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My Friend the **OCTOPUS**

LINDSAY GALVIN

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER RESOURCES

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Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

Front cover and blurb

- Based on the cover, what do you think the book will be about?
- Who do you think the main characters will be?
- Where do you think it will be set?
- Show children the blurb with some words redacted. Predict what the story will be about. What do you think the missing words are? Why do you think this? Show children the full blurb. Does the blurb confirm your thoughts or has it changed your mind? Why?

Complete an OWI grid.

Observe – what can you see? Can you describe it fully? Remember to look in the foreground and background of the cover.

Wonder – what questions do you have based on the front cover? Children could start their sentences with ‘I wonder if ...’

Infer – start your sentences with ‘I think ...’ or ‘Maybe ...’ Can you explain why you think this?

HISTORY • The story is set in 1893. What periods of history have you studied previously or know of? Can you add them to a timeline? Where would this story fit on the timeline? What does this suggest about what we might find in the book? How will it be different to the modern day?

Prologue

- Read the first sentence of the prologue. What does this suggest about Alfonso’s feelings towards Madeira?
- Describe the weather in the first chapter. What season do you think it was set in? Copy evidence that supports your answer.
- Look at page 2. What do you think the word *estrangeiro* means in English? Why do you think this?
- Did Alfonso think they would catch anything? How do you know? Copy evidence to support your answer.

Rewrite the prologue from the perspective of Bickerstaff. How will this differ to the perspective in the book? Make sure to reflect the Bickerstaff’s inner thoughts and feelings.

SCIENCE • In the book, the characters believe they may have captured a giant Pacific *Enteroctopus dofleini*. Research the animal and create a non-chronological report about it. You could include information on:



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did they catch in the net? • Explain why Alfonso made the sign of the cross towards the end of the chapter. What does this suggest about: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Alfonso himself? b) the animal they have caught? • Whose perspective is this chapter written from? 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • their appearance/structure • their habitat • their diet • their behaviour <p>HISTORY • Research women's fashion throughout history, with a focus on hats. How do they compare to one another? Can you sort pictures of hats into the correct time period based on what you have found out?</p> <p>ART • Practise your sketching skills by completing a still-life drawing of a hat. Can you add shadow to show dimension?</p>



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

2

- What woke her from her sleep?
- Explain how the character knew it was still night. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
- How did the character know that the person at the door was Mr Jeddors?
- Do you think Mr Jeddors will be a good or bad character? Explain your opinion using evidence from the text.
- What is the name of the main character?
- Complete the table with an appropriate piece of evidence to support the statement.

Statement	Evidence
The trip was unplanned.	
Mother wanted to keep the fact they were leaving a secret.	
The attic hadn't been used in a long time.	

There is a gap in time between when Lavinia wakes up for the first time and when her mother wakes her up to leave. What do you think happened during this time? Can you write about it in the style of the author?

3

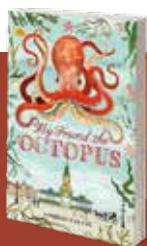
- How did Lavinia know that Mother was scared when someone walked past the carriage?
- Has your opinion of Mr Jeddors, and whether he is a good or bad character, changed based on this chapter? Explain your opinion.

ART • Based on the descriptions in the book so far, draw what you think Mr Jeddors looks like.

HISTORY • Look at how



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain why Mother gripped a hairpin in her fist. • Why did Lavinia doubt what her mother was saying about Mr Jeddars? • On page 17 it states, '<i>Mr Jeddars was becoming a little too big for his boots</i>'. What does the phrase 'too big for his boots' mean? • What does it mean when it refers to a 'white-knuckle grip'? What does this suggest about the character's feelings? 		<p>transport has changed over time, particularly trains. How important were trains during this time period? Why? How do they differ to modern trains?</p>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What stations did they pass during their train journey? • Who were they going to visit? • How did Aunt Bets differ in person compared to the photograph Lavinia had seen of her? • Explain why Lavinia gasped when Mother unbuttoned the neck of her blouse. What does this suggest about expectations at the time? • What does Mother's behaviour suggest about the necklace? • Define the word 'heirloom'. • Find and copy a word that means 'parties' or 'events'. 	<p>Lavinia talks about postcards that Aunt Bets had sent to her. Write a postcard of your own. This could be as character from the book or it could be based on your own experiences.</p>	<p>GEOGRAPHY • Locate Brighton on a map of the UK. Use the map to investigate the human and physical geographical features and how this compares to the local area.</p> <p>HISTORY • What did Brighton look like at the time when the book was set? How has it changed since? Why has it changed?</p>
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare Brighton to London, using evidence from the text to support your answer. 		<p>ART • Look at the following paintings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Chain Pier, Brighton</i> by



