

## Journey to the River Sea - Eva Ibbotson

### Lesson 3

#### Final Extract

*The old lawyer was silent, rolling his silver pencil over and over between his fingers.*

*'You would take her back to Brazil?'*

*'Yes.'*

*'To live among savages?'*

*'No. To explore and discover and look for giant sloths and new melodies and flowers that only blossom once every twenty years. Not to find them necessarily, but to look...'*

*She broke off, remembering what they had planned, the four of them, as they sailed up the Agarapi. To build a proper House of Rest near the Carters' old bungalow and live there in the rainy season, studying hard so that if Maia wanted to go to music college later, or Finn to train as a doctor they would be prepared. And in the dry weather, to set off and explore.*

*Mr Murray had risen to his feet. He walked over to the window and stood with his back to her, looking out at the square.*

*'It's impossible. It's madness.'*

*There was a long pause.*

*'Or is it?' the old man said.*

*Maia had been sitting absolutely still on a chair in the hall, waiting.*

*Now she heard a loud peal on the street bell and turned to see a dark, wild-haired boy running up the steps. Taking no notice of the flustered maid, he came up to Maia.*

*'I'm going home, Maia,' shouted Finn. 'I'm going home!'*

*Upstairs a door had opened and Miss Minton came slowly down the stairs, dabbing her eyes.*

*Then she drew herself up to her full height.*

*'We are all going home,' she said.*

## **Comprehension**

**Use the extract above to help you answer the following questions:**

1. What is a 'savage'?
2. What had they planned?
3. Why does Mr Murray think the idea is 'madness'?
4. Why did Maia want to go to Brazil to stay?
5. Why does Miss Minton draw 'herself up to her full height'?
6. What is a 'home'?
7. Where would you have chosen to go and live?
8. Do you think this is a happy ending?
9. How has the way you feel about Maia changed over the course of the book?
10. Describe the end of this book in 5 words.

## **Vocabulary**

1. Savage
2. Collide
3. Expense
4. Honesty
5. Official
6. Parlour
7. Humble
8. Brute
9. Jagged
10. Ancestral
11. Source
12. Banner
13. Unearthly
14. Christened
15. Willingly
16. Desperation
17. Plump
18. Conceal
19. Feasting
20. Musician

## **HOMEWORK**

What was your **favourite part of the book** and **why**?

**OR**

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