimbledon Championships

Wimbledon is the world's oldest tennis tournament and is also thought to be the most prestigious. It has been held at the All England Club in Wimbledon, London since 1877. It is one of the four Grand Slam tennis tournaments (majors), the others being the Australian Open, the French Open and the US Open. Wimbledon is the only major still played on traditional grass, the game's original surface, which gave the game its original name of 'lawn tennis'.



Events

Wimbledon consists of five main events and five junior events. There are also five invitation events where some former professionals are invited back to compete. The five main events are gentlemen's singles, ladies' singles, gentlemen's doubles, ladies' doubles and mixed doubles.

Tickets

The majority of Centre Court tickets are made available through a public ballot in which applicants are chosen at random by a computer. Fans without tickets can queue up overnight to get seats on match day. There are a certain number of seats allocated for the queuing system.

Schedule

Currently, Wimbledon begins in June and ends in July. In 2017, the championships will begin and end in July, extending the gap between the tournament and the French Open. The five main events span both weeks, but the junior and invitational events are mainly held during the second week. Traditionally, there is no play on the 'Middle Sunday' however rain has sometimes forced play on this day.

The Courts

In 2009, Wimbledon's Centre Court was fitted with a moving roof which can be automatically closed over the court to reduce the loss of playing time. The principal court, Centre Court, was opened in 1922. The main show courts, Centre Court and No. 1 Court, are normally used for only two weeks a year during the championships, but play can extend into a third week if there have been high levels of rain. The other 17 courts are regularly used for other events hosted by the club.

The Wimbledon Championships



Trophies and Prize Money

The gentlemen's singles champion receives a silver gilt cup which has been awarded since 1887. The women's singles champion wins a sterling silver salver which is decorated with figures from mythology. In 2015, the prize money for the winners of the singles finals was AUD \$3,110,000!

A Few Famous Champions

To date, Serena Williams has won four Olympic gold medals and six Wimbledon singles titles, the latest being in 2015. Her sister, Venus, has won a total of five Wimbledon singles titles, spanning between 2000 and 2008. In 2008, she played against Serena in the women's singles final and won. The sisters have also paired up and won the Wimbledon women's doubles title five times.

Roger Federer won Wimbledon five times in a row between 2003 and 2007, a period where he totally dominated grass court tennis. In 2002, Lleyton Hewitt defeated David Nalbandian in straight sets to become Wimbledon Champion. The most recent Australian Ladies Champion was Evonne Goolagong Cawley in 1980.

Did You Know....?

- All Wimbledon tennis players are required to wear all-white or at least almost all-white clothing.
- Players must bow or curtsy if HRH The Prince of Wales or Her Majesty the Queen is present in the Royal Box at Centre Court.



Wimbledon

Make sure you answer questions in full sentences.

1. Where is Wimbledon held?

2. Other than Wimbledon, name two Grand Slam tennis tournaments.

3. What can tennis fans do if they don't win a ticket in the public ballot but want to go and see a tennis match during the tournament?

4. Why is Wimbledon starting later in 2017?

5. What is special about 'Middle Sunday'?

6. What is unique about Centre Court?

7. Compare the Wimbledon success of the Williams sisters.

8. When must players bow or curtsy?

9. What qualities do you think you need to become a Wimbledon champion?

Tour de France

The Tour de France is the world's most famous (and arguably the hardest) cycling race. It takes place every year and lasts for three weeks, covering more than 3,500km.

History of the Race

During the late 19th century, cycling became a very popular hobby for many people. As time went on, organised bike racing was introduced and professional cycling became very big in France. Sports newspapers such as 'Le Vélo' reported on cycling stories, which helped to promote races.

It was the journalist Géo Lefèvre that had the idea of organising a big bike race through France. On 6th July 1903, 60 cyclists set off from the Au Reveil Matin Café in the suburbs of Paris. They covered 2,428km in a circular route, through six stages. Eighteen days later, 21 of the original 60 cyclists made it back to the finish line in Paris. The winner was Maurice Garin and Le Tour de France was born. The race has taken place every year since then, except during war time. As the tour became more and more popular, the course lengthened and more challenging mountain climbs were introduced.



Did you know?

- Over 150 countries broadcast the race all over the world.
- The youngest ever winner was Henri Comet - he was 19 years old.
- Cadel Evans became the first Australian rider to win the Tour de France in 2011, making him one of only two non-Europeans to have won the Tour de France.

The Route and Race Today

Each year, the tour begins in a different country. The route of the race also changes every year, but usually finishes at the Champs-Élysées in Paris. Every day is a new stage of the race and winners of each stage are awarded with different coloured jerseys. The white jersey is given to the best rider under 26 years of age, the red polka dot jersey is for the best climber and is referred to as 'King of the Mountains', the green jersey is awarded to the best sprinter and the yellow jersey is for the leader of the race. The overall winner of the Tour de France is the cyclist that has ridden the full route in the quickest time. During the race the riders are only given two rest days.

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Questions

Answer questions in full sentences.

