



Reading extract and questions:

Year 3/4

Hide and Seek

Set A/B



Calling a cheerful “*Goodbye!*” to her family, Ola sprinted off down the path leading from her house towards the park. She leapt over the railings, ducked down the short-cut and found herself on the edge of the playing field in less than two minutes. Secretly pleased to be the first one there, Ola relaxed against the nearest tree and waited for her friends to arrive.

They didn’t take long. First Lucy then Gabe and Hassan, finally Amelia.

“Amelia?” thought Ola. “Who invited *her*?” Well, never mind. It was a lovely afternoon, maybe she would be nicer today.

“Cześć!” Ola said aloud. Lucy, Gabe and Hassan greeted her back, grinning round at one another at the freedom of a Saturday afternoon together under a clear blue sky.

“Chez?” spat Amelia, tossing her head. “You’re in England, speak English.”

“Oh, um, sorry,” mumbled Ola. “I mean, hi everyone.”

Gabe gave Amelia his special stony look, but she took no notice. Then he smiled at Ola.

“Chez,” he grinned. “So, guys, my dad’s walking our dog round the park for about an hour or so. He says we can go wherever we like as long as we don’t leave the trees, playing field or hedge maze because he says he’ll hear us if we shout out. Are you all ready for hide and seek?”

They certainly were, Ola most of all. Hassan was the counter, so the rest tore off in search of places to conceal themselves. Ola dashed through the trees, crouched behind a majestic oak tree for ten seconds then doubled back towards the hedge maze. She knew that Hassan hated the maze so he wouldn’t be searching there first. Ola, however, knew every twist and turn of that trail like the back of her hand. Besides, she had been itching to use this new hiding place for ages!

She was not disappointed. Ten minutes later Ola was still balancing on the sturdy branch inside the hollow gap in the hedge, undiscovered. She had heard Lucy squeal and Hassan shout out “*Found you!*” then Gabe’s little dog had barked his recognisable yap so he had probably located Gabe. Then everything was quiet.

Ola was just starting to relax into the hedge when she heard a twig snap. Sitting up straight, she forced her lungs to breathe slower and quieter. If only she could slow her heart down too – it thumped in her chest like a giant’s iron hammer, ready to burst out at any second! A moment later, cautious footsteps crept just the other side of the hedge. Ola held her breathe and, for some reason, scrunched her eyelids shut. Silence. Then... a squeal! *What was that?* It sounded more like a wounded werewolf than Hassan. Ola gulped but remained perfectly still, eyes closed. Another whimper then another. Ola realised she was shaking.

The whine came again. Although she knew that this would either reveal her awesome hiding place or end up with her getting eaten, Ola stretched up and peered over the hedge. There, sprawled on the trail clutching her ankle, lay Amelia. Crying. Ola didn’t know that Amelia *could* cry! She didn’t say that though, instead she smiled kindly and called out “I’m coming Amelia. Don’t worry.”

Amelia pulled a face and rolled around in pain. Then she cleared her throat and smiled back.

“Chez,” she whispered.

Questions for *Hide and Seek* Set A

Vocabulary

1. Which word below is similar in meaning to the word *cheerful*?

jolly

☐

tearful

☐

cheesy

☐

cheering

☐

Tick one

2. Look at the second paragraph. **Find** and **copy a group of words** that show Ameila was not very happy with Ola's greeting.

3. Look at the section beginning: '*They certainly were...*'

'in search of places to conceal themselves...'

What does the word *conceal* mean in this sentence?

Retrieval

4. What was Gabe's dad doing while the children played in the park?

5. Where was Ola's hiding place?

6. Look at the paragraph beginning *Ola was just starting to relax*. What did the strange noise sound *more like*?

Inference

7. What does the first paragraph tell you about Ola?

She hated running.

She sneaked away from home.

She was bored waiting for her friends.

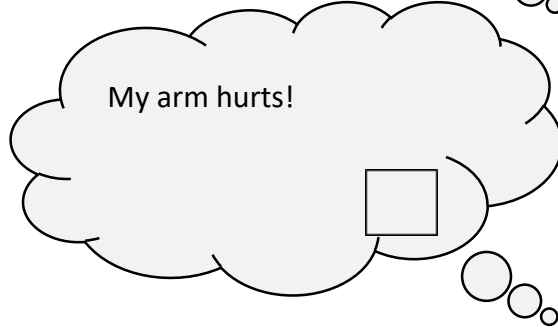
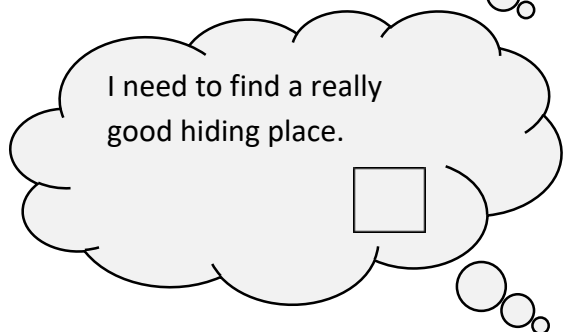
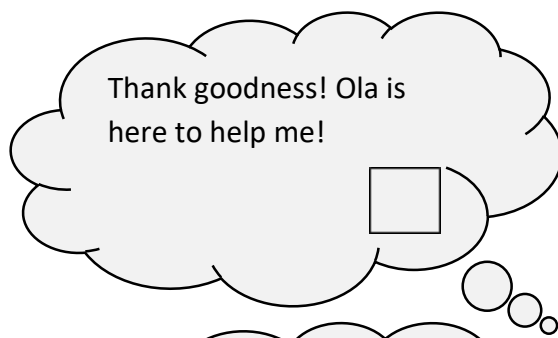
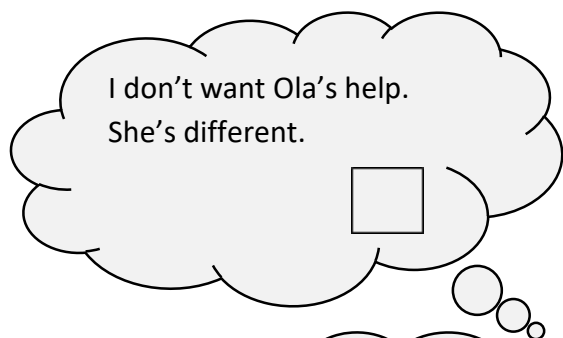
She was lively and active.

