

'The Butterfly Lion' 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 is the purpose of the dash on the first page?

It gives a bit more information about the situation the boy found himself in.

2. Give two examples of the boarding school 'diet'?

- Answers can include the following: Latin, stew, rugby, detentions, cross-country runs, chilblains, marks, squeaky beds and semolina pudding.*

3. On p.9, which simile is used to describe how the boy ran?

I ran as if bloodhounds were chasing me

4. What will happen if the boy is caught trying to escape?

He will receive the cane

💡 5. Why do you think the road is 'too dangerous'?

Appropriate answers, e.g. The road will be too busy with cars and he could get knocked over as he goes along the edge.

6. What does 'he's all bark and no bite' mean on p.13?

The dog sounds fierce but actually he won't hurt the boy

7. Why does the boy eat 3 scones before he touches his tea?

He was so hungry that he ate what he could before having a drink

8. What is fascinating about the scene outside the window?

The clouds are casting a shadow over the hillside in the shape of a lion, roaring like the one over the archway.

9. Why does the old lady's smile warm him 'to the bone'?

It made him feel as though someone cared for him and that is what he needed. He felt less sad and lonely, like he did at school.



💡 10. Why isn't the boy hungry anymore?

He is too interested in listening to the lady's story - he wants her to start.

