



Teachers' Resources

Literacy

A busy teacher's **Booklet** of **Worksheets** :

Use with pupils age 8 and above after reading ...



‘Eye of the Turtle’- a Lucy Morgan Adventure Story -

by Gloria Barnett

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On sale from the shop on this website

LITERACY

Comprehension Exercise ONE

Worksheet to be used after reading 'Eye of the Turtle' Chapter 1.

'Eye of the Turtle' Worksheet 1.

Lucy's story starts in London - then she moves to 'Pontus Island' in the Caribbean.

Read the extract below - and answer the questions.

"The window rattled and she turned to watch the wind battering rain against the glass.

'There's nothing special for us here, Lucy. It's cold and damp. Look down. There's hardly a tree in sight. This isn't leafy green London, full of royal parks and palaces. We're living on the twelfth floor of a concrete block. We're breathing in fumes from the motorway. This isn't the life I want for us.'

Mum looked away from the window, sat up straight and pulled her shoulders back. 'We need to make BIG decision.'

She sprang to her feet. Her tall, thin body paced up and down like a captive tiger in a cage. Was she nervous or excited?

'We should get away from here. I'll find a better job. We'll improve our lives!' She pushed her long blonde hair away from her face and smiled.

Somehow, I didn't expect to see Mum smile so soon after her shattering news. Words came tumbling uncontrollably out of her mouth. I only caught a few phrases. Great opportunity! Live somewhere warm! Move away!

Move away? Where to? I've lived in London for every second of my eleven years. I know nothing about anywhere else! My fingers twisted in my long hair. I watched her closely as she calmed down, but I couldn't tell what was on her mind."

Comprehension Exercise ONE

‘Eye of the Turtle’ Worksheet 1.

Questions

1. *Mum ‘turned to watch the wind battering rain against the glass.’ Does this phrase make you feel warm or make you want to shiver?*
2. *‘a)... wind battering rain’ or b) ‘wind blowing the rain.’ Which phrase is the most dramatic?*
3. *How did Mum describe the weather in London?*
4. *When Mum said they ‘didn’t live in the ‘leafy green parks of London’ - what did she mean was missing?*
5. *Did Lucy live in a house with a garden, or in a flat in a tower block?*
6. *How did Mum describe the air that they breathed in London?*
7. *What animal does the author compare Mum to as she paced up and down?*
8. *Why was Lucy surprised to see her Mum smile?*
9. *How many years had Lucy lived in London?*
10. *‘My fingers twisted in my long hair.’ What feelings do you think Lucy was experiencing?*

Comprehension Exercise ONE

‘Eye of the Turtle’ Worksheet 1.

Answers

1. *Shiver*
2. *Battering*
3. *Cold and damp*
4. *Trees*
5. *A flat in a tower block*
6. *Fumes from the motorway*
7. *Tiger*
8. *Mum had just lost her job and was upset.*
9. *All of her 11 years*
10. *Nervousness.*

Comprehension Exercise TWO

Worksheet to be used after reading 'Eye of the Turtle' Chapter 1.

'Eye of the Turtle' Worksheet 5.

Read the extract below:

'It's here!' Mum squealed, staring at her iPad.

'What's here?' I asked, although I had a fair idea. It was nearly a week since our library trip, and she'd been checking her emails about once a minute every since.

'It's the answer I've been hoping for!' she explained. It's a job! I've been offered a new job!'

I'd never seen her smile so widely. 'Great.' I mirrored her smile. This was obviously good news. Mum needed a job.

'It's amazing!' She said, I've been offered a job in a new Community Library and I'll be helping the staff to run the English Language classes.'

You'll love that,' I said, 'helping people is what you're good at and there's lots of people in London who don't speak very good English.'

'Well, yes.' She hesitated and looked away from me, but it's not quite as simple as a job just around the corner, Lucy. It's ... not in London.'

'Where is it then?'

‘Well, the job is on Pontus Island,’ she said quietly.

‘Where on earth is that? I’ve never heard of it.’

‘It’s in the Caribbean,’ she explained.

‘The Caribbean?’ I could hear my voice echoing loudly around the quiet room. ‘That’s the other side of the world isn’t it?’ My thoughts were spinning around trying to make sense of what was happening. ‘But ...we’ll be leaving everything we know ... to move to a strange country!’

