

Answers

Poetry - Twister!

1. According to the poem, what does the twister do to children?
The twister scares children.
2. What do you think it means by 'land-thinning'?
The twister (or tornado) is ripping everything up from the land (like a vacuum cleaner) leaving nothing in its path (or similar answers).
3. Why do you think the poem looks the way it does?
The poem is a shape(or concrete) poem so it looks like a twister / tornado to match the theme.
4. Imagine the poet has asked you to add an extra line somewhere in the middle. Without repeating any of the lines, what could it be?
One mark for any appropriate two-worded line that describes the twister or its effect with the suffix 'ing', e.g. thunder-shaking, lightning flashing, tile ripping.

Non-Fiction - Tornado Rips Through Town

1. How many people live in Greensburg?
Less than 2000
2. The Greensburg tornado had windspeeds of up to how many mph?
266 mph
3. Using the report, explain what 'tornado alley' is:
'Tornado Alley' is the worst-affected area in America for tornados. 'Tornado Alley' is a region in the American Midwest and South worst-affected by tornados.
4. What do you think the people in the neighbouring towns thought about the disaster?
Award one mark for answers that reflect the people in the neighbouring towns feeling horrified, upset or saddened for the people of Greensburg and their need to want to help.
Award one further mark for answers that recognise they might also be relieved/grateful it didn't happen to them in their town.

Fiction - Dodge and the Tornado

1. What did the strange roar rumbling in the distance sound like?

A heavy train thundering down the track / a train.

2. How do you think Dodge was feeling when he made a little whimpering noise?

Award one mark for an answer that recognises that Dodge is worried, anxious, concerned, scared – or similar.

Award one further mark if a reason is given, e.g. he's feeling worried because he can see a tornado coming.

3. Do you think Dodge is human or a dog? Prove it by finding and copying two pieces of evidence from the text.

Award two marks for evidence from the text that proves Dodge is a dog (up to a maximum of two):

- He keeps tilting his head (and sniffing) and dogs often do that.
- He mentions humans, which suggests he isn't one.
- He raises his front paws.
- He made a whimpering noise and dogs sometimes do that when they're scared or upset.
- The wind whipped at his fur – humans don't have fur.
- He clenched the blanket with his teeth. Humans would use their hand.

4. Who do you think Banjo is, and what might have happened to him/her?

Award one mark for any suitable answer, e.g. another dog or his owner/master.

Award an extra mark for plausible predictions relating to the story, which could have Banjo finding a safe place to hide, or perhaps being injured in the tornado. E.g.

- Banjo is another stray dog that Dodge travels around with, who I think will have found safety in a strong building in another part of town.