

## *The Butterfly Lion - Michael Morpurgo*

### Lesson 3

#### Comprehension

##### **Chapter 10: The White Prince**

1. How did they find the white lion?
2. Why does Millie have to push Bertie in a wheelchair?
3. What reasons does Bertie give Millie for not writing to her for several years?
4. How is Millie able to make the café owner understand what information they need about The White Prince?
5. Why did Monsieur Merlot have to close his circus?
6. How has the war damaged the buildings?
7. Bertie and his lion are reunited in this chapter. Describe a time when you met someone who is important to you that you hadn't seen for a time. How did you feel?

##### **Chapter 11: A Miracle, A Miracle!**

1. How does Millie react to meeting the lion for the first time?
2. How do they travel back into the village?
3. Why does Bertie give the lion 'a good scratch' between his eyes?
4. How does Monsieur Merlot react to meeting Bertie again?
5. Imagine the conversation that the colonel might have with another soldier over a meal later that evening. How would he describe what had happened?
6. The lion is sometimes used as a symbol of Britain. What is used as a symbol of Ireland? Name some other symbols used by other countries around the world.
7. When Bertie, Millie and the lion return to England, newspaper headlines include 'The British Lion Comes Home'. Write down some other headlines that newspapers could have used for this event.

## **Chapter 12: The Butterfly Lion**

1. Why could the lion not have escaped from Strawbridge even if he had wanted to?
2. Where is The White Prince buried when he dies?
3. Why does Bertie choose that spot to bury the lion?
4. What design would you carve into a chalk hillside, if you could? Why?
5. Why do the blue butterflies come to cover the chalk lion?

## **Chapter 13: The Lion Shall Lie Down With the Lamb**

1. Where is Bertie buried?
2. What does the old lady say to the narrator that she had also said to Bertie years before?
3. Mr Cook calls the narrator by his surname. What is his surname? Have you heard that name before? Where?
4. How long ago did Millie die?
5. Have you seen plaques which remember people or events? Where did you see them? Who or what were they remembering?
6. Why do you think 'And the Lion Shall Lie Down With the Lamb' was written on Bertie's plaque? Where does this quote come from?

## **Chapter 14: Adonis Blues**

1. Why is this chapter called 'Adonis Blues', do you think? Think of your own title for this last chapter.
2. Does the first paragraph in this chapter remind you of the first chapter of the book? Why?
3. What does the narrator notice about the house when he sits up on the hill?
4. What does the narrator promise to do for Millie?
5. Describe some of the emotions that you think the narrator would have felt on the hill. How would you have felt in that situation?
6. Do you think the book has a good ending? Why? How does the ending make you feel?
7. Read the first page of Chapter One again. In what way does it match the events in the final chapter of *The Butterfly Lion*?

## Vocabulary

1. semolina
  2. sentinel
  3. severe
  4. solitary
  5. succulent
  6. unscathed
  7. winced
  8. venison
  9. veranda
  10. console
  11. battered
  12. discernible
  13. unscathed
  14. pungent; rank
  15. interminably
  16. grieved
  17. caw
  18. excuse
  19. memorial
  20. dignified
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## HOMEWORK

Do you **like** the **ending** of the book? **Explain why.**

**OR**

Write a **short story** using **at least 5 new words** (above) that we learned from these chapters.