



Reading—POS4—D4

I can read words accurately and fluently without overt sounding and blending, at over 90 words per minute at the age expected book band level.

## Chapter 6

By first light they were on the move again, and as they went deeper into the wood Marinetta knew that it was now almost impossible for them to be trailed by any rescue party. She thought of her father and tried not to let the tears come.

They rode for many miles, until the trees thinned out. Suddenly, in front of them, was a great marshy swamp. In the middle of this were some crannogs, houses built on platforms. The ponies were left tied to the trees as the tribesmen and their prisoners walked across the rough wooden planks to the dwelling places.

“Look!” sneered one of the tribesmen as he pointed northwards to a hill on the horizon.

“There is the wall of Antonius Pius and your great Roman fort at Cibra. See what remains of it now? Ruins!” He opened a door in what looked like a pigsty and flung them inside.

“Ruffians!” said Lucius, as soon as they were alone. “That's what they are. All of these Celts are thieves and barbarians living in foul dwellings.”

“Not so,” said Titus. These Celtic people have a language and a culture of their own.

“Remember your manners.”

“Marinetta's mother was of this race.”

Lucius's face went red. “I spoke without thinking,” he admitted.

“As you often do,” his uncle reminded him.

“If you had paid attention to your history lessons, then you would know that the great Julius Caesar himself spoke highly of them. Their bards are gifted musicians and storytellers.”

“But, Uncle,” protested Lucius, “they are so undisciplined. Their fighting method has no order.”

Titus held up his hands which were tied together. “We are their captives, Lucius,” he smiled.

“Because they don't fight fairly!” protested Lucius.

“They don't follow proper military procedure.”

His uncle laughed out loud. “Why should they do battle as we do? They fight according to their own rules.”

“And they enjoy it,” said Marinetta. She remembered her mother telling her of the great Celtic warriors, heroes who were honoured. The stories of the wars, with brave and noble deeds, and then the feasting afterwards which went on for many days and nights.



He opened a door in what looked like a pigsty and flung them inside.

Tick the word closest in meaning to 'flung' in the sentence above.

placed  thrown  dropped  collected

*Their bards are gifted musicians and storytellers.*

What does the word 'gifted' suggest about them?



Retrieve

What are houses built on platforms called?

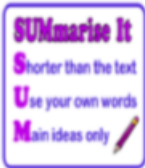
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How long would Celtic feasting go on for?

\_\_\_\_\_

How is the swamp described?

\_\_\_\_\_



Summarise the text by ordering the following events using the numbers 1-4.

Lucius complained about how Celts fight.

Marinetta, Titus and Lucius were put in a pigsty.

Marinetta remembered her mother's stories of Celtic warriors and heroes.

Marinetta, Titus and Lucius were taken deeper into the wood.



Infer

*Lucius's face went red.*

How is Lucius feeling at this moment? Tick one that best describes this.

Hot  Angry  Embarrassed

Why do you think this?