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What other mode of transport are Lavinia and her mother using in this chapter? • On page 24, it states '<i>... my fingers itched for pencil and paper</i>'. What is meant by this phrase? • When were breakfast rolls served? • Find and copy a piece of evidence that shows that the tea room was the only occupied space on the terrace. • Do you think Aunt Bets expected to see Lavinia and her mother? Find and copy a piece of evidence from the text to show how you know this. • What happened to Lavinia's father? 		<p>John Constable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Brighthelmston, Sussex</i> by JMW Turner • <i>Brighton Pierrots</i> by Walter Richard Sickert • <i>Passing Time</i> on Brighton Beach by Robert Tyndall <p>Compare the paintings and discuss how the different artists have used different techniques. How do each of them make you feel?</p>
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why did Lavinia think she had heard her mother wrong? • On page 29 it states: '<i>I opened my mouth, but with a pointed look from Mother, I snapped it closed again.</i>' What do you think Mother was trying to say to Lavinia when she gave her a 'pointed look'? • Explain why Mother took Lavinia's hands in her own. What was she trying to do? • Look at page 31. Find and copy a word that means 'vital'. • On page 32, it says: '<i>I love you, Mama, I said into her dark hair, my voice catching.</i>' What does this show about how Lavinia was feeling? 	<p>Imagine you are Lavinia. Write a letter to Mother to try and persuade her to let you go to Paris with her. Think carefully about what persuasive language you could use and what reasons you could include.</p>	<p>GEOGRAPHY • Mother is making her way from Brighton to Paris. Using a map, look at what routes she could take. Be sure to think carefully about what transport was available at the time.</p> <p>Do you think the route would be different today? How would it differ?</p>



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

7

- Find and copy a word that means 'annoying'.
- Look at page 34. What is meant by the word 'lull'?
- Find and copy two pieces of evidence about Aunt Bets' house that shows she is an avid baker.
- Name three things that are in Lavinia's parlour at home.
- Look at the top of page 35. What are the 'pale mounds' the author refers to?
- Explain why Aunt Bets would have 'muscles cording in her forearms'. Be sure to use evidence from the text to support your answer.
- How would you describe Aunt Bets as a character? Use evidence to explain why you think this.
- What does Aunt Bets mean by 'baker's hours'?
- Look at page 38. Find and copy a piece of evidence that shows Lavinia did not like the soap Bets had given her.

Write a recipe for a fruit cake or another cake of your choice. Think carefully about the use of adverbs and detail to ensure the reader knows how to make it accurately.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY •
Follow a recipe (or your own that you have written) to bake a fruit cake. Once you have baked it, taste it and discuss what you would change to make it taste better.

8

- Describe how Lavinia felt when riding the bike. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
- Who did Aunt Bets tell Lavinia to find? What is his job?
- Look at page 43. Find and copy a word that is similar in meaning to 'tasks'.
- Explain why Lavinia is rehearsing what she plans to say in her head. What does this show about her character?
- List four things you are told about the statues of the women.



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did the inscription say? • Find and copy a word on page 46 that is similar in meaning to 'large'. • How did Lavinia feel when she first entered the aquarium? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. • List three animals that Lavinia sees in the aquarium. • Look at page 47. <i>'Spiked Anemone looked like cushions filled with black hatpins but their vicious points faced outwards.'</i> How does this description help the reader? • What was strange about the big tank in the middle of the gallery? 	<p>An aquarium keeps many different species that can be found in or around the sea/water in captivity. Do you think these animals should be kept in captivity? Write a balanced argument about the pros and cons of doing this.</p>	<p>SCIENCE • Pick one of the animals that Lavinia mentions in the chapter and conduct some research to create a non-chronological report about it. You could include information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • their appearance/structure • their habitat • their diet • their behaviour
10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the word 'heave' suggest about the barrel? • Find and copy two examples of how the author hints to the reader that the barrel may contain something bad. • What do you think is going to be in the barrel? Why do you think this? • Compare Bickerstaff and Mr Lee. Do they have any similarities or differences? Can you find examples from the text to show how you know this? 		
11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who or what is Mr Lee referring to when he mentions 'guests'? 		<p>ENGLISH • Investigate the different types of newspapers</p>



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

- Find and copy a word that is similar in meaning to 'puzzle'.
- Explain why Aunt Bets would be 'rosy-faced'.
- What do you think Charlie will use his notebook for?
- Look at page 56. How did Lavinia feel when she had to introduce herself? Find and copy evidence from the text that shows this.
- How did Lavinia react when Charlie knew who her mother was?
- Look at page 57. What do the following words mean? Use a dictionary if you need to.
 - *bereft*
 - *reputedly*
 - *impeccable*
- Suggest why Mother would be pleased with what had been reported.

and their features. Do you notice any differences between the two main types?

PSHE • Charlie says he wants to be a journalist. What is a journalist? What are their roles and responsibilities? How would you become one? Think about what you would like to do as a job when you are older. Find out the roles

12

- Explain why Charlie was staying with Mr Lee and not his father.
- Look at page 60. Find and copy a word that is similar in meaning to 'try'.
- What does the fabric of the older ladies suggest about them?
- Do you think the girl is happy to be at the tea room? Find a piece of evidence from the text to show why you think this.

In the chapter it mentions that Temitayo likes to write in a diary. Write a diary entry from her perspective based on the events of the chapter. Remember to think carefully about what she might be feeling or thinking at different points.



