

'Pig Heart Boy' Comprehension

Use the text to help you answer the questions below.

💡 If you see a light bulb next to the question, you will need to think about your own thoughts or opinions, based on what you have read.

1. Look at the sentences below:

'It's metres above me. It might as well be kilometres.'

What does the writer mean by this?

This means that Cam is going to struggle to get out when the surface is only metres above him, so it may as well be kilometres above him.

2. What noises can Cam hear that make the atmosphere sound 'thunderous' (p.7)?

Cam can hear: shouting, screaming, laughing and shrieking

3. Which simile does the author use to describe Cam's blood 'roaring'?

It roared 'like some kind of angry monster' in his ears.

4. What does the word 'emerge' mean?

To appear

5. What does Marlon feel most anxious about? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

He feels anxious that someone who knows Cam's parents will see Cam at the pool with him and that he's going to get it in the neck - as well as every other bodily part.

💡 6. How do you think Marlon feels when Cam snaps at him on p.8? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Appropriate answers, e.g. Marlon probably feels a mixture of emotions because he understands that Cam feels frustrated that he can't join in and that everyone is always telling him he can't do things. On the other hand, he probably feels upset that he's trying to make sure Cam is okay and Cam is getting cross with him.

7. What does the phrase 'clucked over' mean? (p.8)

This means that he feels as though people are always making a fuss around him about what he's doing and telling him that he can't do things. They may also be constantly checking on him and reminding him of his limitations.



💡 8. How do you think Cam feels watching all of his friends playing Daredevil Dive?

Appropriate answers, e.g. Cam is feeling lonely and frustrated that he can't join in with his friends when he wants to. They all sound as though they're having lots of fun and he wishes he could be part of it.

9. Why don't Cam's friends even ask if he wants to join in with their games?

They know that he can't and so they don't ask him.

10. How does Cam's attitude change (briefly) in the shower?

He begins to realise that he is alive and he should be happy about that. He realises that he doesn't want his heart to control everything about him and that he wants to find something that he can do that no one can take away from him.

