

Day 5 Reading Task - Retrieval and Inference

Answer the following questions about Chapter 17. Write your answers in full sentences and use evidence from the text to support your point wherever possible. You can answer the questions in any order.

- 1) In the first two paragraphs, find two phrases to show that Will is scared.
- 2) Why does Tom ask to talk to William?
- 3) What do you think 'emaciated' means?
- 4) What name had Will given to the baby?
- 5) Legally, where is Will supposed to be going after he leaves the hospital?
- 6) Why does Tom 'kidnap' Will from the hospital?
- 7) Why do you think the author starts to refer to Willie as Will in this chapter?
- 8) Is it an easy journey back to Little Weirwold? How do you know?

Challenge: Do you think Tom was right to steal Will from the hospital? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. (You should be able to include more than one piece of evidence for this!)

ANSWERS

1) In the first two paragraphs, find two phrases to show that Will is scared.

Two from the following: Shrank at the light, let out a frightened whimper, tightened himself, eyes wide with fear

2) Why does Tom ask to talk to William?

Tom is familiar to William as he says 'E knows me' and thinks he will be able to calm him and make him feel safe.

3) What do you think 'emaciated' means?

Particularly thin or weak, looks like he hasn't eaten in a while.

4) What name had Will given to the baby?

Trudy

5) Legally, where is Will supposed to be going after he leaves the hospital?

A children's home

6) Why does Tom 'kidnap' Will from the hospital?

He thinks the wide-open fields will be good for Will's recovery, he misses Will and wants him to come back and live with him, he doesn't want Will to have to go to a children's home.

7) Why do you think the author starts to refer to Willie as Will in this chapter?

William says to the warden, 'I ent Willie' and in the previous chapter he had said he feels like a 'Will' because that is what Tom calls him. William wants the people in the story to refer to him as Will because that is the life he likes, so the author is also referring to him as Will to emphasise this point.

8) Is it an easy journey back to Little Weirwold? How do you know?

It is not an easy journey. Tom and Will must walk down the street, climb on and off buses, spent the night in a shelter, travelled by train two thirds of the way, hitch for a lift from Skyrön (three lifts), walk the final five miles, collected Dobbs to travel the final stretch home to Little Weirwold.

Challenge: Do you think Tom was right to steal Will from the hospital? Explain your answer using evidence from the text. (You should be able to include more than one piece of evidence for this!)

There is no right or wrong answer for this as it is your opinion but you should have used at least two or three pieces of evidence from the text.

- William was treated badly by his mother: covered in cuts and bruises and not fed properly
- William had no family left in London as his mother had run away
- William liked his life and his friends in Little Weirwold - he liked being Will
- William was going to be sent to a children's home where he would be looked after by doctors