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do the older ladies come to the tea room? • Look at page 63. Suggest what the story might be that Mr Lee is referring to. • Explain why aquariums were struggling financially. • Describe how Lavinia felt when it was time to open the barrel. Use evidence to support your answer. • What is the name of the young girl at the tea room? • What is the name of the young girl's guardian? • Predict what the relationships between Lavinia, Charlie and Temitayo will be like throughout the book. Try to justify your opinion using evidence from the text. 		
<p>13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did Temitayo feel when Mr Lee was talking to them about the animals they had in the aquarium? How do you know? • Look at page 67. '<i>... you are in somewhat of a minority, dear girl.</i>' What does this suggest about the number of people who read the pamphlets? • Do you think it is easy to look after exotic animals? Use evidence from the text to explain why you think this. • Does Bickerstaff care about the animals? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. • Explain why Mr Lee tells the children not to make any sudden noise or movement. What could be the 		<p>HISTORY • Research the history of aquariums. When/ where was the first one created? How have they changed over time? Has their purpose or popularity changed?</p>



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
	<p>consequence if they do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you think Charlie and Temitayo are going to be friends? How do you think he feels about her? Justify your opinion using evidence from the text. 		
14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does the author hint that the creature is an octopus before telling the reader? What is special about the creature in the barrel compared to other species of octopus? Find and copy evidence that shows Lavinia was shocked by what she saw. Explain why the octopus would try to make itself invisible. Find and copy a piece of evidence from the text that shows that Lavinia cares about the animals. Look at page 77. Why was Mr Lee worried? <i>'The animal inside poured out of the hole.'</i> What does the word 'poured' suggest about how the creature moved? 	<p>Continue your diary entry from the perspective of Temitayo. How will this part of your diary entry differ to the previous part? Remember to include her inner thoughts and feelings.</p>	<p>SCIENCE • Can you think of any other animals that can change colour? Use the internet or relevant books to research some other animals that do this. What is the purpose of it? How does it help them?</p>
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does the simile at the beginning of the chapter help the reader understand the way the octopus moved? Why did none of the attendants move when Mr Lee told them to? Describe how Mr Bickerstaff felt about the incident. 	<p>Write an accident report form for the incident. Think carefully about including all of the key events and to write formally and factually.</p>	



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

	<p>Use evidence to support your answer. Explain why Mr Bickerstaff felt this way about the incident.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain why Lavinia felt guilty about the incident. 		
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe how Mrs Heap felt at the beginning of the chapter using evidence to support your answer. • Suggest why Lavinia might lie for Temitayo even though she doesn't normally lie. • Summarize how Temitayo came to England. • Explain how the author shows that Lavinia has little confidence in her drawing abilities. • How did Charlie try to reassure Lavinia? What does this suggest about his character and his feelings towards Lavinia? 		<p>SCIENCE • Temitayo mentions coming from Africa. Find Africa on a map and look at the route the ship may have taken. What seas/oceans would it have travelled across?</p> <p>HISTORY • Temitayo mentions that Sir Edgar Randall was seeking treaties in Africa so that it would become part of the British Empire. Research the British Empire, identifying which countries were included and when they joined/left.</p>
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why did Mother like Lavinia to look at the magazines she had left her? • Find and copy a piece of evidence that shows Aunt Bets' tea room was popular. • Suggest how Lavinia felt when Aunt Bets asked her to help at the tea room. How do you know she felt this way? 	<p>Write a letter of apology from Lavinia to Mr Lee. How would she try to persuade him to forgive her?</p>	



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe how Aunt Bets reacted when Lavinia spilt tea on someone's skirt. What does this show about her character? Why did Lavinia think that the reading room was not supposed to be for ladies? Look at page 97. <i>'It's wise not to bite the hand that feeds us.'</i> What is meant by this phrase? What do you think Lavinia is going to do based on the end of the chapter? Make sure to explain why you think this. 		
18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain why Charlie <i>'glanced around the gallery'</i>. Lavinia states that it was 'like an adventure story'. Find and copy evidence from the text that shows why Lavinia would think this. Think carefully about the features of an adventure story and whether you can spot any of these in the text. Why couldn't the children make their way to the beach through the tunnel? Do you think the octopus is in the tank? If so, explain why Lavinia and Temitayo cannot see it. 		
19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find and copy a piece of evidence that shows that Temitayo is impatient. Why was Charlie's uncle so impressed with the creature's ability to disguise itself? 	Imagine you are Charlie writing up his observations of the animal. Write a recount of it, ensuring you	ART • Lavinia mentions that she is going to try drawing the images of the octopus in the barrel. Create your own



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the meaning of the word 'tedious'? • Explain why Mr Lee would be unable to get a veterinarian to come and help the octopus. • Summarize what happened to the second octopus. 	use correct terminology and write in a factual way.	drawing of this, using the materials of your choice.
20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On page 108, it describes Charlie giving Lavinia and Temitayo a 'mischievous grin'. Do you think that Charlie is mischievous? Explain why you think this using your knowledge of the book so far. • How did Lavinia feel when she saw Mr Jeddars talking to Aunt Bets? Why did she feel this way? • Find and copy evidence from the text that shows Aunt Bets is protective of Lavinia. 		
21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did Temitayo know that Lavinia thought the pier was unsafe? • Explain how you know that Lavinia trusts Temitayo. • Do you think Mother and the lady in the shop were right to talk to Lavinia the way they did? Explain why you think this. • Why was Lavinia upset? • True or false: Temitayo is a good friend to Lavinia. Give two reasons why you think this and use evidence to support your answer. 		<p>DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY •</p> <p>Design, create and evaluate your own pier structure/model using materials of your choice. Think carefully about its purpose and ensure it is strong enough. Can you compare your structure to your partner's and see which is stronger?</p>



