

Distance Teaching and Learning
Year 6 Reading – Week Commencing 01.06.2020

Session Number	Book	Reading Expectation	Follow-Up Task
Session One	The Maze Runner (2009) by James Dashner	Please read pages 111-116 independently or to an adult. If you are finding the text too tricky to read, ask an adult to read it to you and share the book together.	<p>Answer the following questions in full sentences.</p> <p>1) In the text, on page 112, it says: <i>Thomas felt his face heat up – he’d expected at least a little gratitude.</i></p> <p>a) Why was Minho annoyed with Thomas for entering the maze and not grateful that he came to help them?</p> <p>b) <i>Thomas felt his face heat up...</i> what does this tell you about how Thomas was feeling towards Minho for reacting in the way he did?</p> <p>2) Note down two sentences from page 112 which tell you that Alby is not in a good way?</p> <p>3) Find one piece of evidence from page 113 which shows that Thomas is determined.</p> <p>4) In the text, on page 114, it says: <i>Thomas couldn’t believe how morbid a statement that was.</i></p> <p>What does the word ‘morbid’ mean? Attempt to define the term without using a dictionary by reading around the word – does the sentence or paragraph the word is in give you a clue at the definition?</p> <p>5) Re-read page 116. How does the author make the Grievors sound scary and dangerous through his use of language? (3 marks)</p>
Session Two	The Maze Runner (2009) by James Dashner	Please read pages 117-123 independently or to an adult. If you are finding the text too tricky to read, ask an adult to read it to you and share the book together.	<p>1) What does Minho’s reaction to hearing the Griever approaching (at the end of Chapter 17) suggests about him as a character? (p117)</p> <p>2) In the text, on page 118, it says: <i>...in the space of only a few seconds, he learned a lot about himself. About the Thomas that was before.</i></p> <p>In that moment, what did Thomas realise about himself? What does he mean by this?</p> <p>3) In the text, on page 118, says: <i>Thomas sat back against it himself, panting from exertion.</i> What does ‘panting from exertion’ mean? Attempt to define the terms without using a dictionary by reading around the words – does the sentence or paragraph the phrase is in give you a clue at its meaning?</p> <p>4) In the text, on page 118, it says: <i>As he looked into the dark recesses of the Maze, he searched his mind for a solution.</i></p> <p>What does the word ‘recesses’ mean? Attempt to define the term without using a dictionary by reading around the word – does the sentence or paragraph the word is in give you a clue at the definition?</p> <p>5) What was Thomas’ plan to save Alby from the Grievors? (p120-122)</p> <p>6) What other creature did Thomas encounter in the maze, while hiding up high in the vines? (122-123)</p>
		Please read pages 124 – 131 independently or to an adult.	<p>Answer the following questions in full sentences.</p> <p>1) What animal do Grievors resembles? (p124)</p>

