

L.O. Use context, grammar & root words to work out meanings - check with a dictionary

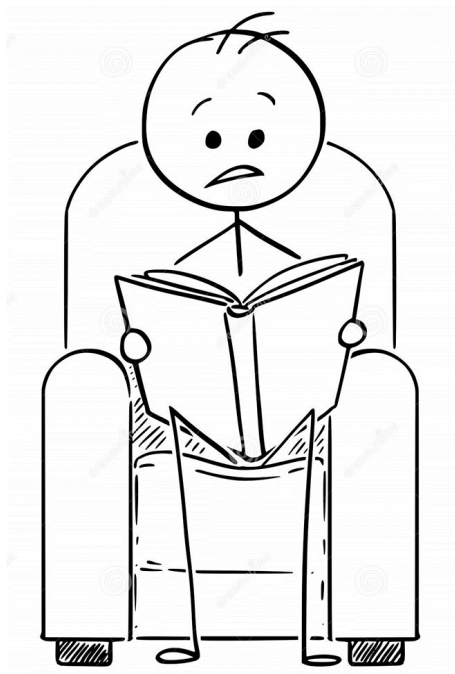
Model Text - Zelda Claw



Match meanings to words & think of synonyms

A dark, atmospheric hallway with a teal glow. The word "Suspense" is written in a white, cursive font in the center of the image. The hallway is dimly lit, with light streaming in from the far end, creating a sense of mystery and suspense. The walls are dark and textured, and the floor is also dark. The overall mood is eerie and suspenseful.

Suspense



How did you get on yesterday? Did you manage to make your writing suspenseful?

On the next screens, there is a short model text - *Zelda Claw and the Rain Cat* - which contains many of the elements of suspense writing. As we read it together, make a mental note of any words or phrases that you do not understand.

Zelda Claw and the Rain Cat

Thunder growled overhead. Zelda crouched in the darkness, staring. Wind lashed the glistening tarmac and the street lights flickered, casting shadows across the darkened road. Rusty dustbins rattled in the wind, fences creaked and the rain drummed on car roofs. Zelda shivered. Where could she escape from the downpour?

At that moment, Zelda sensed something crawling, something creeping along the pavement, hugging close to the shadows. Silently, a vague shape slipped into a doorway and Zelda was sure that she had glimpsed the flicker of a green eye. She could just hear a low growl even though the rain danced a thousand deaths on the pavement. Her fur prickled as she tensed herself. What was it?



Without thinking, Zelda ducked under a lorry and tucked herself into a space near the engine. It was still warm. She could just make out what looked like an enormous cat pacing through the rain, like a shadow moving silently along the rain-washed pavements. Its white, needle-teeth jutted out of a scarlet mouth. Power surged through every step. Zelda flinched, crouching stiller than stone.

Beneath the lorry, Zelda waited but the great rain-cat drew closer and closer. Emerald eyes glittered crazily and Zelda could hear its claws scratching on the tarmac. Nearer it came until the great cat paused by the lorry's engine and sniffed. Could it smell Zelda's fear?

She could bear it no longer. Leaping out from under the lorry, Zelda shot back across the rain-swept road and leapt onto and over the wall. Landing the other side, she paused. Alone! The rain cat had not followed but Zelda could hear it screeching.

And it was a sound that seemed to tear the night in half. Zelda shuddered with relief. She was safe – for now.

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Use your copy of *Zelda Claw and the rain Cat* to help work out the meanings to the words on your sheet. Only one of them is **not** a verb - can you spot it? How do you know that the others are verbs?

Use a dictionary to find and copy the definitions.



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Key terms	Never heard	Not sure	Know	Dictionary definition:
lashed				
flickered				
vague				
tensed				
pacing				
jutted				
surged				

