

## 'Journey to the River Sea' 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. What do Miss Banks and Miss Emily prize as well as proper learning?

*Good manners, thoughtfulness and care for others*

2. What is the role of Mr Murray in the story?

*He is Maia's guardian and lawyer*

3. How does Maia comfort herself in Miss Banks' office?

*She stroked the head of Miss Banks' dog - a spaniel*

4. How had the death of her parents affected Maia?

*She had cried under her pillow so that she didn't wake the other girls up, but it had taken 2 years for her to come to terms with it.*

5. 'Your father left you well-provided for.'

What does this statement mean?

*Maia's father left her money so that she could have what she needed.*

6. What is worrying Maia about the Amazon as she sits in the office?

*Maia thought about rivers full of leeches, dark forests with hostile Indians with blowpipes and nameless insects that burrow into flesh.*

7. How does Maia give herself the courage to go on this journey?

*She took herself into the library and read lots of books about the Amazon so that she could find out more.*

8. Give one thing that Maia learns in the library about her new home:

*Choices from the text, e.g. She read about broad-leaved trees that were pierced by the sunlight*

💡 9. Why will the class be surprised by Maia's facts about the Amazon?



Appropriate answers, e.g. They would expect her to find out dangerous things like they had, but she would have surprised them by finding out the positives.

10. What makes Maia's departure from the school so much harder?

It was harder because the other children were all feeling so sad, e.g. Dora was crying and clutching her skirt. The arrival of Miss Minton also made it scarier.