<p>Session Three</p>	<p>The Maze Runner (2009) by James Dashner</p>	<p>If you are finding the text too tricky to read, ask an adult to read it to you and share the book together.</p>	<p>2) In Thomas' opinion, what was the scariest aspect of the Griever and what simile is used to describe this? (p125)</p> <p>3) In the text, on page 125, it says: <i>A strong whiff of something burnt stung his nostrils; a sick mixture of overheated engines and charred flesh.</i> What does the word 'charred' mean? Attempt to define the term without using a dictionary by reading around the word – does the sentence or paragraph the word is in give you a clue at the definition?</p> <p>4) In the text, on page 129, it says: <i>Before his pendulum swing took him back towards Alby, he reached out for another vine, catching a nice thick one.</i> What is a 'pendulum'?</p> <p>5) In the text, on page 129, it says: <i>Finally, Thomas thought, something's gone right.</i> How did Thomas catch a break? What went 'right'?</p> <p>6) Which word on page 131 is closest in mean to (coming to a) stop?</p>
<p>Session Four</p>	<p>The Maze Runner (2009) by James Dashner</p>	<p>Please read pages 132 – 136 independently or to an adult. If you are finding the text too tricky to read, ask an adult to read it to you and share the book together.</p>	<p>Answer the following questions in full sentences.</p> <p>1) Even when surrounded by Grievers and facing inevitable death, Thomas once again shows his bravery and determination. Find one piece of evidence to support this on page 132.</p> <p>2) In the text, on page 134, it says: <i>And the faint light emanating from their pursuers made the oddity up ahead all the more apparent.</i> What does the word 'emanating' mean? Attempt to define the term without using a dictionary by reading around the word – does the sentence or paragraph the word is in give you a clue at the definition?</p> <p>3) Thomas thought Minho had found the way out of the maze. Minho then seemed to sense his thoughts, saying, "Don't get excited." What does this suggest about the 'exit' that Thomas and Minho had 'found'? (p134)</p> <p>4) In the text, on page 135, it says: <i>Seeing the vast, open sky in front of and below him had put him into some kind of hypnotised stupor.</i> What does the phrase 'hypnotised stupor' tell you about Thomas' reaction to seeing the Cliff?</p> <p>5) What was the plan – or trick – that Minho and Thomas devised to escape from the Grievers? (p135-136)</p> <p>6) At the end of Chapter 17, Minho proved himself to be quite cowardly by abandoning Thomas and running away into the maze at the first sign of Grievers. On pages 135 and 136, we see a different side to Minho's character. How would you describe Minho's character over these two pages and what evidence can you find to support your views? State at least two characteristics in your answer.</p>

Session Five	The Maze Runner (2009) by James Dashner	Please read pages 137 – 143 independently or to an adult. If you are finding the text too tricky to read, ask an adult to read it to you and share the book together.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Why did Thomas cry at the end of the Chapter 21? (p136-137)2) What sentence from page 138 suggests that Minho was in shock?3) Why was Thomas asking ‘<i>What did we do differently?</i>’ a silly question? (p138)4) On page 140, we learn more about the Serum. What is it? (p140)5) In the text, on page 142, it says: <i>He relented, glancing back up at Alby, then followed Minho out and away from the maze.</i> What does the word ‘relented’ mean? Attempt to define the term without using a dictionary by reading around the word – does the sentence or paragraph the word is in give you a clue at the definition?6) What simile is used on page 142 to describe the expressions of the other Gladers as they watched Thomas and Minho walk back into the Glade and towards the Homestead?
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Session Number	Follow-Up Task Answers
Session One	<p>1) a) Minho was annoyed at Thomas for entering the maze as he was no use to the boys now the maze doors had closed. Thomas broke the Number One Rule and, in Minho's view, he had just sentenced himself to death as no one survives in the maze at night. b) <i>Thomas felt his face heat up</i> tells me that he is angry and is on the verge of exploding with frustration.</p> <p>2) Any two of the following: Alby looked on the edge of death; His usually dark skin was losing colour fast and his breaths were quick and shallow; Minho said as he checked Alby's pulse and bent over to listen to his chest.</p> <p>3) Any of the following examples from page 113 suggest that Thomas is determined: He was 'unable to accept' that the boys were facing certain death; He said 'there has to be something we can do' and refused to give up hope despite Minho's negativity; 'Thomas wouldn't allow himself to give in to Minho's hopelessness – he didn't want to give up and die just yet'.</p> <p>4) Morbid means having an unusual interest in death or unpleasant events, or could be seen as taking a dark, disturbing or negative stance or approach to something.</p> <p>5) The author uses a number of carefully selected vocabulary choices to make the Griever sound scary and dangerous. The author refers to the initial sound as 'haunting' which evokes scary images of ghosts and creepy houses. He also describes the mechanical sound by using the simile 'like sharp knives rubbing against each other' and knives can be dangerous, harmful objects. He then refers to the sounds as 'eerie clicks' which again suggests the source of the noise is spooky or creepy. 'Long fingernails tapping against glass' also evokes images of haunted houses and strange creatures. A 'hollow moan' implies that the creature is emotionless, intimidating and unpleasant. Finally, the simile 'like the clanking of chains' evokes images of metal chains which can be associated with prisons or locking something up or away.</p>
Session Two	<p>1) Minho's reaction to hearing the Griever was to run away into the maze. This suggests that he is perhaps a more cowardly and scared character than he tries to show himself to be. As an experienced maze runner, Thomas was expecting Minho to show more bravery, not break down, panic, abandon Alby and run away at the first sign of trouble.</p> <p>2) Thomas realised that he is a brave and caring person – he couldn't leave a friend to die (or 'even someone as cranky as Alby', as it says in the text).</p> <p>3) <i>Panting from exertion</i> means breathing heavily as a result of the physical effort put in – in this case, from hauling and dragging Alby's body around.</p> <p>4) A recess is a small space, such as an alcove (a corner or opening), set back in a wall.</p> <p>5) Thomas used the vines to tie up Alby and pull him up to a safer position, higher up the vine-covered walls, where the two boys could hide.</p> <p>6) Thomas came face-to-face with a beetle blade marked with the letters WICKED.</p>
Session Three	<p>1) Griever is described as resembling gigantic slugs.</p> <p>2) Nothing sent chills up Thomas' spine like the haunted, deathly moans that the Griever made when it sat still. The simile used to describe this sound is: 'like the sound of dying men on a battlefield.'</p> <p>3) Charred means burnt or blackened.</p> <p>4) A pendulum is a weight suspended so it swings freely under the influence of gravity.</p> <p>5) The Griever turned away from Alby and changed its course, heading towards Thomas; he was able to lure the Griever away from Alby's hanging body.</p> <p>6) To halt is to come to a stop.</p>

