

Complete English 4 - Comprehension suggested answers

1 The Tale of Captain Oates

Retrieve and record

1. Robert Scott, Edgar Evans, Captain Lawrence Oates
2. The men's frostbitten feet and illnesses; the team's refusal to leave Oates behind; also: Evans' injury
3. He fell into a crevasse and suffered a head injury
4. 79 days
5. His old wound and frostbite

Inference

1. He went out to die from the cold, so that the others would no longer be slowed down and could make it home
2. He was going out to die from the cold, so he did not need them/he did not need to protect his feet as he was going out to die anyway
3. Some of them were deep and it could be hard to rescue someone who fell in them/falling in could lead to serious injury
4. Students' own answers. Answers could include: The frostbite, because that made it hard to walk; not wanting to leave anyone behind.
5. Students' own answers. Answers could include: from the hard work or exhaustion; from the cold; from the illness he was suffering from

Speech and style notes

1. Remind students to include the 5 W's of newspaper writing - who, what, when, where, and why

2 Fire in the monastery

Retrieve and record

1. A monk/Bede
2. From a candle left burning by a careless monk
3. Everyone was safe and he had not lost his work
4. Answers could include: The work/books was/were hard to make/took a long time to make; the work/books was/were important; the work/books would be lost forever
5. They carried buckets of water to put the fire out

Inference

1. He copies books/writes books; he studies

2. To get under the smoke
3. Possible answers include: He was studying it; he was using it in his work; it was valuable; it was important to him (personally, e.g. it had sentimental value)
4. Possible answers include: They might be the only copies of the books; they might be valuable; his notes could not be easily made again; his work was important

Speech and style notes

2. Encourage students to consider what other options or lack of options there were for putting out the fires, and also the value of the religious books to the monks

3 Hawaii's active volcanoes

Retrieve and record

1. In places that are lines of weakness in the Earth's surface
2. It comes to the surface as lava/it rises up through a spattering cone, fills the crater and spills out/sprays into the air
3. Lumps of cooled lava
4. Possible answers include: hot and runny, yellow, red, black, liquid, solid
5. The top part of a volcano/the part with a crater

Inference

1. It is a safe place to see active volcanoes because they are 'tame'; there are many active volcanoes there so they are easy to get to and to see; the volcanoes and lava are beautiful/interesting
2. The lava changes colour as it cools - when it is hot it is runny and glows with the heat, then as it cools it becomes more solid and the colour dims.
3. The splattering cone is like a hole in the area under the Earth's surface, where the magma forms
4. A weak point, that is why there are many places where the magma breaks through

Speech and style notes

2. You can have students make an actual postcard from card, and use drawings or illustrations that they have printed out to illustrate the there side of the postcard

4 The secret garden

Retrieve and record

1. Where the key was.
2. The door, and the lock
3. Delighted and excited
4. False
5. In the secret garden

Inference

1. False
2. Because the robin seemed to know what she was looking for
3. By describing it as singing and twittering, and greeting her with a chirp/by describing him as excited and doing friendly things, such as singing and offering greetings
4. Yes, because the story says she looked behind her up the walk to see if anyone was coming, and she only opened the door when she saw no one was coming
5. Possible answers include: Yes, because now she knows where it is; no, because the robin may not be there to show her where it is

5 Buy one, kill a thousand

Retrieve and record

1. Any two of: sponges, parrotfish, starfish
2. The giant triton eat the starfish, which eat the corals, so if there are fewer giant triton, then less starfish are eaten, so there are more starfish to eat the coral reefs
3. Plankton
4. They may starve because there is not enough coral for them to eat
5. In crevices in the coral reef

Speech and style

2. Bullet list could include: sponges absorb nutrients from plankton and release this in a form corals can use; when starfish numbers go up, they eat the corals more quickly than they can grow; if too much coral is eaten, the starfish may starve; giant triton eat starfish; buying giant triton shells encourages people to catch and kill them, so they are not eating starfish and starfish number go up and eat all the coral

Sequencing

d, e, c, a, b

6 The mystery of Stonehenge

Retrieve and record

1. On the chalk Down of southern England
2. A circular ditch with a bank next to it
3. False
4. Bones of deer and oxen/flint tools
5. 50,000

Inference

1. Because that means it is impossible to know for certain why or how it was built/because that means there are no records telling why or how it was built
2. Because there are small lines of stone pillars leading from Stonehenge to Avebury
3. Because they are big/impressive
4. Answer could include: Because people came to visit it from all over Britain; a lot of effort was put into building it; it was built by many different people over a long period of time; bones and tools were placed in it very carefully.
5. Because each group dug their section in a different way and left bones and tools behind.

