

***Paper 1A:
Reading 20th C fiction texts***

The Hobbit



Differentiated Workbook

In this extract, adapted from 'The Hobbit,' a hobbit named Bilbo Baggins enters the lair of a dragon named Smaug and steals a golden cup.

1 He was alone. Soon he thought it was beginning to feel warm. Is that a kind of a glow I seem to see coming right
2 ahead down there? he thought. It was. As he went forward it grew and grew, till there was no doubt about it. It
3 was a red light, steadily getting redder and redder. Also it was now undoubtedly hot in the tunnel. Wisps of vapour
4 floated up and past him and he began to sweat. A sound, too, began to throb in his ears, a sort of bubbling like the
5 noise of a large pot galloping on the fire, mixed with a rumble as of a gigantic tom-cat purring. This grew to the
6 unmistakable gurgling noise of some vast animal snoring in its sleep down there in the red glow in front of him.

7 It was at this point that Bilbo stopped. Going on from there was the bravest thing he ever did. The tremendous
8 things that happened afterward were as nothing compared to it. He fought the real battle in the tunnel alone,
9 before he ever saw the vast danger that lay in wait. At any rate after a short pause, go on he did; and you can
10 imagine him coming to the end of the tunnel, an opening of much the same size and shape as a doorway. Through
11 it peeps the hobbit's little head. Before him is the deepest cellar or dungeon-hall of the ancient dwarves right at
12 the Mountain's root. It is almost dark so that its enormous size can only be guessed at, but rising from the near side
13 of the rocky floor there is a great glow. The glow of Smaug!

14 There he lay, a vast red-golden dragon, fast asleep; a thrumming sound came from his jaws and nostrils, and wisps
15 of smoke, but his fires were low while asleep. Beneath him, under all his limbs and his huge coiled tail, and around
16 him on all sides stretching away across the floors, lay countless piles of precious things, gold, silver, gems and
17 jewels - stained in the red light. Smaug lay, with his wings folded like an enormous bat, turned partly on one side, so
18 the hobbit could see his long pale belly crusted with gems and pieces of gold from his sleeping on this expensive
19 bed. To say that Bilbo's breath was taken away is no description at all. His heart was filled and pierced with
20 enchantment and with the desire of dwarves; and he gazed motionless, almost forgetting the frightful guardian, at
21 the gold beyond price and count.

22 He stared for what seemed like an age, before drawn almost against his will, he crept from the shadow of the
23 doorway, across the floor to the nearest edge of the mounds of treasure. Above him the sleeping dragon lay, a
24 terrible menace even in his sleep. Bilbo grasped a great two-handled cup, as heavy as he could carry, and cast one
25 fearful eye upwards. Smaug stirred a wing, opened a claw, the rumble of his snoring changed its note.

26 Dragons may not have much real use for all their wealth, but they remember every piece of it - and Smaug was no
27 exception. He had passed from an uneasy dream to a doze, and from a doze to wide waking. There was a breath of
28 strange air in his cave. Could there be a draught from that little hole? Smaug thought he could hear the dim echoes
29 of a knocking sound from far above his lair that came down to his lair. He stirred and stretched his neck to sniff at
30 the hole. Then he noticed that the great two-handled cup had been stolen!

31 Thieves! Fire! Murder! Such a thing had not happened since first he came to the Mountain! His rage passes
32 description - fire roared from his nostrils, the hall smoked, he shook the mountain roots. Then, coiling his length
33 together, roaring like thunder underground, he sped from his deep lair through its great door, out into the huge
34 passages of the mountain palace and up towards the Front Gate to chase the thief who had stolen his treasure!

Q1: Read again **lines 1 to 6** of the source.

List **four** things that Bilbo Baggins **sees and hears in the tunnel**.

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____
- D. _____

Now, label the image of what he **sees and hears** with quotations from **paragraph one**.



Q2: Read again **lines 14 to 21**, where Smaug and his lair are described.

How does the writer use **language** here **to describe the dragon and his lair**?

What to do:

- (1) Read the text below.
- (2) Fill in the blanks. Choose the correct word from the *Word Box* at the bottom.
- (3) Write it out.

The _____ uses a variety of interesting language features to describe the dragon and its lair for the reader.

One interesting language feature is the _____ that the author uses to describe Smaug's wings. He writes that they were "folded like an enormous _____."

The adjective "enormous" helps me to understand that they were huge and bats also have paper thin wings, so I can imagine what Smaug's _____ look like as well.

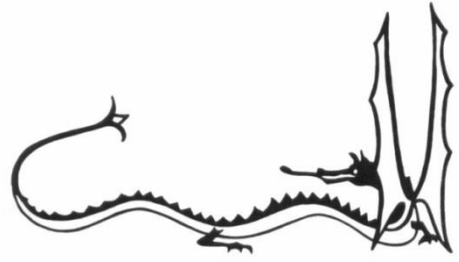
The author also uses _____ adjectives to describe the dragon to the reader. For example, he writes that Smaug is a "vast, red-golden dragon."

The _____ "vast" helps me to understand he is an enormous beast while the other adjective "red- golden" helps me to understand the _____ of his skin.

WORD BOX: Use each word only once.

author	<i>interesting</i>	bats	<i>colour</i>
wings	<i>adjective</i>	simile	

What to do:



- (1) Read the sentences below.
- (2) Number them in the correct order to show you understand the sequence of events.

- The narrative focus then shifts to a description of Bilbo Baggins creeping across the floor and stealing a great, two-handed golden cup.
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- The climax of the extract is very dramatic. Smaug, the dragon, becomes enraged. In a furious temper, he stretches his wings, breathes fire and decides he is going to hunt down the thief who has stolen his treasure.
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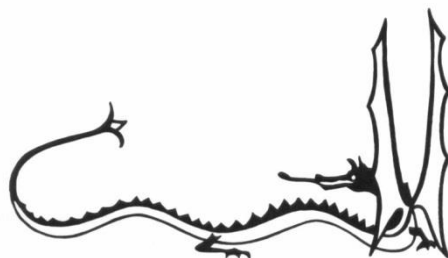
- The writer begins by describing the main character, a hobbit named Bilbo Baggins, walking through a hot tunnel, hearing the sounds of a creature snoring.
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- Next, the author describes the dragon waking up and smelling something unusual in his lair. He is furious that a thief has stolen some of his treasure while he was sleeping.
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- What follows is a description of the creature sleeping in its lair. It is an enormous, red-golden dragon, curled up asleep and surrounded by countless piles of gold and silver treasure, and precious jewels.
-



Q3b: Write up



What to do:

- (1) Write out the text below.
- (2) Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct word from the Word Box at the bottom.

The writer begins by describing the main _____, a hobbit named Bilbo Baggins, walking through a hot tunnel, hearing the sounds of a creature _____.

What follows is a description of the creature sleeping in its _____. It is an enormous, red-golden dragon, curled up asleep and surrounded by countless piles of gold and silver _____, and precious jewels.

The narrative focus then shifts to a description of Bilbo Baggins _____ across the floor and _____ a great, two-handled golden cup.

Next, the author describes the dragon _____ up and _____ something unusual in his lair. He is furious that a _____ has stolen some of his treasure while he was sleeping.

The climax of the extract is very dramatic. Smaug, the dragon, becomes enraged. In a _____ temper, he stretches his _____, breathes _____ and decides to hunt down the thief who has stolen his treasure.

WORD BOX: Use each word only once.

character

furious

fire

waking

wings

smelling

thief

stealing

creeping

treasure

lair

snoring