English  
  
  
  
  
Short Story Unit  
*No Sweat*   
**June 15th-19th**    
Week 3

Week 3 Session 1

**TASK 1: Vocabulary** – complete this task before reading part 1

Look up the definitions to the words below and then fill in missing words from the sentence.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Word** | **Definition** |
| participants (n) |  |
| superior (adj) |  |
| smothered (v) |  |
| muttered (v) |  |
| hobbling (v) |  |

1. The school boy \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_something under his breath so that the teacher couldn’t hear.

2. On the stony and bumpy road, the old lady could be seen \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ her way home with some difficulty.

3. All \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to the London marathon receive a medal at the finish line.

4. Most people agree that Chocolate Hobknobs are a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ biscuit to an ordinary digestive.

5. The woman \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a sigh as she didn’t want people to realise that she was fed up by the situation.

**TASK 2: Comprehension Questions** – now read Part 1 and answer these questions

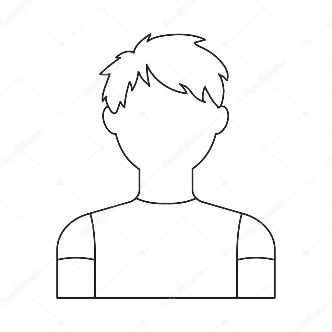
1. What is Mark completing with his friends?

2. What was Mark surprised by on line 26?

3. How does Mark feel in relation to the team of youths?

4. What does Mark do when he sees the elderly woman?

5. How long does Mark set out to swim for?

**TASK 3: Impression of Character**

What impression do you get of Mark from the first part of the story?  
 Think of both postive and negative things and put them in this table.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Positive +** | **Negative** |
|  |  |



**TASK 4: Creative Writing**

Mark is doing something for charity – Swimathon.

Imagine you are giving a speech for a school assembly and you need to encourage students to do something for charity.

Write that speech.

Think about:

* Why people should do things for charity
* What they would get from the experience
* The different types of things that people could do



Week 3 Session 2

**TASK 1: Vocabulary** – complete this task before reading part 2

Look up the definitions to the words below and then fill in missing words from the sentence.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Word** | **Definition** |
| sedate (adj) |  |
| dissipate (v) |  |
| reverberating (adj) |  |
| flurry (n) |  |

1. The teacher decided to wait for noise to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_before trying to address the room.

2. Noises, in the large old hall, were \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ around the room.

3. Quite a lot of snow fell in a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ but then it seemed to dissipate.

4. The party was a small gathering and was altogether quite \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**TASK 2: Comprehension Questions** – now read Part 2 and answer these questions

1. How does Mark feel after one length?

2. Who was Mark expecting to have arrived by now?

3. What had partly driven Mark to swim the hundred lengths?

4. Why does Mark feel a stab of jealousy for the team of boys swimming?

5. What does Mark notice about the ‘wrinkly Joan’?

**TASK 3: Mark’s Feelings**  

Mark has a number of feelings so far in the story.

Choose **5 quotations** which you think a feeling thatMark is going through and then write what is **shows.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Quotation** | **What it shows about Mark’s feelings** |
| ‘A wrinkly! He smothered a laugh. He was going to be swimming next to a bunch of wrinklies!’ | He is amused by the fact that elderly people are swimming. He feels superior to them. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |



**TASK 4: Creative Writing**

Imagine you are one of the other boys taking part in the timed swimming record. Write a though bubble from one of the boys who has just swam and try to include:



* what your swim was like & how you feel
* Mark (the other boy you don’t know swimming alone)
* Joan (the elderly woman in the far lane swimming)
* Your thoughts on swimming in general

Week 3 Session 3

**TASK 1: Vocabulary** – complete this task before reading part 3

Look up the definitions to the words below and then fill in missing words from the sentence.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Word** | **Definition** |
| consciously (adv) |  |
| garbled (adj) |  |
| vital (adj) |  |
| captivity (n) |  |
| graceful (adj) |  |

1. It is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_for your health that you eat plenty of fruit and vegetables and don’t eat too many sugary foods.

