

Writing - Summer 1 Week 3 - Home Learning

Session 1

Read the extract from 'The Snow-Walker's Son' by Catherine Fisher. Then listen to the extract being read following the link provided.

Once you have read, listened to and understood the poem, answer the comprehension questions on the page titled 'Comprehension Questions'.

How to share your work:

- Write your answers into your exercise book and take a picture of your work.
- Type your answers directly into the boxes on this page or use Google Docs to edit.

Once you've completed the work, submit your work to Google Classroom following this set of instructions:

1. Go to classroom.google.com
2. Click the class - Classwork - the assignment.
3. To attach an item, click 'Add or create' and select 'Google Drive', 'Link' or 'File' depending on what type of file you have created.
4. The status of your work will change to 'Turned in'.

The Snow-Walker's Son by Catherine Fisher

The door was the last one in the corridor.

As the flames flickered over it, they showed it was barred; a hefty iron chain hung across it, and the mud floor beneath was red with rust that had flaked off in the long years of locking and unlocking.

The keeper hung his lantern on a nail, took the key from a dirty string around his neck, and fitted it into the keyhole. Then he looked behind him.

'Get on with it!' the big man growled. 'Let me see what she keeps in there!'

The keeper grinned; he knew fear when he heard it. With both hands he turned the key, then tugged out the red chain in a shower of rust and pushed the door. It opened, just a fraction. Darkness and a damp smell oozed through the black slit.

He stepped well back, handed the stranger the lantern, and jerked his head. He had no tongue to speak with; she'd made sure he kept her secrets.

The stranger hesitated; a draught moved his hair and he gazed back up the stone passageway as if he longed suddenly for warmth and light. And from what I've heard, the keeper thought, you won't be seeing much of those ever again.

Then the man held up the lantern and pushed the door. The keeper watched his face intently in the red glow, and his great hand, as it clutched a luck stone that swung at his neck. The man went in, slowly. The door closed.

Now listen to the extract here: <https://soundcloud.com/talkforwriting/doors>

Comprehension Questions

1. ***The door was the last one in the corridor.***

What is the significance of the word last? Can you think of another context where the word last has a significant meaning? e.g. the last chance.

Click or tap here to enter text.

2. How do the opening lines (**highlighted above**) set the mood of the story? What are your immediate impressions?

Click or tap here to enter text.

3. Having spent a great deal of time reflecting on the significance of doors and their appearance, what does this description suggest to you?

Click or tap here to enter text.

4. Why has Fisher described the iron chain as being 'hefty'? What could the significance of this word be in the context of the story?

Click or tap here to enter text.

5. ***Darkness and a damp smell oozed through the black slit.***

How does this make you feel as a reader? What is the relevance of both darkness and a damp smell? Do either of these surprise you; if so, why?

Click or tap here to enter text.