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does Aunt Bets' reaction to Lavinia's drawings differ to her Mother's? 		ART • Draw the parrot described in the chapter.
22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How long has Lavinia been with Aunt Bets? Explain why Aunt Bets bought Lavinia new dresses and bloomers. What month is it set in? Look at page 124. What had Aunt Bets bought Lavinia? What did she expect Lavinia to do? Why were there more tourists on this day compared to others? Describe a 'dipper'. What is its purpose? 		PSHE • Aunt Bets mentions a men's bathing beach and a women's beach. There are also mentions of women not being allowed in the reading room earlier in the book. Research women's rights at the time and how they differ from today. Do you agree with how women were treated?
23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare how Aunt Bets and Lavinia felt about the idea of going in the sea. Use evidence to support your answer. Look at page 129. Why did Aunt Bets gasp? Do you think Lavinia knows how to swim? Explain why you think this using evidence from the text. How did Lavinia's opinion of swimming in the ocean change after she had done it? 	Imagine that Lavinia is writing a letter to Mother describing her experience of being in the sea. Be sure to include how she felt and all of the details.	
24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why was Charlie on the beach? List three things that Mr Lee had tried to feed the octopus. 		



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did Charlie feel when the octopus didn't eat the oysters? Use evidence to show how you know this. • Give two differences between the organs of a human and an octopus. 		
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did Lavinia think was going to happen to Charlie? • Why was it ironic that the crab was eating the dead arm? • How did Lavinia and Charlie know that one of the arms was new? How did it differ from the others? • Find and copy the scientific vocabulary for the octopus being able to grow a new arm. • Describe how Charlie felt when he realized his buckle was stuck. Use evidence to support your answer. 	<p>Write a factual report using your research about animals that can regenerate body parts and how this helps them survive.</p> <p>Write a continuation of the story - do you think the octopus is going to hurt Charlie? Will he be able to escape?</p>	<p>SCIENCE • Research animals that are able to regenerate limbs or other body parts if they become detached or hurt. Do the animals have anything in common? What is the purpose of this?</p>
26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has Lavinia changed so far in the book? Use evidence to support your answer. • Did the octopus react to the children in the way you expected? • Explain why it was important that Charlie dried his hair before speaking to Mr Lee. • What evidence is there that the octopus has sharp teeth? 	<p>Write a persuasive letter to Mr Lee to convince him to build a ship-like shelter for the octopus. Make sure you include good reasons why he should do this and how it would benefit the animal.</p>	<p>SCIENCE • Label a diagram of an octopus, ensuring to use the correct scientific vocabulary to name its body parts.</p> <p>Create a food chain with an octopus in. Are they predators or prey? Or both? Can you create one of each?</p>



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is meant by <i>'you can stand a spoon up in their tea'</i>? • Do you believe Mr Jeddars when he says that he just wants to apologize to Lavinia's mother? Explain why you think this using evidence from the text. • Explain why Mr Jeddars thought Lavinia was lying about not knowing her mother's whereabouts. • The grocer describes Mr Jeddars as a fine young man and that the world would be a better place if there were more people like him. Do you agree? Why? 		
28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain why Lavinia was angry at herself for crying. • How did Aunt Bets try to reassure Lavinia? • Do you think it was right for Charlie to publish Lavinia's drawing without her permission? • Look at the newspaper article. How does the author show that the octopus was difficult to catch? • Find and copy a word that means 'twisted together'. • What is the meaning of the word 'inhabited'? Can you think of any other words from the same word family? 	Write a newspaper article about the arrival of the octopus and what is known so far.	
29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did Charlie feel about the fact they did not use his writing? • Fill in the table below with the correct information: 	Write a newspaper article about the arrival of the octopus and what is known so far.	



Chapter Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

Character	Age
Lavinia	
Charlie	

- Find and copy evidence from the text that shows Lavinia was trying to be secretive.
- What date did Mr Jeddars last receive a parcel at the milliners? What was it?
- How is Charlie going to use the date of the parcel arriving to help find Lavinia's mother?

PSHE • In the text, Lavinia has her picture published but Charlie does not have his writing published. How did he feel about this? How would you feel about this?

Explore the emotion of jealousy. Have you ever been jealous? Why? Discuss in pairs and then as a group how to deal with these feelings.

30

- Find and copy a word that shows there have been more visitors to the aquarium.
- What is another name that Mr Lee uses for the octopus?
- Name the book that Temitayo was reading.
- How has Temitayo's relationship with her guardians changed since she was a little girl? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
- At what age is Temitayo expected to go to finishing school?
- Describe what the octopus did to amaze all of the spectators.

Write a diary entry from the perspective of Temitayo about her visit to her guardians and then her visit to see Lavinia at the aquarium.



