

Tom's Midnight Garden 6

Read Chapter 6 of 'Tom's Midnight Garden' and answer the questions. Share the text and discuss it with someone else. Do the work in your homework book if you have it.

Reading

These questions are about Chapter 6.

Which season is the garden's favourite?

What type of tree does Tom think is the best one for climbing?

Who did Tom see when he reached the top of the tree?

Tom cannot open doors in the garden, so how does Tom first plan to go through the south wall door?

Why does the plan not work?

How Does Tom return to the garden?

When Tom returns to the garden at the end of the chapter, what is it that shocks him most of all?

Word work

These words are all from Chapter 6. Put each one into a sentence, in your homework book if you have it.

ascent resume surveyed frequency instantaneously
orchard convulsive indescribable dusk steadfast

Writing

Personification is a way of describing something as though it was a person - or a living thing. The description of the storm in Chapter 6 includes this line about the fir-tree:

'...its ivy-wreathed arms struggling wildly in the tempest...'

This is an example of personification because trees don't have arms. You could argue that trees have branches which are 'arms', but they don't struggle, do they?

Choose one of the activities. (You can do both if you want).

- Write a description of a severe weather event, or another natural phenomenon which includes personification. It could be a storm - a sandstorm or a hurricane; a tsunami or volcano or an earthquake. It could be something much gentler such as a spring meadow after rain with a rainbow.

Aim to write a sustained paragraph - half a page.

Or

Write a sentence about each of these things which uses personification. For example:

Wind

The wind howled like a wolf.

Rain

Sunshine

Light

Fear

Fire

Make your sentences as powerful and interesting as you can, using similes:

The vicious, shrieking wind howled through the jagged mountain peaks like an emaciated, hungry wolf.

Or even metaphors:

Howling between the jagged blades of the mountain peaks, the wind was an emaciated, ravenous wolf locked onto the climbers' scent.

Let me know how you get on. I hope you enjoy this!