7 Father William

Retrieve and record

1. Answers will vary. Possible answers include: Why, I do it again and again; yet you turned a back-somersault at the door; you are old, father William
2. His son. The sentence "Said his father." Shows father William is talking to his son
3. An ointment
4. An eel
5. Answers may include: He is tired of listening to his son/answering questions.

Inference

1. Answers could include: "Your hair has become very white"; "You have grown most uncommonly fat"; "he shook his grey locks"; "your jaws are too weak"
2. He doesn't have to worry about injuring his brain anymore
3. Students' own answers. Answers could include: Because he was lying and

was afraid his son would find out; because he was tired of answering questions; because he could not think of any more answers

4. Soft foods
5. Answers will vary. Answers may include: Yes, because now he can do what he wants; yes, because he seems more carefree.

Sequencing

c, d, a, b

8 Calendar of the Maya

Retrieve and record

1. With an animal hair brush on paper made from tree bark painted white
2. One for each month of the solar year
3. No; "One of the few people in the city who could read and write."
4. To plan religious ceremonies and events
5. In the temple
6. A crouching man with a bundle on his back

Inference

1. To record and keep track of festivals and events
2. Answers may include: So that it would last; so that it could not be easily changed; to show its importance
3. Answers may include: They don't have pen and paper
4. It uses a solar year of 365 days, divided into months
5. Answers may include: The materials for writing are hard to make and are only used for some things; tradition; there are no books
6. Answers may include: Tradition/religious reasons/this is easier for them/to line up the two calendars better

Speech and style

1. Bullet points could include: Pakal was a Mayan priest. Akaul is Pakal's son. The Maya use a solar calendar with 365 days and 19 months. 18 months have 20 days and 1 month has 5 days - that month is unlucky. The Maya also use a calendar with 260 days. They write with an animal hair brush on bark painted white. The two calendars are put together so that no day repeats for 52 years - this makes a complete cycle. The calendars help them plan religious ceremonies and events

9 Summer Sun

Retrieve and record

1. A spider. "The dusty attic, spider-clad"
2. By pulling the blinds closed
3. Through the key-hole
4. Blue and glowing days/showers his rays/empty heaven

Inference

1. By using phrases like "golden fingers", "golden face", and "warm and glittering look" which are positive ways of describing the sun
2. Because it is described as dusty and spider-clad
3. By describing all the positive things the sun gives/how the sun makes people and plants happy
4. Because the sun is described as "slipping his golden fingers through" and finding a chink or two
5. Because plants need sunlight to grow

10 The Roman fort

Retrieve and record

1. Stone storage tanks and toilet blocks
2. Growing food for the town and to sell to the soldiers
3. Hadrian's Wall
4. From springs down the hill or by collecting rain
5. "Fast food"
6. Housesteads and Vercovicium

Inference

1. To keep them happy; to prevent complaining about their rations
2. It saves building an extra wall
3. Anyone wanting to attack the fort would be exposed as they approached up hill; it makes the fort easier to defend
4. They are a way to store large amounts of water
5. It would allow the Romans to spread out their best troops (the legionaries) over a larger area

11 Route 66

Retrieve and record

1. Historic Route 66. Because it is the original Route 66, not the later bypass road
2. Chicago to Los Angeles
3. Large motor roads that don't go through towns

4. Any three of: motels, petrol stations, cafes, fast food restaurants
5. In wagons drawn by oxen
6. Building bypasses

Inference

1. So people and businesses could more easily reach far-away lands and build up towns and cities there
2. They have lost business; are not successful and busy anymore
3. Because it meant they could travel longer distances, outside of cities
4. To feed all the people who were travelling on the road
5. Because people were on the move and did not want to stop for a long time to eat