1. When was the first ever Tour de France?

2. How many cyclists made it to the finish line of the first race?

3. What was the name of the first ever winner of the Tour de France?

4. What happens to the starting point of the race every year?

5. What is the nickname given to the winner of the red polka dot jersey?

6. Compare the significance of the green jersey with the white jersey.

7. Why do you think different coloured jerseys are given to the winners of each stage?

J.K. Rowling

Name:

Joanne Rowling

Born:

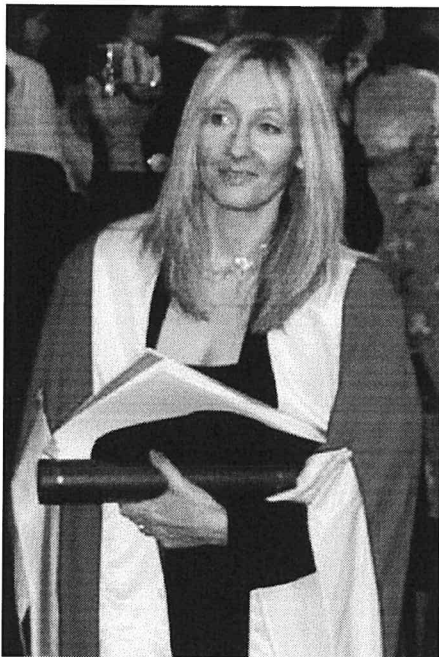
31st July 1965

Place of birth:

Gloucestershire, UK

Occupation:

Writer, Author



Biography

J.K. Rowling is the best-selling living author in the UK and her books are popular all over the world. Rowling has described writers such as Jane Austen and C.S. Lewis as those who have inspired her the most.

She was born Joanne Rowling on 31st July 1965, in Gloucestershire. She enjoyed writing fantasy stories from an early age, reading them to her younger sister. As a teenager, Rowling began studying French and Classics at Exeter University. Having graduated, she moved to London to work as a researcher for Amnesty International, an organisation which works to protect human rights around the world. She also lived and worked in Manchester.

It was in 1990, when Joanne was on a delayed train journey from Manchester to London that the idea for a series of books came into her head. During the writing of the first Harry Potter book, Joanne's mother died and this huge loss affected her writing. Rowling decided to include more detail about the loss of the main character's parents as she knew how it felt. Rowling used her life as inspiration for many other ideas in

the book, for example, her parents met at Kings Cross Station, which is where Harry Potter catches the train to school.

After living and working as an English teacher in Portugal, Rowling moved to Edinburgh with her daughter. Those early days of living in Scotland weren't easy for Joanne - she had no job but dedicated her time to finishing her book. When the story was finally completed, it was sent to 12 different publishing houses, all of which turned it down. In 1997, the book was finally published by Bloomsbury under the name J.K. Rowling. As Joanne didn't have a middle name, she incorporated her grandmother's name, 'Kathleen' into her initials. Her real name wasn't used as the publishers didn't think that boys would want to read

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a book written by a female author. Shortly after being published, the book won its first award and proved to be very popular. She later released the next book in the series, 'Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets', followed by 'Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban'. It was the fourth book in the series, 'Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire', which broke sales records in both the UK and America. Rowling was also named Author of the Year at the 2000 British Book Awards and awarded an OBE for writing such popular children's books.

The final book in the series, 'Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows', was released in 2007 and became the fastest-selling book in history. Each book has also been made into a successful film. Since the end of the Harry Potter stories, Rowling has written other books linked to the series. She has also written stories for adults and continues to embark on other projects.

Today, original copies of 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' sell for around AUD \$33 000 and the series has been translated into 65 languages.

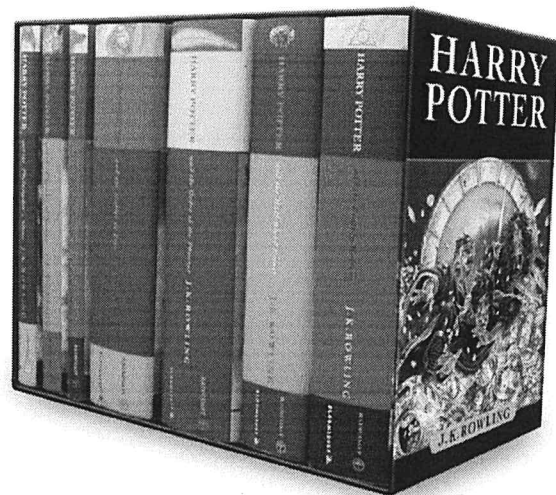


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Questions

Answer the questions in full sentences.

1. When and where was she born?

2. Name one of Rowling's favourite authors.

3. Explain why she moved to London.

4. Where did Joanne come up with the idea for the Harry Potter series?

5. Can you explain how the death of her own mother affected her writing?

6. What did the publishers think about Joanne's full name being printed on her books?

7. What could one of the original copies of 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' sell for?

8. If you have read all of the Harry Potter books, which is your favourite and why?