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

31

- Mr Lee says that the octopus likes Lavinia the most. Do you agree with this? Why? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
- Explain why Lavinia says '*I often wondered if he also had eyes in his arms*'.
- Why did Lavinia think the octopus was disappointed when she didn't wear the cape?
- Aunt Bets says that Lavinia can help her tea room by encouraging more visitors into the aquarium. Why would this help her?
- What were the crumbs that Charlie wiped from his mouth?
- Does Charlie really want to stretch his legs after the journey? How do you know? What does he want to do instead?

Create a persuasive advert for the aquarium, making sure to list at least three key features that would make people want to visit. Think about what is the most exciting and also what important information you would need to include.

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY •
Find a recipe for cheese scones and bake your own. Can you write a description of what they taste like? What could you add or change to make them even better?

32

- What did Charlie and Lavinia use the money to buy?
- Why did Charlie not think the address was where Mr Jedders lived?
- How are the children going to convince the adults to let them go to London?
- Look at page 177. Find and copy a word that means 'arms'.
- Find and copy a word that means 'lucky'.

Draft a speech to give to Mr Lee and Aunt Bets to persuade them to let you go to London.



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find and copy a word that shows that the writer of the article is unknown. List three things Lavinia could smell in London. Describe how Lavinia felt when she returned to London. How do you know she feels this way? Compare the houses where the stagecoach dropped them off to Litcham Street. Use evidence from the text to support your answer. Look at page 182. What was the pot that the boy tipped out? 		<p>HISTORY • Compare how the rich and the poor lived during the time that the book is set in. Do you think it was fair that people lived in these conditions?</p>
34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find and copy a word that shows the woman wasn't polite. Explain why the house made Lavinia think of the octopus in the barrel. How did they know there were people in the attic? What did Lavinia think she would find in the attic? Summarize what Charlie and Lavinia actually found in the attic. 	<p>Use your research about Victorian working conditions and the issues people faced because of them to create a piece of writing of your choice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Factual Report Persuasive Letter 	<p>DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY • Research how to dye fabrics using natural materials. Can you dye your own fabric? Could you make a pattern (e.g. tie-dye) using a range of techniques?</p> <p>HISTORY/IT • Use a computer or tablet to research the working conditions of Victorian factory workers.</p>
35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How could Lavinia tell that Ruth was scared of Mr Jeddars finding out that they had visited? 		



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you think the workers will be able to help Lavinia and Charlie? Explain why you think this. Explain why the girl has injured hands and looks sick. Why does the attic smell like garlic? What does Ruth mean by '<i>We've all already seen how this can end</i>'? 		<p>DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY/ HISTORY • Compare your previous research about how to dye fabrics using natural materials to how people in the past used to dye materials. Have there been any changes, and if so, for what reasons?</p>
36	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at page 195. How does Ruth feel at the beginning of the page? Why does she feel this way? Make sure to use evidence from the text to support your answer. Suggest why the girls would continue to work in such poor conditions. You may use evidence from the text to support your answer. Why was one of the girls wearing a headscarf? <i>"E's back. 'Ee's on the stairs.'</i> Who are they referring to at the end of the chapter? 	<p>What do you think will happen next? Charlie and Lavinia get caught in the attic? Write a continuation.</p>	<p>PSHE • Charlie references labour laws in this chapter. Research what laws there are today about workplace conditions and discuss whether you think this needs to be amended. Research the process of new laws being passed – how long does it take? Who does it involve?</p>
37	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How could Lavinia tell that Mr Jeddars was getting closer? Why did Lavinia put a handkerchief over her mouth? Suggest how Charlie felt when he was crouching behind the barrel. Use evidence from the text to support your answer. 		



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who do you think Mr Jedderts is talking to at the end of the chapter? Why do you think this? 		
38	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What was Mr Jedderts inspecting? Why was he inspecting this? Explain why Charlie was a <i>'sickly greenish colour'</i>. How many times did Mr Jedderts hit Ruth with his cane? Do you think Mr Jedderts will give the workers an extra penny? Why do you think this? Use evidence. Think back to your previous predictions about Mr Jedderts – has your opinion changed? Do you have more evidence to support your opinion? 		<p>HISTORY • The cane was also used in schools for punishments. Research punishment throughout history – how does it compare to today? Can you create a timeline to show when different punishments were used?</p>
39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain what Ruth meant when she referred to the coffin. Who did it belong to? What do we know about this person? Lavinia calls Mr Jedderts evil. Do you agree with this description of him? Explain why you think this using evidence from the text. You can use evidence from previous chapters if you wish. Find and copy a word that means 'seen'. 	<p>Write a balanced argument discussing whether Lavinia should keep her promise to Ruth or whether she should tell somebody about what they had seen and heard.</p>	<p>PSHE • Do you think it is OK to keep secrets? Does it depend on what the secret is? Which secrets shouldn't you keep?</p> <p>Think about friendship. Have there been any times you have disagreed with your friend? How did you solve any conflict? Write a short paragraph giving Lavinia and Charlie advice on how to work through their differences.</p>



Chapter**Comprehension Questions****Writing Opportunities****Cross-Curricular Opportunities****40**

- What was Lavinia going to do at the cottage?
- Look at page 211. Find and copy a word that shows Temitayo was happy to be baking.
- What evidence is there in the text to show that Lavinia cried a lot?
- Was Aunt Bets angry about the mess the children had created? Use evidence to explain how you know.
- Did Temitayo expect Mrs Heap to react the way she did?