Speech and style

1. Features could include: places to eat and stay, gas stations, nice scenery, good quality roads, etc

12 Dick Turpin the Highwayman

Retrieve and record

1. He leapt out of a window
2. He was hung at the gallows
3. John Palmer
4. Answers may include: He was a good liar; he was good at committing crimes; he was good at avoiding capture
5. They watched him to find out what was happening

Inference

1. Answers may include: He wanted to die as he lived - by deciding for himself when to die; to avoid giving the law the satisfaction of saying they had killed him; as a last gesture of defiance.
2. To keep from being caught.
3. At that time, there were no easy ways to keep track of people, like using driver's licenses and other IDs, and no easy way to keep people from using fake names
4. A member of his gang may have told the police; someone may have overheard them plotting.

Speech and style

1. You might want to show some wanted posters from the Old West or from today's police.
2. Remind students to include the 5 W's of newspaper writing - who, what,

when, where, and why

13 Carter finds Tutankhamun

Retrieve and record

1. His Egyptian labourers uncovered a series of steps leading to a sealed door
2. By the early years of the 20th century
3. Egypt/The Valley of the Kings
4. Lord Carnarvon
5. “the most wonderful day that I ever lived through” and “I was struck dumb with amazement”
6. They were reburied elsewhere

Inference

1. Because it meant the tomb had never been robbed
2. To find out if his investment had paid off
3. He was very excited/nervous
4. Answers could include: It was difficult to find; it was hidden; it was smaller than other tombs
5. Answers could include: So the king could take his riches to the underworld/ next life; to show how important the king was; to honour the king
6. Answers could include: To show respect to the king; to prevent further robberies

14 Canyon rescue

Retrieve and record

1. Relieved and exhausted - tired from all of the effort of helping Ori, and relieved that Ori was getting help.
2. Yes, because she jumps into the raging water to help Ori; yes, because she is described as swimming with determined strokes; yes, because she is able to swim while holding Ori
3. Yes, because she/he was able to fly the helicopter into a narrow canyon and hold it just above the water
4. Lifejackets and footwear (also helmets, in the photo)
5. Yes, it is described in the story as fun and thrilling
6. The story does not say exactly how he got back in the raft, but Shilpi swam with him back to the boat and we can assume he was then helped back into the raft

Inference

1. He was seriously injured and needed help fast

2. The canyon walls may have blocked it; they may have been too far away from a signal mast or town
3. To be careful; to make sure they did not hit the canyon walls
4. Because the helicopter was hovering just above the water and the downdraft/air from the rotors blew the water around
5. It would be easier/safer for the helicopter to enter the canyon and easier/safer for the rescue crews to reach the raft or the raft to reach the rescue crews.
6. They could have continued their journey on the raft

Speech and style

1. Even though this is TV, students still need to include the 5 W's of newspaper writing - who, what, when, where, and why. Discuss with students what is different between TV and print journalism. You could also discuss how they might report this on social media

15 Into the stocks

Retrieve and record

1. 2
2. He is locked in the stocks; the stocks are locked on the ends
3. Any two of: rotten fruit, rotten tomatoes, horse dung, rotten food
4. He stole a few pieces of fish
5. In the middle of a Tudor village; it is described at the beginning
6. She stole a piece of bread

Inference

1. Answers will vary. Answers may include: To keep people from committing crimes; to teach people not to steal; to give people some entertainment
2. Answers will vary. Answers may include: They were not very bad because the people stole to eat and not for another reason; they were very bad because the people they stole from may have needed the food to survive
3. Answers may include: They teach people a lesson without needing to keep them in prison or injure them
4. The stocks just lock up the legs; pillories lock up the head and arms
5. Yes, because the man says he will never steal again, and the man and woman are both miserable
6. So they can see what can happen when they commit crimes; to teach them a lesson