2. The woman, who knew lots of people were watching, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ waved gracefully to her audience.

3. Ballerinas are often elegant and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when they dance.

4. The answer machine message was difficult to understand; it was a quick \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ message that didn’t make sense to anybody.

5. Many people think that holding animals in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_is immoral and that she should be free.

**TASK 2: Comprehension Questions** – now read Part 3 and answer these questions

1. What did Mark have when the lap counter asked him what he was going to do?

2. What does Joan advise Mark to do?

3. What does Mark realise by his one hundred and fifieth length?

4. What had Mark longed to be?

5. Why had Mark believed everything that Jacko and Terry had said?

**TASK 3: Jacko and Terry**

Jacko and Terry have not apeared in the story so far but they have been mentioned. What impression do you have of them? Choose some quotations and write you think it shows about them.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Quotation** | **What does it show about Jacko and Terry?** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**TASK 4: Creative Writing**

In this part of the story, there is a good description of Mark swimming and he is likened to an animal:



*“He still knew he wouldn’t make it, but at least moving his neck from side to side would ease the pain. He lashed furiously in the water like a tiger released from captivity. Wild and powerful, yet still in control. Still graceful.”*

Write your own description of someone taking part in a sporting activity. Aim to use a simile (or a metaphor) and compare them to an animal.





Week 3 Session 4

**TASK 1: Vocabulary** – complete this task before reading part 4

Look up the definitions to the words below and then fill in missing words from the sentence.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Word** | **Definition** |
| gazed (v) |  |
| lusting (v) |  |
| puny (adj) |  |
| clasping (v) |  |
| gather (v) |  |

1. It was time for me to leave so I began to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_my things and pack my bag.

2. Maths lessons I found dull so instead of listening I often \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ out of the window.

3. People believed that the boy was too \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_to be a boxer but they were wrong and his strength surprised everybody.

4. When I give up chocolate for lent, I find myself \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for other sugary foods such as sweets or icecream.

5. The boy was terrified of falling out so he sat for the entire ride \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the handle bar of the rollercoaster tightly.

**TASK 2: Comprehension Questions** – now read Part 4 and answer these questions

1. What does Mark notice the man in charge and the lifeguard doing?

2. What had Mark decided to be? See the bottom of pg 8

3. What does Joan do when it’s Marks final lap?

4. What does the man in charge tell Mark when he gets out?

5. What does Mark do before getting dressed?

**TASK 3: Extended Questions**

What does Mark learn throughout this story?   
In what ways do you think he has changed?

**TASK 4: Creative Writing**

It is important to be yourself and not to try and impress other people.

Write an article for your school webpage in which you write about how young people need to be themselves and do what they enjoy without worrying too much about what others think.



Answers   
**Part 1**  
1) MUTTERED 2) HOBBLING 3)PARTICIPANTS 4) SUPERIOR   
5) SMOTHERED

**TASK 2**

1. Swimathon
2. His stomach was already fluttering
3. Superior/better than them
4. Smother a laugh
5. Two hours/hundred laps

**PART 2**

1) DISSIPATE 2) REVERBERATING 3) FLURRY 4) SEDATE

**TASK 2**

1. Ready to get out/tired
2. Jacko and Terry
3. He had a desire to impress Jacko and Terry
4. They had mates that were rooting for them
5. Her team hadn’t turned up either

**PART 3**

1) VITAL 2) CONSCIOUSLY 3) GRACEFUL  
4) GARBLED 5) CAPTIVITY

**TASK 2**

1. A lump in his throat
2. To keep on going
3. Jacko and Terry weren’t going to make it
4. One of them; like Jacko and Terry
5. Desperate to have friends

**PART 4**

1) GATHER 2)GAZED 3) PUNY 4) LUSTING 5) CLASPING

**TASK 2**

1. They give Mark the thumbs up
2. To be himself
3. Cheer from the water
4. He didn’t need his team mates after all
5. Cheers for Joan