Write the police report that would have been written when Aunt Bets went to the police station about Lavinia's mother. Remember, Aunt Bets would have had to have given specific details if she was reporting somebody as missing.

41

- Explain why all of the keepers were there when Lavinia got to the aquarium.
- How did Lavinia know that the octopus had to be in the tank?
- Describe what was strange about the movement of the crabs.
- What had the octopus done to hide itself?

42

- What does Lavinia mean when she mimes the turn of a key on her lips?
- Summarize *The True History of Pepper's Ghost* by John Henry Pepper.
- Why hadn't Lavinia ever been to a fair?
- Do you agree that Ghost is an appropriate name for the octopus? Explain why you think this.

Write a newspaper article (as Charlie would) about Ghost being able to move from tank to tank and what happened when they couldn't find him.



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you think Ghost missed Lavinia with the water on purpose or do you think it was a coincidence? Explain why you think this. 		
43	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How had Ghost got through to the crab tank? What colours showed that Ghost was uncomfortable? Find and copy evidence that shows that Charlie felt uncomfortable. Find and copy a word that means 'unlikely'. What is meant by the phrase 'no mean feat'? Do you think the newspaper article is written by Charlie or the anonymous source? 		<p>ART • Draw the picture that Lavinia draws of the octopus hiding in the crab shells. Use the materials of your choice.</p>
44	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What month is this chapter set in? Find and copy a word that shows there were a lot of people visiting the tea room. Explain why Lavinia continued to wear her cape. How did Lavinia know that Ghost was irritated? Find and copy a word that suggests Ghost looked evil in the drawing. Explain how Charlie knew that it was a completely different writer rather than the newspaper changing some of the words. How did Lavinia know that the letter was from her mother? 	<p>What do you think Lavinia's mother has written in her letter? Have a go at writing what you think she said.</p>	<p>PE • Think about the different ways that Lavinia describes Ghost's movements. Can you move in this way? How many different ways can you move or travel?</p>



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

45

- Did the letter say what you expected it to? Explain why.
- Where did Mother write the letter from?
- How do you know that Mother is trying to be secretive?
- Do you think Lavinia was right to show the letter to Bets? Why?
- Find and copy two examples of how Lavinia knew her mother was sick.
- Who had been looking after Mother?
- What were Mother's reasons for not telling Lavinia where she was? Do you believe her?
- How did Aunt Bets feel about the fact Mother hadn't told Lavinia where she was? Use evidence to support your answer.

HISTORY • Mother talks about consumption and also influenza. Have you heard of these diseases before? Research which illnesses were prevalent at the time the book was set. Are they still an issue today? How were they treated then? Are they treated the same way now?

46

- What do you think Mother means when she says '*I have taken only what is ours ...*'?
- How did Lavinia feel when her mother reacted to her drawings of Ghost? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
- Do you agree with how Mother has reacted to Lavinia's drawings and her friendship with Temitayo? Explain why you think this.
- Do you think Mother is truthful when she says she doesn't want people to know because of the impression it will give?



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

47

- Look at page 253. Give three reasons why Lavinia was having a bad day.
- What are the two toxic substances that have been discontinued?
- What were the consequences of the substances being discontinued? How did this affect the fashion market?
- Find and copy three words from the newspaper article that show the writer is trying to make the reader understand how bad the conditions are.
- Suggest what may have happened to Lavinia's sketchbook. Explain why you think this.

What do you think Mother is doing on the terrace? Write a continuation of what you think will happen next. Do you think Lavinia will find her sketchbook?

48

- How does the author show that Mother is uneasy about being out in the open? Use evidence from the text.
- Suggest how Lavinia felt when she realized her mother was not going to take her to Paris. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
- Give an example of how this chapter shows that Lavinia has changed since the beginning of the book.
- Suggest why Mother would be asking about the tunnels.
- What is your opinion on Mother? What kind of character do you think she is? Has your opinion changed throughout the book? Explain your thinking, using evidence to justify your answer.

Write a continuation of what you think will happen next. Do you think they will go through the tunnels? If so, focus on creating a description with lots of atmosphere!

HISTORY/GEOGRAPHY •

Research the use of secret tunnels throughout history. These could be within particular buildings or general tunnels within cities. Pick one of the examples you have found and create a map to show where they lead.



Chapter**Comprehension Questions****Writing Opportunities****Cross-Curricular Opportunities****49**

- Find and copy a word that shows Lavinia was unsure about going in the tunnel.
- How did Lavinia feel when she saw that Mother was hurt? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
- Do you believe Mother when she says that she hurt herself on the mirror?
- What does the word 'flung' suggest about how she opened the door from the passageway?
- Suggest how Mr Jeddars has found where Mother is. Predict what might happen next.

PE • Lavinia has to walk through the tunnel without being able to see. Can you guide a partner, who is wearing a blindfold, through an obstacle course?

50

- What do you think happened between Mother and Mr Jeddars? Explain why you think this using evidence from the text.
- Do you think Lavinia is brave in this chapter? Explain your opinion by finding examples from the text to support it.
- Why did Ghost pulse red?
- Suggest what Ghost turning blue may mean.
- How is Lavinia stopping Jeddars from reaching her mother?

