

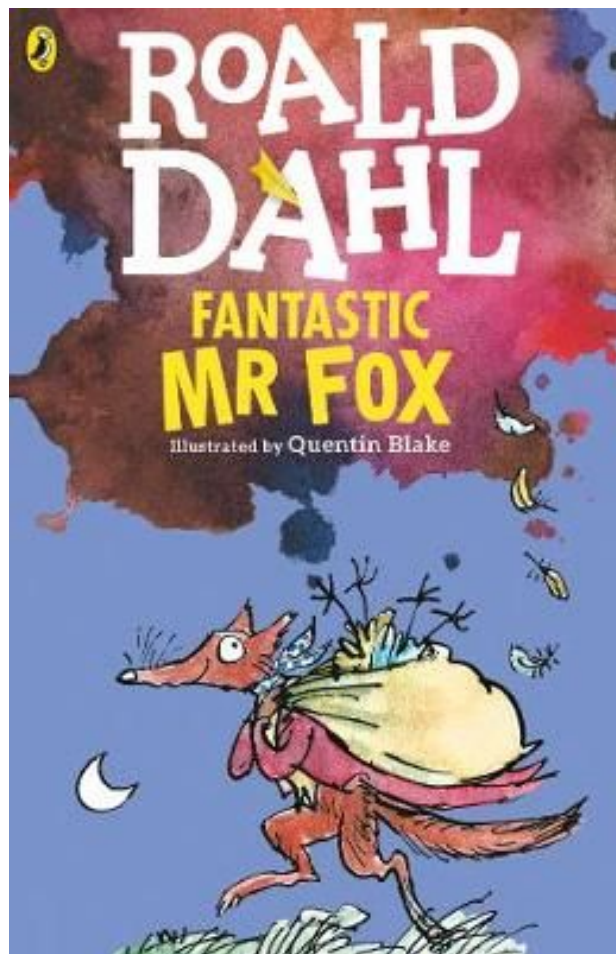
FANTASTIC MR FOX, by Roald Dahl

Lesson 1

Before reading...

Look at the front cover.

- What do you think the book will be about?
- What things can you see on the front cover?
- What sort of story will it be?
- Who might enjoy it?



Now read the blurb

- Make some predictions about what might happen in the story.

1. Chapter 1 and 2

V:

- What words on Page 1 show that the farmers aren't very nice?
- Find a word that means 'short' on Page 3. However, the word should not be to do with size, rather it should refer to patience.
- What phrase shows that Mr Fox loves his wife?

I:

- Why is Boggis so fat?
- How do you know Bunce is short?
- Do you think Bunce's diet is good for him? Explain your answer.
- Why might Bean be so thin?
- Do the children like the farmers?

P:

- Predict what will happen when the farmers hide outside the tree.
- Explain Why might Roald Dahl have used alliteration for the farmers' names?
- Do you think it's right for Mr Fox to steal? Explain your answer fully.

R:

- How many farms were in the valley?
- What were the farmers' names?
- What does Boggis keep?
- What does Bunce farm?
- What does Bean's farm produce?
- Where does Mr Fox live?
- How did Mr Fox always avoid getting caught?

S:

- Use one word to describe Fantastic Mr. Fox.

2. Chapter 3 and 4

V:

- What word on Page 10 shows that Mr Fox doesn't respect the farmers?
- Find a word on Page 11 that means 'arrogant'.
- Find a phrase on Page 14 that shows that Bean is impatient.
- What does 'glumly' mean?

I:

- Why was there no chance of the farmers being smelled out?
- Why does Mr Fox sniff the air before leaving his hole?
- How does Mr Fox spot the gun?
- Why is Mr Fox glum?
- Why was there no food that night?

P:

- At the end of Chapter 3, predict whether the farmers will be able to dig Mr Fox out.
- At the end of Page 17, predict Mr Fox's plan.

E:

- How does Dahl create tension in Chapter 3?

R:

- What does Mrs Fox want for tea?
- Why do they need two ducks?
- What does Mr Fox decide was rustling?
- What gets shot off?
- What do the farmers decide to do instead of waiting?
- Why does Mr Fox know he can outrun the farmers?

S:

- Summarise these chapter in one word.

3. Chapter 5 and 6

V:

- What phrase on Page 20 shows the farmers were digging for a long time?
- Find a word on Page 24 that shows it is vital that the foxes escape?
- What is a 'crater'?
- Define 'obstinate'.

I:

- Why can't Bean hear?
- How can you tell the race between the foxes and the tractors is close?
- Why do the villagers gather round?
- Why do the villagers laugh and jeer?

P:

- Predict what will happen in Chapter 5 from the title.
- Predict what will happen when the mechanical tractors start to dig.

E:

- How does Quentin Blake make the machines look scary?

R:

- What does Bean want to do with Mr Fox?
- What do they replace their handheld shovels with?
- What does Mrs Fox think the awful noise is?
- Why didn't the farmers stop for lunch?

S:

- Describe Boggis, Bunce and Bean in one word.

4. Chapter 7 and 8

V:

- What phrase shows anger on Page 29?
- Find a phrase that means promise on Page 29.
- What does 'wafted' mean? Can you think of some synonyms for it?

I:

- Why did the men stop for the day?
- Why does Bean smile a sickly smile?
- Why do the farmers put tents up?
- Why does Boggis hold a chicken near the hole?

P:

- Predict if the farmers will be able to starve the foxes out.

E:

- Explain how Dahl makes it seem like the foxes have no hope in these chapters.

R:

- At what time did Bean switch off his engine?
- What is the farmers' new plan?
- Why didn't Mr and Mrs Fox answer the children about when they could eat?
- How many men are ordered to surround the hill?
- How did Mr Fox know they were still there?

S:

- Summarise the farmers' current plan in one word.

Homework

Imagine you are **one of the farmers**. Write a **letter of complaint** about the **problems** you have been having on your farm.

OR

Summarise the first half of the book in 4 sentences.