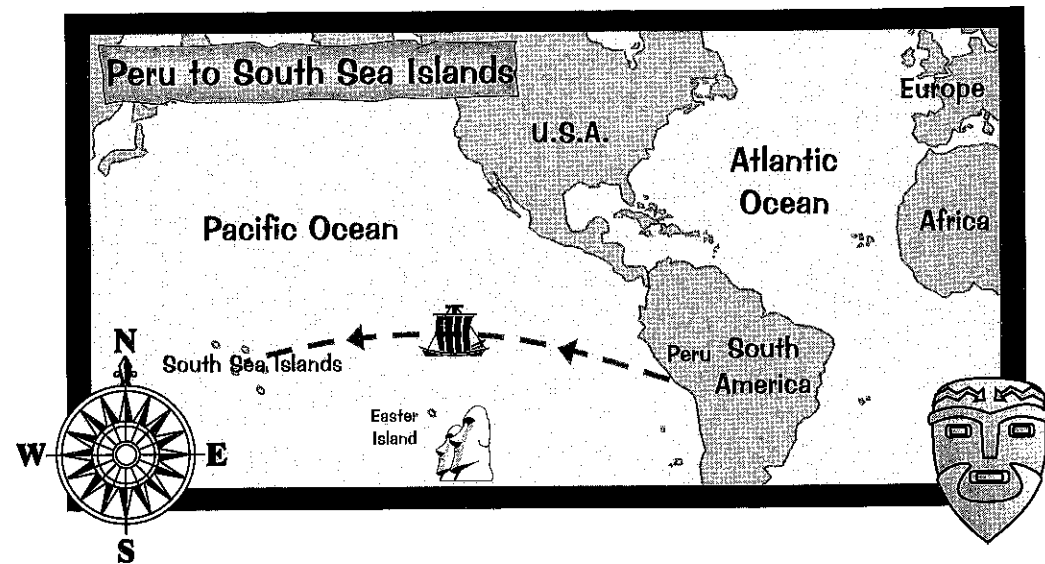


The Kon-Tiki Voyage

In 1947, six men travelled 8000 kilometres across the Pacific Ocean on a wooden raft called Kon-Tiki. Their captain, Thor Heyerdahl, believed that thousands of years ago, people had sailed from Peru to the South Sea Islands on rafts like Kon-Tiki. He wanted to prove that a simple raft, and her crew, could survive the long journey.



Across the Pacific by Raft

The *Kon-Tiki* set out on 28 April, 1947. The crew had no idea how long the journey would take, or how difficult it would be.

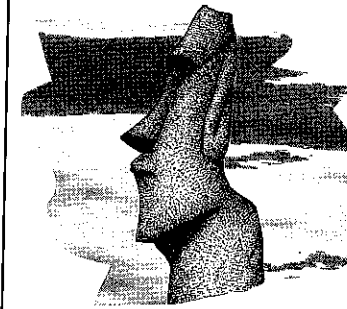
The raft was battered by terrible storms. Sharks attacked the crew when they were fishing, and one crew member was nearly lost forever when he fell overboard during the night.

The crew saw beauty as well as danger. During the day, glittering flying fish swam alongside the raft. On clear, calm nights, thousands of glowing sea creatures lit the raft's path through the waves — the crew felt as though they were sailing amongst the stars.

On 7 August, 1947 the *Kon-Tiki* ran aground on Raroia Island in the South Seas. The voyage was a success — Heyerdahl and his crew had proved it really was possible to sail a raft across the Pacific.

Two Ancient Journeys

Thor Heyerdahl first realised there was a link between Peru and the South Sea Islands when he read the stories of two legendary figures from the ancient past.



The Story of Kon-Tiki

Many years ago, long before the Inca people came, a nation of tall, pale-skinned people lived in Peru. Their king was called Kon-Tiki. They lived in the mountains and carved enormous statues from the rocks.

But a fierce and cruel tribe of warriors attacked Kon-Tiki and his people. On an island in the middle of a wide lake, the two armies fought a great battle.

Kon-Tiki was defeated — but he escaped with some of his men. According to the story, they travelled to the coast and went to sea. The last time anyone saw them, they were sailing into the distance, heading towards the setting sun.

The Story of Tiki

In the South Sea Islands, there are many stories about a great chief called Tiki. The stories say he arrived from the east, where the sun rises in the morning. He is said to be an ancestor of some of the people who live on the islands to this day.

On some of the islands, like Easter Island, you can see huge statues carved out of rock, and placed on the hillsides. Some stories say they were placed there by Tiki and his descendants.



Thor Heyerdahl believed that Kon-Tiki and Tiki were the same person. What do you think?

Fact Retrieval Questions



For these **FACT RETRIEVAL** questions, you just need to find the right piece of information in the text. Simple. Flick through the text and find the answers to these questions.

1. Complete the table, with questions on the left and facts from the text on the right.

	28 April 1947
Who was the expedition leader?	
How many people went?	
Where did they set off from?	Peru
	7 August 1947

2
marks

2. Why did the Kon-Tiki voyage take place?

.....

.....