51

- Explain how Jeddars was trying to get Lavinia's mother to come out of hiding. Why would he think this would work?
- Describe how Ghost tried to help Lavinia.



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

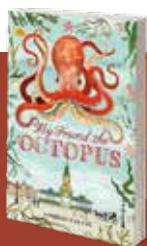
Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suggest why Ghost let go when he heard the voice from behind the children. Explain why Jeddars would have been spluttering and gasping. 		
52	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is Jeddars' first name? What was Jeddars under arrest for? Who was the thirteen-year-old girl that the policemen are referring to? Suggest how Ghost had managed to get out of the tank. Use evidence from the text to support your answer. What do you think the oval shapes are that Lavinia has seen? Lavinia thinks that her mother knew Jeddars was after her and has used the tunnel to escape from him. Do you agree? Explain why you think this. 		<p>SCIENCE • Research the life cycle of a range of different animals, including that of an octopus. Can you create a diagram or informational poster to help share with others what you have found out?</p>
53	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>'The sea pounded the beach in a steadier heartbeat than my own, which was throbbing in my ears.'</i> What does this suggest about how Lavinia is feeling? Why did Mother keep all of her hat- and hairpins in her purse? Is Mother the kind of person you thought she was? 	Write a balanced argument about whether Lavinia should lie for her mother or not. At the end, you could include your own opinion!	<p>GEOGRAPHY • What is the difference between low and high tide? How does this change how a place looks? How does this change safety precautions you need to take around the sea?</p>



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at page 282. Find and copy a word that means 'tricked'. • Do you believe her when she says she was tricked by Jedderts? Explain why you think this. • What could have happened to Mother if somebody knew she was involved? 		<p>PSHE • Is it ever right to lie? Mother is asking Lavinia to lie – do you think she should? Explain your opinion.</p>
54	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give one example of how women Lavinia has met were controlled by their husbands. • What had caused the blood on Jedderts' teeth? • What was Lavinia's plan? Summarize it as best as you can. • Find and copy a word that is similar in meaning to a 'rascal'. • The police think that Jedderts is making everything up. Is he? Do you think he is also making it up when talking about what Mother has done? Explain why you think this. 	Write the police report that would be written after Jedderts' arrest.	<p>PSHE • Lavinia's mother suggests that the police will blame her. Find out how the police help us and the process they follow to help bring justice and safety to the community.</p>
55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain why Lavinia could not look at Aunt Bets. • Look at page 292. Find and copy a word that means to tell someone a secret. • According to Lavinia, what was Mr Jedderts' role in the business? • Explain why Aunt Bets' eyes burn into the side of Lavinia's face. What does this suggest about how she is feeling? 		



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
56	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarize the explanation Lavinia gave for being near the workshop. What were the names of the victims? Look at page 296. What is the meaning of the word 'gaol'? Explain why the police were searching the premises of Mother and Aunt Bets. What is the meaning of the phrase 'a tall tale'? Do you think the police believe Lavinia? Explain why you think this. 	<p>Write a witness statement for Lavinia based on what she has told the police, ensuring to be specific about details. Remember this is a legal document so would need to be written formally.</p>	
57	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explain why Lavinia found it hard to sleep. Give two reasons using evidence from the text. Temitayo describes herself as 'heroic' and 'valiant'. What do these words mean? Use a dictionary to help you if you need to. What were the row of hanging forms? Is it what you expected? Look at the newspaper article. Find and copy a phrase that shows Mr Jedders was not sorry about what he did. 		
58	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find and copy a phrase that shows that people were not sure about how long octopus eggs take to hatch. Why did Lavinia feel particularly awkward around Aunt Bets? 		<p>PSHE • Lavinia says that she believes Ghost is a good mother. Think about who cares for you and helps you. What</p>



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look at page 306. Find and copy a word that shows Lavinia could not look away from the tank. What did Charlie and Lavinia spot in the temple? How do you think the necklace got into the tank? What was the meaning of the blue dots that Ghost kept showing? What was hidden in the pearl? What does this suggest about Mother? 		<p>should a positive relationship look like? What characteristics would make a good parent/guardian/caregiver?</p>
59	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>'The facts raced around my mind like the horses on a merry-go-round.'</i> How does this comparison help the reader? What do we now know about Mother? What kind of person is she? Explain your opinion using evidence where possible. What caused the tinkle on the tiles? Summarize how the pearl got into the tank. Suggest what decision Lavinia has made at the end of the chapter. 	<p>Now that you know what happened when Lavinia left her mother to get smelling salts, write a chapter from Mother's perspective, including all of these new details. How do you think Mother was feeling? What would she have been able to see and hear?</p>	
60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does the author hint to the reader that the news Mr Lee is going to give Lavinia will be negative? What is going to happen to Ghost? Look at page 318. Find and copy a word that shows the 	<p>Write the chapter from the perspective of Ghost. What do you think she would be feeling or thinking?</p>	<p>PSHE • The passing of loved ones can be a difficult time. What feelings can you have when this happens? What</p>



