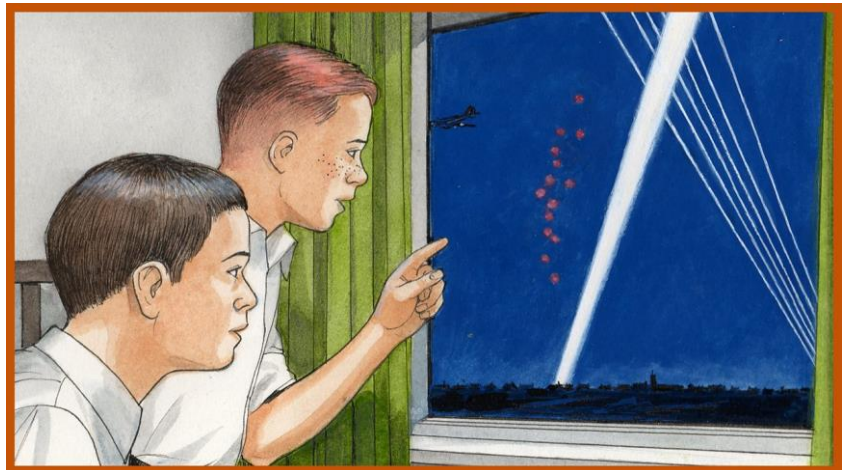
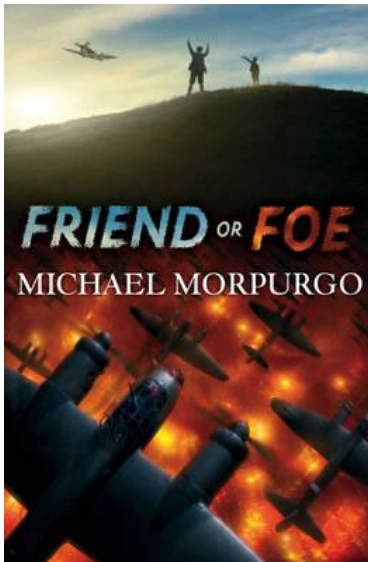


Reading Comprehension Homework Task (05.10.22)

Read this short extract from Michael Morpurgo's book called 'Friend and Foe'.



If you like reading this extract and would like to read some more of his book then you could follow this link to the BBC page where you can listen to the story.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/english-ks2-friend-or-foe-michael-morpurgo-index/znb78xs>

Friend or Foe

It is wartime. David and Tucky have been evacuated from London to the country. All their schoolmates have been chosen by local people and taken to their new homes, but no one has come for David and Tucky.

They had pulled away the chairs to make room for the newly arrived mattresses and bedding when the hall door banged open. A huge, bearded man in a great woolly coat and knee-high gaiters strode into the hall followed by a rangy-looking black and white sheepdog. Everyone gawped.

'I'm sorry to be late, but I've come for a boy.'

'You are Mr Reynolds I presume.' Miss Evers' voice was stiff with anger.

'I am, my dear, and who may you be?'

'Mr Reynolds, these children have been up for over fifteen hours now.' Miss Roberts took Miss Evers' arm to try to stop her, but Miss Evers would go on. 'They have travelled nearly three hundred miles. You keep them waiting for another two hours or more and all you can say is you're sorry.'

Mr Reynolds looked down at Miss Evers. 'Lady, I've said I'm sorry. There's nothing more I can say if that won't satisfy you.' Then he looked up at the platform and walked towards the two boys who had stood up by this time. The dog followed and sat down by Mr Reynolds' feet, looking up at them.

'Sorry to keep you,' he said, looking from one to the other. He had bright blue eyes and the lines on his face disappeared into a beard that was flecked with white at the chin. There was wet mud down the front of his coat and David noticed a broad gold wedding ring on his hand as he ruffled the dog's neck. 'Twas the mare that did it. She foaled just half an hour ago, and I couldn't leave her. She had a bit of trouble, always does, this one. But we managed between us, and 'tis a good looking-foal, another colt though. Five foals she's had, and not a filly among them.'

'Filly?' said Tucky. 'What's that?'

'Horse, my dear,' and Mr Reynolds' face creased into a smile. 'Filly's a girl horse. Colt's a boy, like yourself.'

By Michael Morpurgo

Now complete Challenge 1 and 2. Just writing the answers neatly in your homework books is fine - you don't need to print these sheets out.

Challenge 1

- 1 What is happening in the hall when Mr Reynolds enters?

1 mark

- 2 'Everyone gawped.' What does the word 'gawped' suggest about how everyone felt? Tick one.

Tired

☐

Astonished

☐

Scared

☐
☐

1 mark

- 3 How did Miss Evers feel towards Mr Reynolds? Tick one.

Glad

☐

Angry

☐

Relieved

☐
☐

1 mark

Challenge 2

- 1 Using information from the text, tick one box from each row to show whether the statements are true or false.

	True	False
a) Mr Reynolds did not apologise for being late.		
b) Mr Reynolds is two hours late.		
c) Mr Reynolds has come to collect two boys.		
d) Mr Reynolds is wearing a wedding ring.		

☐

1 mark

- 2 Look at the paragraph that starts "Sorry to keep you," he said...' Find and copy one word from this paragraph that means 'gave birth to a baby horse'.

1 mark

- 3 What is Mr Reynold's job? Give two pieces of evidence from the text to support your answer.

3 marks

Total: _____ / 8 marks