16 The Vikings in North America

Retrieve and record

1. He was banished
2. Probably no more than 15 years
3. Wood and iron
4. Vinland (Land of Wine) because of the wild grapes they found growing
5. A large wooden fence around their village
6. So the sea would be a natural defence (barrier from attack) on one side

Inference

1. They could have used the stars
2. Because there are almost no traces of them left
3. So they could build the things they needed, and prepare the iron and wood for bringing it home
4. Answers may include: The resources were used up earlier; the climate was not good for growing trees and other plants; there were few plants and animals on Greenland
5. Answers may include: The Vikings did not tell anyone else they had been there; Columbus told many people about his journey

17 The night the sea broke in

Retrieve and record

1. At/near the beach on the Atlantic coast of the USA
2. Because they are farther from the storm/farther from the coast
3. It was battered and some windows were broken, but it was otherwise fine
4. Saving lives
5. From late summer to winter
6. A weather warning on their computers/weather services and by the changes in the weather - dark skies, wind howling, big waves

Inference

1. Because they are worried it might be destroyed/damaged
2. They were clearing the sand from the roads. They were going to the beach/houses by the beach
3. Because so many people were leaving their houses and moving inland for protection, and they needed a place to stay
4. Because the areas get frequent storms so they always need to be aware of the weather report
5. Answers may include: Yes, because the writer says that they usually sit storms out and they used to have them a lot when he was little; no, because the writer says Sammy looks worried, so maybe they don't see storms this bad very often.

Speech and style

1. Remind students to include the 5 W's of newspaper writing - who, what, when, where, and why. Discuss with students what is different between a short radio bulletin and a longer newspaper article. You could also discuss how they might report this on social media

18 The new clothes

Retrieve and record

1. His brother, James
2. Trousers and a shirt
3. No. He talks about how long and baggy they are and how he needs to roll up the trouser cuffs and shirt sleeves
4. Until he grows out of them; until they are too small for him
5. His brother throwing the clothes at him; the clothes hitting him in the face
6. He rolls up the cuffs (ends)

Inference

1. Because they came from his brother, who had grown out of them
2. Because his family were too poor to buy new clothes/other clothes
3. Answers may include: From mud getting thrown up by the carriages; from dung from the horses; from people throwing things in the street
4. Answers may include: Happy, because he has clothes to wear and they don't look too bad; sad, because he has to wear old clothes that don't fit and are tattered
5. Older, because he is bigger than the narrator
6. Because they are too poor to have running water or warm water and soap to wash with

19 A travel guide to the Himalayas

Retrieve and record

1. It begins in May
2. On your back, or on yaks or donkeys
3. Answers can include: steep-sided peaks covered in snow, valley with large glaciers, rivers, deep narrow gorges
4. Tibet and Nepal
5. Any two of: tall mountains/dramatic scenery, many plants and animals, mountain goats, big cats, remote cities, Hindu temples, sacred sites
6. During the rainy season. (Students may also answer: During the dry season, because it is very dusty)

Inference

1. Answers may include: There are no roads; there is no transportation; roads wash away; it is too hilly
2. Because they are familiar with the area and how to get around; they can help to avoid the dangers; they know exactly where to go
3. Answers may include: It can be physically difficult/hard work; the weather can change quickly; you have to bring everything you need with you; it can be difficult to find your way around without help; some areas are forbidden to tourists

Speech and style

1. Students may want to research more about the Himalayas before doing this activity

20 Live from the battle of Hastings

Retrieve and record

1. King Harold
2. The losing side. He describes how the side he is with has lost many of its soldiers and he can no longer see Harold. He says, "I fear it will soon be over."
3. By throwing rocks and stones and using a shield wall
4. Cavalry and arches (also army, soldiers)
5. 14 October 1066

Inference

1. Answers may include: King William, because he is winning the battle; King William, because he can keep control of his army
2. Answers may include: So they can take orders from him; so they can rally around him; so they know there is hope and the battle is not lost; so they are not frightened and know what to do
3. Answers may include: They have better control; a lot of Normans have been killed so it is easier for them; they are going downhill, so it is easier; a lot of Normans are running away (fleeing); the Norman shield wall is pulling apart