

Distance Teaching and Learning
Year 6 Reading – Week Commencing 04.05.2020

Session Number	Book	Reading Expectation	Follow-Up Task
Session One	The Maze Runner (2009) by James Dashner	Please read pages 1-12 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.	Answer the following questions in full sentences. 1) Find two pieces of evidence (words, phrases or sentences) from page 1 which suggest Thomas was feeling scared and anxious. 2) Similes are used within writing to help the reader visualise images and imagine an object that is unknown by comparing it with something the reader knows. Within the opening two pages , find two examples of similes which the author has used within their descriptions. (p1-2) 3) In the text, on page 6, it says: <i>A tall kid with blond hair and a square jaw sniffed at him, his face devoid of expression.</i> What does the word ' devoid ' 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? 4) How did Thomas come to the conclusion that he was in a farm-like place? (p7) 5) What reaction suggests that Thomas was scared when Alby mentioned The Cliff? (p9) 6) Find two pieces of evidence on page 11 which suggest that Thomas is determined and brave? Explain your reasoning using evidence from the text.
Session Two	The Maze Runner (2009) by James Dashner	Please read pages 13-21 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.	Answer the following questions in full sentences. 1) What simile is used on page 1 to describe the branches of the tree? 2) On page 14, we once again hear the term 'Greenbean' after Chuck says to Thomas, 'I was the Greenbean until you showed up.' What does 'Greenbean' mean? 3) On page 14, it says in the text, <i>'This is my guide for the night?'</i> Why does Thomas react in this way and why is this thought written in italics? 4) On page 18, in the text it says, <i>'But Thomas knew the kid was up to something. Losing parts of your memory didn't make you an idiot.'</i> Why did he suspect something was up? What did he mean by this? 5) On page 19, in the text it says, "Go," said Gally with a sneer. "Go on up." What does the word ' sneer ' 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) The final line of Chapter 3 (on page 21) is: <i>'It wasn't cold, but Thomas shuddered once again.'</i> What does this reaction tell you about how Thomas was feeling?
Session Three	The Maze Runner (2009) by James Dashner	Please read pages 22 – 29 independently or to an adult. If you are finding the text too tricky to read, ask an adult to	Answer the following questions in full sentences. 1) In the text, on page 23, it says: <i>'He felt an uncomfortable sense of vertigo looking at the towering walls, as if he hovered above them instead of sitting at their base.'</i> What does the word ' vertigo ' mean? Attempt to define the term without using a dictionary

		<p>read it to you and share the book together.</p>	<p>by reading around the word. Does the sentence or paragraph the word is in give you a clue at the definition?</p> <p>2) We have already discovered that Chuck is chubby in appearance, but what sentence from page 24 confirms that he is not in the best physical condition?</p> <p>3) Why did Thomas come to the conclusion that there couldn't be much good about the maze? (p27)</p> <p>4) What does the word 'claustrophobia' 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? (p28)</p> <p>5) Thomas considered escaping The Glade by running out of the closing doors and into the maze, but 'common sense won out'. Why did he decide to remain in The Glade? (p28)</p> <p>6) In the text, on page 29, it says: '<i>Thomas felt one final moment of trepidation...</i>' What does the word 'trepidation' 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>Session Four</p>	<p>The Maze Runner (2009) by James Dashner</p>	<p>Please read pages 30 – 41 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) Thomas became less scared of Gally when he realised what? (p32)</p> <p>2) What simile is used on page 33 to describe and compare what it is like for Thomas when he is remembering?</p> <p>3) What does the word 'epiphany' 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? (p34)</p> <p>4) What two impressions do you get of Thomas as a character on pages 34-35? Explain your reasoning using evidence from the text.</p> <p>5) On page 38, the text says: '<i>A thick lump grew in his throat</i>'. This is an excellent example of 'show me, don't tell me' – a writing skill we have been looking at throughout this year. What does this quote show you about how Thomas was feeling in this moment?</p> <p>6) What is a Griever? (p38-39)</p>