‘I know,’ she said, smiling, ‘isn’t it exciting? We can start again. A new beginning.’

My brain was in overload. My palms went clammy and I began to shake with panic. I’d be leaving my school, my friends ... and our neighbours, Maggie and Stan ... they were like the grandparents I didn’t have. I’d be leaving London to travel thousands of miles away ... and I’d never see them or my friends ever again.’

Comprehension Exercise TWO

‘Eye of the Turtle’ Worksheet 2.

Questions

- 1. Give an example of ‘exaggeration’ from the extract above.*
- 2. How did Lucy mirror her Mum’s smile?*
- 3. Why was Mum hesitant to tell Lucy where the job was?*
- 4. How did Mum show she was nervous about telling Lucy where the job was?*
- 5. Why were Lucy’s thoughts ‘spinning’?*
- 6. Why did Lucy’s voice get louder?*
- 7. Was Lucy as excited as her Mum was about the move?*
- 8. Which phrase was used to show that Lucy’s thoughts were in a turmoil ?*
- 9. What happened to Lucy’s hands when they were ‘clammy’.*
- 10. Which people was Lucy going to miss if she moved away?*

Comprehension Exercise TWO

‘Eye of the Turtle’ Worksheet 2.

Answers

1. ‘she’d been checking her emails about once a minute every since.’
2. Lucy copied her Mum, by smiling back
3. She knew Lucy would probably not want to move
4. Mum looked away, and her voice went quiet
5. She didn’t even know where Pontus was, and she could not imagine it
6. Lucy didn’t want the accept they were going to move
7. Absolutely, NOT!
8. Lucy’s brain was in overload
9. Lucy’s hands were wet and sticky
10. Lucy would miss her school friends, and her neighbours Maggie and Stan

Comprehension Exercise THREE

Worksheet to be used after reading 'Eye of the Turtle' Chapter 6.

'Eye of the Turtle' Worksheet 3

Read the extract below:

"We turned away from the road. Our steps quickened. As I looked ahead, warm air rushed into my open mouth.

'WOW!'

I'd never been on a beach before, not in my whole life... ever! It was beautiful! Bleached white sand stretched out ahead dotted with tall coconut palm trees. The droopy green fronds of the trees created ever-changing shady spots on the sand. The breeze made the leaves dance. The white sand merged with wavelets of gentle, white-topped surf at the edge of the blue waters of the bay.

As my hair blew in the gentle breeze, I swept it behind my ears, keeping my eyes clear to absorb the scene.

'What a view!' My voice was a whisper.

As I walked, my feet sank into the soft warm sand. I took off my shoes and socks. Looking down I saw my toes disappear, but the sand was dry and quickly released my feet as I moved forward.

The beach was quiet and peaceful. A few people sat on sunbeds, under the shade of green umbrellas. Further along customers were sitting at sunny tables outside a building with signs saying, 'Drifters Restaurant and Bar.'

Comprehension Exercise

Worksheet to be used after reading 'Eye of the Turtle' Chapter 6.

'Eye of the Turtle' Worksheet 3.

Questions - Worksheet 6

1. *What was the temperature of the air?*
2. *What sort of trees were on the beach?*
3. *What is a 'shady' spot?*
4. *How does the word 'droopy' describe the way the leaves were facing?*
5. *Is the 'surf' on the sand or on the top of the seawater?*
6. *What colour is 'bleached' sand?*
7. *When she first saw the beach, why did Lucy's voice turn to a whisper?*
8. *How did Lucy stop her hair from blowing in the wind?*
9. *Why did Lucy's feet not get stuck in the sand?*
10. *What could you buy at 'Drifters'?*

Comprehension Exercise THREE

Worksheet to be used after reading 'Eye of the Turtle' Chapter 6.

'Eye of the Turtle' Worksheet 3.

Answers - Worksheet 3

1. *Warm*
2. *Coconut palm trees*
3. *Shady is out of the direct sunlight*
4. *Droopy means the leaves are facing downwards*
5. *Surf is found on the top of the water, as it gets closer to the edge of the sand.*
6. *White (bleached by the sun)*
7. *Lucy thought the sight of the beach was beautiful.*
8. *She tucked her hair behind her ears.*
9. *The sand was dry - not wet and sticky.*
10. *Food and drink*