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

	<p>outcome cannot be changed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explain why Lavinia didn't use the galoshes. What does this show about her character?• Look at page 320. Lavinia describes Ghost as having 'satin skin'. What does the word 'satin' suggest about her skin?• How did Lavinia feel at the end of the chapter? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.		<p>advice would you give to Lavinia to help her deal with her emotions?</p>
61	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find and copy a word that shows that light can pass through the baby octopuses.• What does Aunt Bets' reaction to Lavinia being upset suggest about her?• <i>'I tried to stall him.'</i> Who are they referring to when they say him?• Why does Bickerstaff call Ghost his eight-legged gold mine?• Look at page 325. Find and copy a phrase that shows Mr Lee is affected by Ghost passing away.• Do you think Bickerstaff cares that Ghost has died? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.• Look at page 326. Find and copy a word that is close in meaning to 'care'.• What does the end of the chapter suggest Mr Lee is going to do?	<p>Write a newspaper article about the birth of the baby octopuses and the death of Ghost.</p>	



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
62	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who did Charlie think the anonymous writer was in the newspaper? How do you think Charlie felt when he thought it was Mr Lee who had been writing them? Use evidence from the text to support your answer. Who had actually been writing the newspaper articles? What is Charlie going to be become? Does Mr Lee forgive Charlie for his mistake? What does this show about his character? 	<p>What do you think Temitayo was writing about in her diary at the beginning of the chapter? Have a go at writing it as if you were Temitayo.</p>	<p>PSHE • Charlie has to seek forgiveness from Mr Lee. Do you think it is easy to forgive somebody? How can you persuade someone to forgive you? What makes a good apology?</p>
63	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What did Mrs Heap want to talk to Temitayo about? How does Mrs Heap feel about Temitayo going to finishing school? Use evidence to support your answer. Is this how you expected her to feel? Mrs Heap said she doesn't think she's been a good guardian to Temitayo. Do you agree with her? Explain your opinion. What was the one condition for Temitayo to stay with Mrs Heap? 		
64	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who is getting married? Does this surprise you? Where were they going? What did Mr Lee tell Bickerstaff had happened to the baby octopuses? 		<p>ART • Draw a picture of the ship. You can use some examples of famous paintings of ships to help you if you wish.</p>



Chapter	Comprehension Questions	Writing Opportunities	Cross-Curricular Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What had actually happened to them? • Mother says that Aunt Bets, Mr Lee and Charlie are not Lavinia's real family. Do you agree? Explain your opinion. 		<p>What kind of materials are you going to use? Why are you going to use them?</p>
65	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What had Mother come for? What does this show you about her character? • Mother says that Lavinia is like her. Do you agree? Explain why you think this. • What was Mother's opinion of the poor people who worked for her? How do you know? • Look at page 344. Find and copy a word that means to live somewhere. 	<p>Write a continuation of the story. Do you think Lavinia will give her mother the pearl?</p>	
66	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What was Lavinia going to do with the pearl? • How does Mother react when she thinks the pearl, and the diamonds inside it, are going to fall into the sea? What does this suggest about her motives and priorities? • <i>'With one hand she held the bar, knuckles white ...'</i> What does this suggest about how she is holding the bar? • Explain what Lavinia had done with the diamonds. Do you think this was the right thing to do? Explain why you think this. • <i>'... triumph turning to disbelief as her back hit the sea.'</i> Explain why Mother was feeling triumphant, and why this 		



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

	then changed to disbelief.		
67	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>'Mother's eyes bore into mine, her gaze like threads binding me.'</i> Why would she look at Lavinia this way? What was Mother hoping Lavinia would do? • Explain why the Captain was doubtful that the pearl was genuine. • Why would Mother not want the Captain to open the pearl? • How did Charlie find Ruth? 		
68	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How long had passed since the end of the last chapter? • What had kept Lavinia awake? • Explain how this chapter links back to the prologue. • Why did Charlie not like being on the fishing vessel? • Why was the tide pool easy to find? • Mr Lee and Aunt Bets put down the trunks, panting. • What does this suggest about the trunks? 	The chapter mentions that Temitayo is going to be writing one last article about the octopuses. What do you think it will be about? Have a go at writing your own.	<p>GEOGRAPHY • Research Madeira. How does it differ from the UK? Can you find Funchal on a map of Madeira?</p> <p>ART • Use your research about Madeira to create a landscape of the Madeira coast. You can use some of the setting description from the book to help you too!</p>
69	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain why Lavinia would be nervous about getting changed into her costume. • <i>'We've looked after them for you, my friend.'</i> Who is Lavinia talking to at this point? 	Complete a book review. Did you enjoy it? Did it end how you expected? What would people like about it? Who	<p>SCIENCE • Lavinia mentions that she can see Ghost in every baby she looks at. Find out about how parents pass on</p>



Chapter

Comprehension Questions

Writing Opportunities

Cross-Curricular Opportunities

- Why would Lavinia want to block thoughts of her own mother?
- Suggest why Lavinia thought that the baby octopus was scared to come out of the jar. Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
- Look at page 360. Find and copy a word that means 'to let go'.

would you recommend it to?

their characteristics to their offspring.

Of Fiction and Fact

- Name one truth and one fact about the Henry Lee, the author described in the book.
- When did Brighton Aquarium open?
- What is special about Brighton Aquarium?
- Name two other animals that are also cephalopods.
- Which real-life person inspired the story of Ruth and the other workers?
- What story inspired the author to write about an octopus?