Mark Scheme

Session Number	Follow-Up Task Answers
Session One	<p>1) Any two of the following examples: drops of sweat were beading on his forehead (despite the cool air); he pulled his legs up tight against his body; his stomach soured with nausea; he wanted to cry.</p> <p>2) Two similes which the author has used in the first two pages are: 'like the workings of an ancient steel factory' and '(his fear whisked away) like a swarm of gnats in the wind'.</p> <p>3) Devoid means completely lacking in a particular quality, so in this case, 'his face devoid of expression' means his face was lacking (or without) emotion; he wasn't showing any expression – he was expressionless.</p> <p>4) A mixture of smells (that you are likely to find on a farm) bombarded him: freshly turned dirt, manure, pine, something rotten and something sweet.</p> <p>5) The fact that blood drained from Thomas' face suggests he was scared.</p> <p>6) On page 11, Thomas shows that he is quite a determined and resilient character as in the text it says, 'Tears threatened to fill his eyes, but he refused to let them come'. This shows that even though he is scared (because he wants to cry), he is determined to stay strong and brave by keeping control over his emotions. In the text, it also says, 'I can tell you're not a bloody sissy'. The fact that Newt, one of the other boys, says this, suggests that Thomas has made a good first impression and has proven himself to be brave. This quote also gives me the impression that not all newcomers to The Glade are as brave as Thomas as it seems Newt was expecting a 'sissy' – a weak or cowardly person.</p>
Session Two	<p>1) The author uses the simile 'forking out like skeleton fingers' to describe the branches of the tree.</p> <p>2) Greenbean is the term used to describe the newest arrival at The Glade.</p> <p>3) <i>This is my guide for the night?</i> is written in italics to emphasise Thomas' surprise. He is confused and surprised as to why he has been assigned a chubby kid – the youngest person he has seen so far – as his guide and possible protector. Thomas clearly doesn't seem too impressed at being paired up someone who is younger and apparently weaker than him.</p> <p>4) The fact that Gally was so adamant that Thomas couldn't go upstairs and into the room, before suddenly changing his mind and letting Thomas go through, made Thomas suspicious. He knew there was a reason that Gally had changed his mind and wasn't sure if he was being tricked. It all seemed too easy.</p> <p>5) Sneer means a mocking smile, remark or tone (typically with a curled upper lip) – similar to a smirk.</p> <p>6) The fact that Thomas was shuddering, but not due to the cold, suggests that he was scared, shocked or in fear.</p>
Session Three	<p>1) Vertigo means a sensation of dizziness felt because one's balance is disturbed, sometimes experienced when looking down from a high place – or in this case, looking up at something really high above.</p> <p>2) After running to catch up with Thomas, it says in the text: 'He already sounded out of breath'.</p> <p>3) Thomas came to the conclusion that there couldn't be much good about the maze as all of the boys who returned from it looked so weary and worn.</p> <p>4) Claustrophobia is an abnormal fear of being in confined (tight, enclosed) spaces.</p> <p>5) The maze held even more unknowns than his situation inside.</p> <p>6) Trepidation means a state of fear or anxiety.</p>
Session Four	<p>1) Thomas realised that he shouldn't be so terrified of Gally as he wasn't that big – Thomas believed he could take him if he had to.</p> <p>2) Thomas describes the remembering of memories as 'like looking at an image through half a metre of muddy water.'</p> <p>3) An epiphany is a moment of great or sudden revelation or realisation.</p> <p>4) (Any two of the following examples of impressions – or their synonyms)</p> <p>Thomas comes across as thoughtful/curious/calculated/intelligent as in the text it says, 'Thomas wondered about Chuck, whether he knew more than he let on. He was a quirky kid, funny, and he seemed innocent, but who was to say? Really he was just as mysterious as everything else in The Glade.' The word 'wondered' tells me that Thomas gives a lot of thought to everything and shows that he is a curious person. The fact that his train of thought is so complicated</p>

and that he is questioning everything around him suggests that he is intelligent and likes to prove things to be the case as opposed to simply believing everything he is told. Thomas also comes across as **adventurous** as in the text it says, 'Whatever they are doing out there, I want in.' The fact that Thomas wants to become a maze runner based on a hunch or gut feeling – even though he has no idea what it entails – suggests to me that he is **fearless/brave/daring** and isn't easily scared. This tells me that he clearly likes adventure and is drawn to danger.

5) Thomas having a thick lump in his throat after catching his first glimpse of a creature beyond the window shows me that he is feeling a strong sense of an emotion and, in this case, that emotion is fear. (He is scared)

6) A Griever is a large, bulbous creature the size of a cow but with no distinct shape. It is described as a horrific mix of animal and machine with silver spikes, glistening flesh and instrument-tipped appendages – such as saws, shears and rods – for arms.