


'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 phrase below:

'Roaring silence...'

What type of phrase is this? Circle one:

Metaphor

Oxymoron


Hyperbole

2. What does the phrase, 'my lungs are on fire' actually mean?


It means that his lungs have a burning sensation going through them, as they are desperate for more oxygen.

3. Why does the author repeat the word 'just' at the end of the first chapter?

It is used for dramatic effect - it highlights the importance of him doing 'just' this one thing to make sure that he doesn't drown.

 4. Why do you think Cam wants to stay under the water 'for ever'? (p.7)

Appropriate answers, e.g. I think Cam wants to stay under the water forever as it feels peaceful for him under there. He also enjoys testing just how far he can push himself (and his heart) by being under there; he wants to prove people wrong and be in control.

 5. What impression do you get of Marlon throughout this chapter? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Appropriate answers, e.g. I think Marlon is a good friend to Cam because he wants to make sure that nothing happens to him while they are together. He constantly makes sure that Cam is alright, even to the point where Cam feels frustrated with Marlon for interfering as he feels 'clucked over.'

6. Why is it so dangerous for Cam to even be in the swimming pool?

It is dangerous for him because his heart is so weak and by continually going under water, he is causing a pain in his chest which means his heart is struggling.



💡7. How does Cam's desire to go under the water really test the friendship between him and Marlon?

Cam wants to go under the water, as he wants to be in control of what he can and can't do. Marlon, however, knows how dangerous this can be and it sparks an argument between them which ends up with Marlon feeling hurt.

8. Give three adjectives that could describe how Cam feels when he's watching his friends play Daredevil Dive?

- Appropriate ideas: Annoyed, left-out, alone etc...

9. Why was Cam's heart 'ruining his life'? (p.11)

He couldn't do the things that his friends were doing and he can't do the things he wants to do, e.g. run, swim, dance or play football.

💡10. How had Cam disappointed himself by the end of Chapter 2? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

Cam was determined not to go home and not have his heart dictate everything, but by the end of the chapter he finds himself drudging towards home, feeling as though it is just a lot of 'big talk.'