Tick one

☐☐☐☐

8. Look at the third paragraph. What is meant by the sentence *She was not disappointed?*

9. What might Amelia have been thinking in the last paragraph? Tick **one** thought.



Summarise

10. Using the whole text, **tick one box** in **each row** to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
Ola and her friends were playing at the park.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ola's main hiding place was in the trees.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Amelia pretended to be a werewolf to scare Ola.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Predict

11. Do you think that Ola would have left her hiding place if she had already known she would find Amelia lying on the ground?

Circle one: **yes** **no**

Explain why you think this.

Compare

12. How does Amelia change throughout the story?

Questions for *Hide and Seek* Set B

Vocabulary

1. Look at the first paragraph. **Find** and **copy** the word that means *ran fast*.

2. *Gabe gave Amelia his special stony look...* What does the word *stony* mean in this sentence?

3. Which group of words means the same as *an hour or so*?

exactly an hour

about an hour

half an hour

as long as we like

Tick one.

☐☐☐☐

Retrieval

4. Which friends arrived at the park together?

5. Where were the children allowed to play? **Write three.**

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

6. Where was Ola's first hiding place?

Inference

7. What was the weather like that afternoon?

sunny

☐

cloudy

☐

rainy

☐

foggy

☐

Tick **one**

8. Look at the paragraph beginning: '*Ola was just starting to relax...*' Write **two** ways Ola reacted to the noise.

1. _____

2. _____

9. Look at the final paragraph. Why was Amelia crying?

Summarise

10. Here are some summaries of different paragraphs in the text. Number them from **1** to **4** to show the order in which they appear in the text.

- ☐ Hassan finds Lucy.
- ☐ Ola leaves her hiding place.
- ☐ Ola leaves her home.
- ☐ Ola hears strange noises.

Authorial intent

11. The word *cześć* (pronounced *chez*) is used at different points in the story. Explain why it is important in the different parts in the table below.

When Ola greets her friends	_____ _____
When Amelia tells Ola to speak English	_____ _____
When Gabe says 'Chez'	_____ _____
When Amelia says 'Chez'	_____ _____

Answers for *Hide and Seek*

Set A:

Vocabulary

1. jolly
2. "Chez?" spat Amelia, tossing her head. "You're in England, speak English."
3. hide

Retrieval

4. walking the dog
5. (on a branch) in the hedge (in the maze)
6. a wounded werewolf

Inference

7. She was lively and active.
8. Pupils' answers should refer to the fact that Ola's hiding place worked as well as she had hoped, e.g. Ola was pleased that nobody found her straight away / that her hiding place worked well.
9. Thank goodness! Ola is here to help me!

Summarise

10.

	True	False
Ola and her friends were playing at the park.	X	
Ola's main hiding place was in the trees.		X
Amelia pretended to be a werewolf to scare Ola.		X

Predict

11.

- yes** - Because Ola was kind – she didn't say her thoughts about Amelia out loud. She thought the best of people, e.g. she thought Amelia might be nicer this time.
- no** - Because Amelia was unkind to Ola / Amelia would know where her special hiding place was.

Consider other plausible explanations that reference the text.

Compare

12. Pupils' answers should refer to Amelia acting unkindly to Ola at the start of the story, e.g. telling her off for greeting her friends in her home language and saying "You're in England, speak English." Then she ignores Gabe's look. She joins in the game with the others. She is in a sad mood when she hurts herself then relieved when Ola finds her. At the end, she acts in a grateful way. (She is also humble because she says 'Chez' to Ola which she criticised at the start of the story). Amelia could also be described as shy at the end of the story because she whispers the greeting to Ola.

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Answers for *Hide and Seek*

Set B:

Vocabulary

1. sprinted
2. hard / unmoving / displeased
3. about an hour

Retrieval

4. Gabe and Hassan
5. 1. in the trees 2. in the playing field 3. in the hedge maze
6. (crouched behind) an oak tree / majestic oak tree

Inference

7. sunny
8. 1. She started to breathe really fast 2. Her heart beat fast
Pupils may also mention that her throat / mouth went dry because she *gulped*.
9. Because she had hurt her ankle (and fallen over)

Summarise

10. 2 Hassan finds Lucy.
- 4 Ola leaves her hiding place.
- 1 Ola leaves her home.
- 3 Ola hears strange noises.

Authorial intent

11.

When Ola greets her friends	e.g. To show she is relaxed speaking to her friends in her home language. To show that English is not Ola's first language. To set the scene.
When Amelia tells Ola to speak English	e.g. To show that Amelia is a difficult character. To show why Ola was unhappy about Amelia coming along. To show that Amelia was unkind to Ola.
When Gabe says 'Chez'	e.g. To show he was being a good friend to Ola. To show he was sticking up for Ola. To show that he is happy speaking his friend's home language.
When Amelia says 'Chez'	e.g. To show that she has learned her lesson. To make up with Ola. To show that she was wrong earlier. To show that Amelia has changed.

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