1
mark

3. How long did the Kon-Tiki voyage take?

.....

1
mark

4. What dangers did the crew of the *Kon-Tiki* face on their journey?

1.

2.

3.

2
marks

5. What was the name of the island where the Kon-Tiki voyage ended?

.....

1
mark

Fact Retrieval Questions



6. What did Kon-Tiki's people look like?

Small and
heavily built

Small with
sun-bronzed
skin

Tall and very
skinny

Tall and
pale-skinned

1
mark

Circle your answer.

7. What caused Kon-Tiki and his men to leave Peru?

.....

.....

1
mark

8. From which direction did Tiki come as he landed on dry land?

North

East

South

West

1
mark

Circle your answer.

9. What was present both in Peru and on Easter Island?

.....

1
mark

10. Draw lines to match the words on the left to the words on the right.

Thor Heyerdahl

king

Kon-Tiki

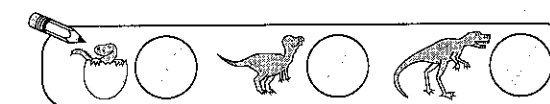
chief

Tiki

captain

1
mark

Reading Raptors can do fact retrieval questions whilst dancing at the 'Dino Disco'. How about you?



2d

Inference Questions



Sometimes it's hard to understand what writers really mean. **INFERENCE** questions ask you to show that you really understand what a writer is on about.

1. Why did Thor Heyerdahl use a wooden raft instead of a larger, modern ship?

.....

.....

1
mark

2. Do you think that Thor Heyerdahl knew what lay ahead when he started his journey?
Use evidence from the text to back up your answer.

.....

.....

.....

.....

3
marks

3. 'the crew felt as though they were sailing amongst the stars.'

How does this phrase make the reader feel about this part of the journey?

.....

.....

.....

2
marks

4. How do you think Thor Heyerdahl felt when he landed in the South Sea Islands?

.....

.....

2
marks

2d

Inference Questions



5. How do you think Kon-Tiki felt when he sailed away from Peru?

.....

.....

2
marks

6. Find and copy a phrase from 'The Story of Tiki' that shows that the information is just opinion, not proven facts.

.....

1
mark

7. Put a tick in the correct box to show whether each of the following statements are facts or opinions.

	Fact	Opinion
Tiki placed the statues on Easter Island.		
Thor Heyerdahl sailed across the Pacific on a wooden raft.		
Kon-Tiki sailed from Peru to Easter Island.		
Kon-Tiki and Tiki were the same person.		

1
mark

8. Why might Thor Heyerdahl have thought that Kon-Tiki and Tiki were the same person?

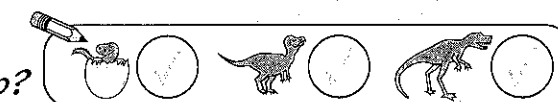
.....

.....

.....

2
marks

Reading Raptors can make inferences faster than you can say "reading is great". How did these pages go?



2a

Word Meaning Questions



To get the most out of a text you have to understand all the words. **WORD MEANING** questions are all about the words the writer has chosen and what they mean.

1. 'During the day, glittering flying fish swam alongside the raft.'

What word could replace 'glittering' in this sentence?

1
mark

2. Find and **copy one** word from page 7 which suggests that the stories of Kon-Tiki and Tiki are set a very long time ago.

1
mark

3. 'But a fierce and cruel tribe of warriors'

What does the word 'fierce' mean in this phrase?

strong

brutal

wonderful

large

1
mark

Circle your answer.

4. 'Kon-Tiki was defeated'

What does the word 'defeated' mean in this sentence?

victorious

upset

injured

conquered

1
mark

Circle your answer.

5. 'Some stories say they were placed there by Tiki and his descendants.'

What does the word 'descendants' mean in this sentence?

parents

friends

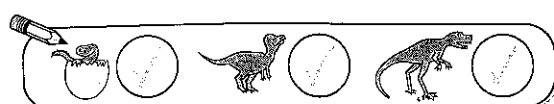
offspring

brothers

1
mark

Circle your answer.

Reading Raptors know the meanings of even the trickiest words. How did you find this page?



2c

Summary Questions



You might be asked a question about a large chunk of text, or even the whole thing. **SUMMARY** questions ask you to show that you understand the overall meaning.

1. The text on page 6 is about

dangers of the
Pacific Ocean

the life of a
sailor in 1947

the building of
Kon-Tiki

the voyage of
Kon-Tiki

1
mark

Circle your answer.

2. The text on page 7 is about

the statues
of the South
Pacific

wars in
the South
Pacific

the original
Kon-Tiki
journey

Easter Island

1
mark

Circle your answer.

2g

Language Questions



Writers choose their words really carefully. **LANGUAGE** questions are all about the words and phrases the writer has chosen and the effect they have on the reader.

1. 'The raft was battered by terrible storms.'

Why do you think the writer chose the words 'battered' and 'terrible'?

1
mark

2. Why do you think the writer described the warriors who attacked Kon-Tiki as 'fierce' and 'cruel'?

1
mark

Reading Raptors can answer questions on whole texts and single words in their sleep. How did you get on?