<p>Session Four</p>	<p>1) Despite being almost consumed by grief, Thomas made his decision: he would go down fighting.</p> <p>2) Emanating means to come from or to come out of something – in this case, the light coming from the Grievers.</p> <p>3) The fact that Minhø told Thomas not to get excited suggests that this is a place Minhø has already been to before and that it is not in fact a way out of the maze as Thomas suspects.</p> <p>4) <i>Hypnotised stupor</i> suggests that Thomas was in disbelief at what he could see, as if he was in some kind of daze or mesmerised trance. A stupor is a state of near unconsciousness in which a person is unable to behave normally or think clearly.</p> <p>5) Minhø and Thomas lured the Grievers towards the Cliff. Once there, the boys stood on the ledge and waited for the Grievers to charge towards them. Just as the Grievers were about to attack the boys, they replicated Thomas' manoeuvre from earlier, diving to the side at the last minute. The momentum of the Grievers resulted in them charging of the Cliff and into the void below.</p> <p>6) (Any two of the following examples of characteristics – or their synonyms)</p> <p>Minhø comes across as composed/calm/calculated/intelligent as he devises a plan to outsmart and escape the Grievers. "These things are vicious... but they're dumb as dirt," supports this by showing that Minhø is calm and thinking clearly. He is using all of his previous knowledge to help outsmart and defeat the Grievers, showing more bravery than before as he is ready to face them head on. "Minhø said steadily," also supports the notion that he is calm and composed in the face of danger, not panicking like before. Minhø also comes across assertive and more or a leader. In the text it says, "Stand here, close to me, facing-" and "We need to be in sync! On my mark!" which shows that he is taking charge and control of the situation, not fleeing like a coward as he did in a recent chapter.</p>
<p>Session Five</p>	<p>1) Thomas cried because he was physically and mentally exhausted - 'his last ounce of strength had disappeared'. Thomas was probably overwhelmed by the whole experience and in shock, which resulted in an emotional outpouring.</p> <p>2) Minhø said nothing, just nodded, his face devoid of expression (also accept: He looked over at Minhø, huddled against the wall of the corridor).</p> <p>3) Asking what the boys did differently was a silly question because, as Minhø pointed out, no one had survived before to explain what they did – no one had ever defeated Grievers or lasted a night in the maze before.</p> <p>4) The Serum is a type of medicine or antidote which is injected into the arm of anyone who has been stung by a Griever. The Serum heals them, but does have one significant side-effect: it results in the stung individual going through a mysterious process known as 'the Changing'.</p> <p>5) To relent means to change one's mind about a decision.</p> <p>6) Their faces showed complete awe, as if they were watching two ghosts strolling through a graveyard.</p>