

Wednesday 3rd June 2020

LO: To make inferences using evidence from the text.

Today you will read a new text, which is a diary entry based on a young person's visit to the archaeological site of Pompeii, let's see what it was like. Using the text, you will answer questions that require you to support your answers with evidence from the text.

Success Criteria:

1. Read the text carefully, underlining/identifying the key words.
2. Read the question carefully, identifying the key words.
3. Use the PEE strategy to layout your answers.
4. REMEMBER to use quotation marks

Questions

Day 1

1. How do you know that the writer did not enjoy the last few weeks of school? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
2. What impression does the writer have of her knowledge and understanding of maths?
3. How does the narrator feel about visiting Italy?

Day 2

4. Look at the first paragraph from the second diary entry. What impression do you get of the mother?
5. What impression do you get about life in Pompeii?
6. According to the text, how might the people of Pompeii have felt the day Mount Vesuvius erupted?

Day 3

7. The writer did not feel safe travelling up the volcano. Agree or disagree? Use evidence from the text.
8. Describe Sue's experience at the top of the volcano, using evidence from the text.

Extension: Watch a video clip depicting the events that took place on the day Mount Vesuvius erupted: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIZ4aSKT3mo>

PEE Sentence Prompts

Point

- I know that...
- I believe that
- I think that...
- The writer is/was/did/had/felt...

Evidence

- The texts states that... ' _____ '
- It is quoted that... ' _____ '
- In the texts it says that... ' _____ '

Explanation

- Which suggests...
- Which means...
- Therefore...
- Suggesting that...
- This indicates that...

An example PEE answer, based on a different text.

Point: I think Miss Trunchbull is scary.

Evidence: This is because she grabs Amanda Thripp by the piggytails and throws her over the fence.

Explanation: This shows she is scary because she's thrown a child over the fence.

A Weekend in Pompeii

(Friday 22nd May)

Dear Diary,

Yes! Half term has arrived at last, and I can finally relax and have some fun for a change! The last few weeks at school have been **horrendous!** Tests, tests and more tests! Oh, and did I say we had tests to do? One whole week to kick back and chill! Bliss!

Even better news is that we touched down in Naples (Italy) just a few hours ago. Mom and Pops have whisked us off for the weekend to visit Pompeii and Mount Vesuvius. A-maz-ing! We have recently been learning about volcanoes in geography, so it will be awesome to see a real live one, and I do mean 'live'! According to my teacher, Mr Strict (yes, that is his real name), Mount Vesuvius is an active volcano, which last erupted in 1944. He said that, in the past, it had followed a twenty year **eruption** pattern. Even my poor maths skills can calculate that it is long overdue an eruption! I'm beginning to think I should be a little bit concerned about that!

So, the plan for tomorrow is to visit the remains of Pompeii; not sure what to expect really, but I will update you tomorrow night when I get back to the hotel. Finally! Room service has arrived and my stomach is telling me that it's time to eat. A delicious pepperoni pizza and a **humungous** bowl of ice cream is calling me – well I am in Italy, it would be rude not to indulge, just a little bit!

(Saturday 23rd May)

Dear Diary,

Wow it was hot today! We took a half hour train ride from Naples to Pompeii. The train stopped just outside the rather grand gates to the town, which was handy. Mom slapped lots of sun cream on me, shoved a hat on my head, forced a bottled of water into my hand and gave me instructions on what to do if we became separated. I'm sure she still thinks I am five! Armed with a map of the town, we walked excitedly through the gates.

My word, we needed that map! The town was a maze of streets, lined with houses, shops, taverns, restaurants, temples and **amphitheatres**. Pompeii must have been a **bustling** town, full of noise and activity. Pops was hilarious (if not a little bit embarrassing), he kept tripping over the stone blocks that helped us cross from one high pavement to the other. Mom said that, as well as helping the townspeople avoid the waste water running down the street, they were also used to slow the carriages down, who would have thought the Romans needed traffic calming measures?

Pompeii is so well **preserved**. Mr Strict told us that this was because the town had been buried in metres of ash and **pumice**, instead of being blasted away by the eruption, it had helped to preserve the site. I hadn't realised that **archaeologists** were still **excavating** the site; 20 **hectares** are yet to be explored! Maybe I should pop back in a few years time to see how they are getting on?

As for Mount Vesuvius, it was impossible to miss! It **dominates** the skyline. The people of Pompeii would have lived happily in its shadow for years, believing it to be **dormant**. As I stared up at the **awe-inspiring** sight I shuddered at the thought of how unprepared the people of Pompeii were on that fateful day in AD 79. A deafening boom had signalled the start of the eruption. Magma

blasted out of the top, and the ground had shook the people Pompeii off their feet. Rocks the size of tennis balls had rained down, and the sun had been blocked out by the deadly ash cloud and smoke. At least 2000 people died that day. I don't really mind that Mom and Pops fuss over me. I know how incredibly lucky I am, because we are happy, healthy, and together.

We rounded the trip off with a rather scrummy bowl of pasta at a restaurant just outside the gates of Pompeii, before catching our train back to the hotel. My trousers are beginning to feel tight, I think Mom may have shrunk them in the wash!

(Sunday 24th May)

Dear Diary,

I have to confess that I had felt a little nervous about today's trip to Mount Vesuvius, especially after seeing, first hand, the **devastation** it had caused yesterday.

We caught a colourful looking 4x4 bus, which took us most of the way to the top. At times I thought we had mistakenly **boarded** a theme park ride, as it twisted and turned its way up the side of the volcano! However, I was more than a little **disconcerted** when the driver stopped at a car park, just short of the **summit**, and told us that we had to walk the rest of the way ourselves! He obviously didn't **appreciate** that, as an eleven year old child, I never, ever do any unnecessary walking!

Once again I was **unceremoniously** grabbed by Mom and forced to **endure** the sun cream, sun hat, bottled water routine, with the addition this time of a jumper! Only a mother would hand you a jumper in 32 degree heat!

We set off together for the short, but steep, walk to the summit. There was lots of loose gravel and rocks underfoot and I was glad I had decided to wear my trainers instead of sandals. The view was breathtaking. We could see the Bay of Naples, snaking round the coastline, and the sun seemed to dance and twinkle off the calm, blue water which stretched for as far as the eye could see.

Once we had got our breath back, we made a last push for the top. A wooden post and rail fence stopped sightseers from **venturing** too close to the edge, however it was possible to appreciate the size of the crater. I do admit to feeling a little bit disappointed though when I peered into the crater; smoke, fire and magma had now been replaced by rocks, soil and plants! It was also remarkably cold at the summit – that jumper, which I had **begrudgingly** tied around my waist, was suddenly very useful at this high altitude. Moms can be very clever sometimes!

Well, that's it diary! We fly back to London tomorrow, but I will take some wonderful memories back with me. The hotel has been great, the sights have been **inspirational** and the food, well, the food has been to die for! Talking of which – room service has arrived! I will catch up with you tomorrow!

